

**BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION ACT**  
**R.S.B.C. 1996, CHAPTER 473**

**And**

**British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority**  
**British Columbia Utilities Commission Inquiry**  
**Respecting Site C**

**VICTORIA , B.C.**  
**October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

---

**FIRST NATIONS INPUT SESSION**  
**VICTORIA**

---

**BEFORE:**

<b>D.M. Morton,</b>	<b>Commision Chair/Panel Chair</b>
<b>D.A. Cote,</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>K.A. Keilty,</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>R.I. Mason,</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>

**VOLUME 12A**

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

**SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 – Volume 1**

**Vancouver Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BOTTERELL (#0001).....	6
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. RUSKIN (#0002).....	8
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. McCULLOUGH (#0003).....	12
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. FINN (#0004).....	15
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HUSBAND (#0005).....	18
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. McCARTHY (#0006).....	20
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BRYENTON (#0007).....	24
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GARDNER (#0008).....	27
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HOLM (#0009).....	30
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. STEEVES (#0010).....	33
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GRANDISON (#0011).....	37
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GIBSON (#0012).....	41
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. WONG (#0013).....	44
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SPEAKMAN (#0014).....	48
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CHAPMAN (#0015).....	52
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. HAMBERGER (#0016).....	56
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. AUGUST (#0017).....	60
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. PEACOCK (#0018).....	64
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. JONES (#0019).....	68
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GILLING (#0020).....	72
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MILNE (#0021).....	76
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MARTZ-OBERLANDER (#0022).....	77
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SMITH (#0023).....	80
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BLACK (#0024).....	85

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. VANDYK (#0025)..... 89  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. PLASHKES (#0026)..... 93  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DAVIDSON (#0027)..... 95  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HEWETT (#0028)..... 99  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WADDINGTON (#0029)..... 102  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GRANT (#0030)..... 106  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. O'KEEFE (#0031)..... 107  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ARMSTRONG (#0032)..... 110  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ANDREWS (#0033)..... 114  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BAK (#0034)..... 118  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KULL (#0035)..... 123  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. PHILLIP (#0036)..... 124  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PHILLIP (#0037)..... 125  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. CHISSON (#0038)..... 128  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. WATKINS (#0039)..... 130  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KROECHER (#0040)..... 132  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. TUFTS (#0041)..... 134

**SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Volume 2**

**Kamloops Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MICHELL (#0042)..... 143, 174, 183  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BELL (#0043)..... 148, 176  
SUBMISSIONS MR. MR. INSELBERG (#0044)..... 152  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DODDS (#0045)..... 155, 179  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BLAKE (#0046)..... 157  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BRUMELL (#0047)..... 158, 167, 185

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. POCHAY (#0048)..... 160, 175  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KENNEY (#0049)..... 163, 181  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WESTIE (#0050)..... 170  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HALL (#0051)..... 171, 186

**SEPTEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Volume 3**

**Kelowna Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PAYNTER (#0052)..... 194  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. VULCANO (#0053)..... 197  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MARSHALL (#0054)..... 201  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. CAWLEY (#0055)..... 205  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PETER KERR (#0056)..... 208  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. STEVENSON (#0057)..... 213  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MICHAEL KERR (#0058)..... 215  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. NEDELEC (#0059)..... 218  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LEINEMANN (#0060)..... 222  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KMET (#0061)..... 223  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LEERING (#0062)..... 227  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MANNING (#0063)..... 231  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MICKALUK (#0064)..... 235  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. NEAVE (#0065)..... 238  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DAVENPORT (#0066)..... 241  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. COOK (#0067)..... 242  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. OSTERMANN (#0068)..... 246  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LUCAS (#0069)..... 248  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GORDON SMITH (#0070)..... 251  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. JOHNSTON (#0071)..... 255

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. OOSTENVRINK (#0072)..... 257  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. NAKA (#0073)..... 260  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. THIESSEN (#0074)..... 262  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. JAMES (#0075)..... 265  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BUCKNA (#0076)..... 267  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. STUPKA (#0077)..... 270  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. KERGAN (#0078)..... 274  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SHAW (#0079)..... 276  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SHEPHARD (#0080)..... 279

