

Andrea Erwin
Prince George, BC

October 11, 2017

Re: BCUC Preliminary Report

Dear Commissioners Morton, Keilty, Cote, and Mason,

Thank you for taking on the task of reviewing the Site C project, in the interest of all British Columbians.

I write today asking you to consider two points in your review:

1. Alternative portfolios

What alternatives, such as geothermal, have been thoroughly evaluated? How do alternatives compare when considering job creation (especially localized, long term positions)? What would costs to ratepayers look like compared to the costs of Site C?

2. Ecological Services

What is the dollar value of the ecological services provided by the Peace River and Peace-Athabasca Delta (in their current or pre-Site C condition)? What will the costs be of further degrading these services (in addition to the degradation already experienced from the existing W.A.C. Bennett dam on the Peace River)? Who will be responsible for these costs?

Quoted from the Ramsar Convention:

“Wetlands are vital for human survival. They are among the world’s most productive environments; cradles of biological diversity that provide the water and productivity upon which countless species of plants and animals depend for survival.

Wetlands are indispensable for the countless benefits or “ecosystem services” that they provide humanity, ranging from freshwater supply, food and building materials, and biodiversity, to flood control, groundwater recharge, and climate change mitigation.

Yet study after study demonstrates that wetland area and quality continue to decline in most regions of the world. As a result, the ecosystem services that wetlands provide to people are compromised.”

Thank you for your consideration,

Andrea Erwin