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Final comments for the Community Input Session
Submission to the BCUC Review of Site C by Ken Boon

October 11, 2017

Site C Inquiry Panel

David Morton, Chair, and Commissioners Karen Keilty, Dennis Cote and Richard Mason

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Dear Members of the Commission Panel:

The people of BC can all be thankful for this BCUC Review of the Site C Dam project. There was criticism of the rushed timeframe and procedure, but despite those challenges, it has brought important information to light.

The public now know the shaky ground (literally) that the project is on.

The main civil works contract is already over budget and schedule, and partner company Petrowest is bankrupt.

BC Hydro president Chris O'Riley might as well be waving a white flag with his comments concerning more risk to come. No confidence there.

It is amazing how the information now echoes what the BCUC found 35 years ago for this same project; No demonstrated need for the project, and give the alternatives a chance. Well, renewables have come a long way in that time, and they are cheaper. In fact, Robert McCullough has found that it is cheaper to terminate Site C, remediate the site, and build an alternative portfolio of renewables.

An added bonus is the fact that we do not need the power now anyway, so we can choose to slowly build the alternatives as needed over time and save more money by avoiding the need to sell surplus at a loss.

Our existing reservoirs and the North West Power Pool that we are part of has plenty of "battery" storage for when the wind doesn't blow or the sun doesn't shine. In fact, the renewables will extend the "life" of those "batteries".

The existing grid can handle a huge influx of electric vehicles which are generally charged at night when we already have a surplus of energy.

Of course the alternative portfolio will create more long term jobs than Site C at less cost.

Finally, after 40 years, it is time to put Site C to rest once and for all. This threat that has hung over the valley all these years has to come to an end. It is time to move on.

Thank you,

Ken Boon