**SEPTEMBER 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Volume 4**

**Nelson Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SCARLETT (#0081)..... 287  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. BRAMSON (#0082)..... 292  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. CARVER (#0083)..... 296, 343  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LOGTENBERG (#0084)..... 301  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CHARLESWORTH (#0085)..... 305  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WILEY (#0086)..... 309  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MacKAY (#0087)..... 312  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HARTLINE (#0088)..... 314  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LAMB-YORSKI (#0089)..... 318  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MILLER (#0090)..... 321  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. OCKENDEN (#0091)..... 325  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. CRAIG (#0092)..... 327  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BROUGHTON (#0093)..... 330  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DONALD (#0094)..... 335  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DeKRUIF (#0095)..... 337

INDEX

PAGE

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SWITZER (#0096).....	338
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GRAOVAC (#0097).....	341
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. RICHER (#0098).....	342
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. THOMPSON (#0099).....	343

**SEPTEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Volume 5A**

**Prince George First Nations Input Proceedings (afternoon)**

SUBMISSIONS BY CHIEF WILLSON (#0100).....	349
SUBMISSIONS BY CHIEF TSAKOZA (#0101).....	376
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GAILUS (#0102).....	387
SUBMISSIONS BY COUNCILLOR SOLANAS (#0103).....	414
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. JONES (#0104).....	425

**SEPTEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Volume 5B**

**Prince George Community Input Proceedings (evening)**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DAVIS (#0105).....	459
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. NOWAK (#0106).....	461
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GIESBRECHT (#0107).....	466
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WAGNER (#0108).....	468
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. BACHMEIER (#0109).....	470
SUBMISSIONS BY BY MR. LUNDQUIST (#0110).....	475
SUBMISSIONS MR. WILLIAMS (#0111).....	479
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CONNOLLY (#0112).....	481
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. EWART (#0113).....	484
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WERNER (#0114).....	488
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CROWLEY (#0115).....	490
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. EGAN (#0116).....	493
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. BAUMAN (#0117).....	497

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ALLEN (#0118).....	501
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GREGG (#0119).....	504
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MUTUAL (#0120).....	507
SUBMISSIONS MS. POWLOWSKA-MAINVILLE (#0121).....	509
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LEE (#0122).....	516
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HAVENS (#0123).....	517

**SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Volume 6**

**Hudson's Hope Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. JOHANSSON (#0124).....	523, 565
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. POWER (#0125).....	528
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. METZGER (#0126).....	530
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. OKADA (#0127).....	533
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LONDON (#0128).....	534
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. RHYMER (#0129).....	537
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ARMITAGE (#0130).....	539
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SYKES (#0131).....	542
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. WILSON (#0132).....	544
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ARDILL (#0133).....	547
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BEAM (#0134).....	548
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LINDSAY (#0135).....	551
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SUMMER (#0136).....	552
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. RHYMER (#0137).....	554
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SYKES (#0138).....	556
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WEDER (#0139).....	557
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BOON (#0140).....	559
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. WEDER (#0141).....	562

INDEX

PAGE

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. KELLY (#0142)..... 562

**OCTOBER 1, 2017 - Volume 7**

**Fort St. John Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BOON (#0140)..... 575

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LITTLE (#0143)..... 580

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. A. HADLAND (#0144)..... 586

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. T. HADLAND (#0145)..... 590

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. NEUFELD (#0146)..... 593

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DARNALL (#0147)..... 597

SUBMISSIONS BY BY MR. MEIERS (#0148)..... 602

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. KOTTMANN (#0149)..... 603

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. FEDDERLY (#0150)..... 605

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. OUELLETTE (#0151)..... 610

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. ASHDOWN (#0152)..... 613

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. FOREST (#0153)..... 614

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. ROBE(#0154)..... 618

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. R. HADLAND (#0155)..... 620

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. McDONALD (#0156)..... 624

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CULLING (#0157)..... 628

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. TUPPER (#0158)..... 630

**OCTOBER 2, 2017 - Volume 8**

**Fort St. John Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. BOON (#0159)..... 641

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. R. HADLAND (#0155)..... 643

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GOODINGS (#0160)..... 646

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MORISON (#0161)..... 651, 713



**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CULLING (#0162)..... 654, 705  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KOECHL (#0163)..... 658  
SUBMISSIONS BY BY MR. MEIERS (#0148)..... 663  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GUNVILLE (#0164)..... 665  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PASTOOR (#0165)..... 669  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. HOUGHTON (#0166)..... 672  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. ACKERMAN (#0167)..... 674  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. JARVIS (#0168)..... 677  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. THORLAKSON (#0169)..... 681  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MOTT (#0170)..... 683  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. A. HADLAND (#0144)..... 684  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. NAPOLEON (#0171)..... 687, 706  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BOUFFIOUX (#0172)..... 693  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SULLIVAN (#0173)..... 695  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LONDON (#0128)..... 699  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LITTLE (#0143)..... 702  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BEHNAM (#0174)..... 710

**OCTOBER 5, 2017 - Volume 9**

**Vancouver Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BRYENTON (#0007)..... 718  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. CAVIN (#0175)..... 722  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. RUSKIN (#0002)..... 726  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CAMPBELL (#0176)..... 730  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. HUNTLEY (#0177) ..... 733  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. STEEVES (#0010)..... 736  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WELLS (#0178)..... 740

INDEX

PAGE

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. FOY (#0179)..... 743

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. FITZPATRICK (#0180)..... 747

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. JONES (#0181)..... 750

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CASSELLS (#0182)..... 754

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. JACKSON (#0183)..... 758

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GILDERSLEEVE (#0184)..... 763

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PEPPER-SMITH (#0185)..... 767

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. KEEGAN-HENRY (#0186)..... 772

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. JOHANSSON (#0124)..... 775

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WILLIS (#0187)..... 779

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BASS (#0188)..... 782

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. RATCLIFFE (#0189)..... 785

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MATTICE (#0190)..... 787

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. STEVES (#0191)..... 792

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LAMOUREUX (#0192)..... 795

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GUNG (#0193)..... 798

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SPROULE (#0194)..... 801

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. McINTOSH (#0195)..... 803

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GRAHAM (#0196)..... 807

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. THOMAS (#0197)..... 809

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. TSANG (#0198)..... 811

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HARRISON (#0199)..... 814

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. WESTERMAN (#0200)..... 817

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. FINN (#0004)..... 819

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MARTZ-OBERLANDER (#0201)..... 823

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. BROWN (#0202)..... 825

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. J. NAPOLEON (#0203)..... 829  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KER (#0204)..... 832  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BURGEL (#0205)..... 836  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. JONES (#0206)..... 839  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DESROCHERS (#0207)..... 841  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. PERRIN (#0208)..... 843  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MASSIE (#0209)..... 846

**OCTOBER 6, 2017 - Volume 10**

**Vancouver First Nations Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY CHIEF EDWARDS AND  
COUNCILLOR THEVARGE (#0210 & #0211)..... 851  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. CORMAN (#0212)..... 878  
SUBMISSIONS BY CHIEF ENEVOLDSEN (#0213)..... 892  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. McDONALD (#0156)..... 894

**OCTOBER 10, 2017 - Volume 11**

**Nanaimo Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LOUHIMO (#0214)..... 915  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. AIKMAN (#0215)..... 918  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. STEBING (#0216)..... 922  
SUBMISSIONS BY BY MR. HATFIELD (#0217)..... 926  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DESPREZ (#0218)..... 927  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PAUL MANLY (#0219)..... 931  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GARTSHORE (#0220)..... 934  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. RALPHS (#0221)..... 938  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. JIM MANLY (#0222)..... 941

INDEX

PAGE

SUBMISSIONS BY BY MS. MANLY (#0223).....	944
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PURDEY (#0224).....	946
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. THORBURN (#0225).....	949
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LEE (#0226).....	952
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SISSON (#0227).....	954
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. ANDERSON (#0228).....	959
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. OAKLEY (#0229).....	962
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. CHATWIN (#0230).....	964
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ANDERSEN (#0231).....	968
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. LIEM (#0232).....	972
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BRICE (#0233).....	975
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. NEADS (#0234).....	976
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. NICKASON (#0235).....	981
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WHITTAKER (#0236).....	987
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LeBLANC (#0237).....	990
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GRAY (#0238).....	993
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WYTON (#0239).....	997
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. COOPER (#0240).....	999
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. COSTE (#0241).....	1005
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HARRIS (#0242).....	1008
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. STIFF (#0243).....	1011
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BERRY (#0244).....	1014
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. REINHART (#0245).....	1018
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SHILLITO (#0246).....	1024
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DUMOULIN (#0247).....	1028

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

**OCTOBER 11, 2017 - Volume 12A**

**Victoria First Nations Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY COUNCILLOR WAQUAN (#0248)..... 1036  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LEPINE (#0249)..... 1045  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. TUPPER (#0250)..... 1051

**OCTOBER 11, 2017 - Volume 12B**

**Victoria Community Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BOTTERELL (#0001)..... 1067  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. COSTE (#0241)..... 1071  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SIMPSON (#0251)..... 1074  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MITCHELL (#0252)..... 1078  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GRAY (#0253)..... 1082  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DRAPER (#0254)..... 1086  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SAYERS (#0255)..... 1091  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. RUSSOW (#0256)..... 1094  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DREW (#0257)..... 1097  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. SIMEON (#0258)..... 1100  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. VAN UYTVEN (#0259)..... 1104  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. PUTT (#0260)..... 1108  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MEREDITH (#0261)..... 1111  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. VAN ENTER (#0262)..... 1114  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GORDON (#0263)..... 1118  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. ROY (#0264)..... 1123  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. HOLLOWAY (#0265)..... 1126  
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MARTIN (#0266)..... 1128  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. MOSS (#0267)..... 1131  
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. THORBURN (#0268)..... 1133

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY MS. JOHNSTONE (#0269).....	1135
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. FIELD (#0270).....	1138
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. CAMERON (#0271).....	1140
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. NAJARI (#0272).....	1143
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ARNEY (#0273).....	1148
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BALDINI (#0274).....	1151
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. THORNBURGH (#0275).....	1155
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. GREENLEES (#0276).....	1157
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. McGUIRE (#0277).....	1159
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ENNS (#0278).....	1163
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. HENDERSON (#0279).....	1167
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SPALTEHOLZ (#0280).....	1169
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. STRANG (#0281).....	1171
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SCOTT (#0282).....	1173
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. TROTTER (#0283).....	1178
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. EVANS (#0284).....	1180
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. M. HADLAND (#0285).....	1180
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. DELA ROSA (#0286).....	1183
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. KEEGAN-HENRY (#0287).....	1185
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. NELSON (#0288).....	1186
SUBMISSIONS BY MS. TUPPER (#0158).....	1190

**OCTOBER 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Volume 13**

**Vancouver Technical Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY CLEAN ENERGY ASSOCIATION OF BC (CEABC) (#0289).....	1195
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ROBERT McCULLOUGH (#0290).....	1213
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MARC ELIESEN (#0291).....	1233

**INDEX**

**PAGE**

SUBMISSIONS BY BC PULP AND PAPER COALITION (#0292).....	1251
SUBMISSIONS BY CANADIAN WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION (#0293).....	1260
SUBMISSIONS BY BCOAPO (#0294).....	1278
SUBMISSIONS BY ALLIED HYDRO COUNCIL OF BC (#0295).....	1302
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DAUNCEY (#0296).....	1321
SUBMISSIONS BY ASSOCIATION OF MAJOR POWER CONSUMERS (AMPC) (#0297).....	1344
SUBMISSIONS BY CANADIAN CUENTRE FOR POLICY ALTERNATIVES (#0298).....	1356
SUBMISSIONS BY DR. DAVID SUZUKI (#0299).....	1370

**OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Volume 14**

**Vancouver Technical Input Proceedings**

SUBMISSIONS BY MR. SWAIN (#0300).....	1395
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. HENDRIKS (#0301).....	1417
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. RAPHALS (#0302).....	1439
SUBMISSIONS BY B.C. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION (#0303).....	1464
SUBMISSIONS BY CANADIAN GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION (CanGEA) (#0304).....	1483
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. VARDY (#0305).....	1511
SUBMISSIONS BY COMMERCIAL ENERGY CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION OF B.C. (#0306).....	1538
SUBMISSIONS BY MR. ROBERT McCULLOUGH (Continued) (#0290).....	1562
SUBMISSIONS BY BC HYDRO (#0307).....	1581

**VICTORIA, B.C.**

**October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**(PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 4:16 P.M.)**

1  
2  
3  
4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Good afternoon. Thank you for joining  
5 us as we are finishing up our two and a half schedule  
6 of Site C Inquiry Community Input sessions around the  
7 province. My name is Dave Morton and I'm the Panel  
8 Chair for the Site C Inquiry and I'm Chair of the  
9 British Columbia Utilities Commission. With me today  
10 are my fellow Site C Inquiry panel members, Dennis  
11 Cote on my left, Karen Keilty on my right. Richard  
12 Mason is on her right.

13 This First Nations input session is part of  
14 the second important phase of Site C Inquiry. As you  
15 know, we spent the first six weeks of this inquiry  
16 collecting data and analysis from many parties  
17 interested in and affected by BC Hydro's Site C  
18 project. The quality of those submissions was  
19 commendable. Many people committed a great deal to  
20 producing a quality submissions within the short  
21 timeframe that was provided. This affirms what we  
22 already know, that there are experts and affected  
23 parties who can bring us insight into the many  
24 complexities of evaluating the economic impact of the  
25 Site C project.

26 We now have the task of making findings in



1           this inquiry and we recognize that our findings are  
2           better with your input.

3                       Before we begin, you've met Mr. Bemister  
4           from Allwest Reporting. His team is recording and  
5           transcribing this input session, and the live audio  
6           can be streamed from our website [www.sitecinquiry.com](http://www.sitecinquiry.com)  
7           and following this session, a transcript will also be  
8           available on that site.

9                       I would ask that when you make your  
10          submissions that you please don't provide personal  
11          information other than your own name as the session  
12          will be transcribed. And please be careful about  
13          confidential information.

14                      We are aware of the circulation of the  
15          unredacted Deloitte report in the first phase of the  
16          inquiry and the information redacted in that report  
17          was done so to ensure that current and future  
18          negotiations between Hydro and its suppliers were not  
19          compromised as a result of the information being  
20          publicly available.

21                      We still consider the information  
22          confidential despite its inappropriate disclosure in  
23          the press. We may redact submissions that contain  
24          references to that confidential information or any  
25          other, both here today as well as as in written  
26          submissions filed.

1                   Before beginning your presentation, please  
2 state your first name and spell your last name for the  
3 transcription record.

4                   With that, we are ready to open this First  
5 Nation input session in Victoria, B.C. on October the  
6 11, 2017.

7                   Will our first speaker please begin your  
8 presentation?

9   **Proceeding Time 4:19 p.m. T02**  
10 **SUBMISSIONS BY COUNCILLOR WAQUAN (#0248):**

11 COUNCILLOR WAQUAN: Hello, my name is Calvin Waquan, C-A-  
12 L-V-I-N W-A-Q-U-A-N. I'm a Councillor of the Mikasew  
13 Cree First Nation, father of two and a young leader in  
14 my community. I welcome this opportunity to join you  
15 today to speak on behalf of the Mikasew Cree and to  
16 address the impacts of the Site C dam on our  
17 traditional Treaty 8 territory and the endless drain  
18 on our way of life.

19                   For those of you who may now know, Mikasew  
20 has occupied the union of the Peace Athabaska Rivers  
21 for centuries. This is the inland fresh water river  
22 delta in North America, one of the largest. We are  
23 also signature to Treaty 8 and have title to land in  
24 Wood Buffalo National Park, which is a UNESCO world  
25 heritage site that lies within Peace Athabaska Delta,  
26 the PAD.

1                   Why is our location relevant to BC Hydro?  
2                   It's building the largest dam in the province since  
3                   1984. Upriver are our territory within the water  
4                   systems our people relied upon for generations, and  
5                   that our generation must secure in order for our  
6                   children to live and flourish as our ancestors  
7                   intended.

8                   How does the project impact Mikasew Cree?  
9                   Our people have lived on the Delta for hundreds of  
10                  years and know its ecology well. The Delta is our  
11                  water source. It's our tap. The Delta offers  
12                  economic opportunities like fishing, guiding, tourism.  
13                  It's our bank.

14                  The delta bears thousands of waterfowl,  
15                  deer, moose, large northern fish like pike, Arctic  
16                  grayling, walleye and lake trout, and fertile land for  
17                  agriculture. It is our refrigerator.

18                  The delta holds recreation and spiritual  
19                  activities for our nation and it's our medicine. The  
20                  delta raised our ancestors and has witnessed growth of  
21                  our children, including my own. It embodies our  
22                  survival for generation to generation. And saying  
23                  that, it's our mother.

24                  So what are the impacts Site C dam have on  
25                  our tap, our bank, our refrigerator, our medicine, our  
26                  mother? First let's talk about the tap.

1 Mikasew Cree rely on the Delta for clean  
2 drinking water and steady water levels to promote life  
3 on the delta. Water is life and water is boss.  
4 [foreign words spoken] in my language. The Joint  
5 Review Panel conducted an assessment to review the  
6 potential impacts on the dam on the Delta. The panel  
7 determined that the delta -- or the dam would have no  
8 impact on the PAD. In its own words, the PAD is not  
9 within the spatial boundaries of the environmental  
10 assessment because the proponent calculated that there  
11 would be no detectable project effects at the PAD. As  
12 such, no environmental assessment for the largest  
13 hydroelectric project in the province is required for  
14 the PAD.

15 This is convenient for BC Hydro. With Site  
16 C BC Hydro will have even greater control water flow  
17 downstream into the delta. They have their hands on  
18 the tap, but they do not wait for the water in the  
19 basin. But this is less convenient for Mikasew Cree  
20 who know the ecology of the delta and are impacted by  
21 the smallest changes. Seasonal spring flooding of the  
22 Peace River regenerates the fragile ecosystem by  
23 depositing fertile soil into the delta. Ice jams in  
24 the winter release spring flood, pouring vital  
25 nutrients into the water, and feeding plants and  
26 animal life. Muskegs are drying up and are crucial

1 for the filtration process within our ecosystems.

2 Scientists like Dr. Martin Carver confirm  
3 that the regulation for ecosystems for the dams on the  
4 Peace River, are reshaping this crucial delta  
5 recharge. As the W.A.C. Bennett and the Peace canyon  
6 dams already do, Site C would retain water in the  
7 spring and release it in the winter to optimize flow  
8 rates when British Columbians need electricity the  
9 most. But by reversing the natural operation of the  
10 river system, these two dams have reduced and in some  
11 places even eliminated the spring flooding of the  
12 delta.

13 Flood flows on the Peace River adjacent to  
14 the delta have fallen as much as 12 feet. In other  
15 words, BC Hydro is turning off the tap when the Delta  
16 needs it the most. The joint review panel prefers to  
17 review the portion of the Peace River where they want  
18 the dam in isolation, but you can't cut the tap away  
19 from the plumbing.

20 Looking at the potential impacts of Site C  
21 in the Wood Buffalo National Park, the UNESCO reactive  
22 monitoring mission calls this approach simplistic, and  
23 Mikasew agrees.

24 Now, let's talk about our bank. So the  
25 project does not provide Delta with the seasonal  
26 recharge it needs to promote ecosystem services, but

1 it is at least good for our bank accounts. BC Hydro  
2 claims that Site C is required to meet the long-term  
3 energy and the capacity needs of BC Hydro residential,  
4 commercial and industrial customers.

5 **Proceeding Time 4:24 p.m. T03**

6 If we accept the statement as true, Site C  
7 would benefit our bank accounts and help all of us who  
8 rely on electricity. But independent research by  
9 UBC's water governance program proves that Site C is  
10 not necessary to meet the B.C.'s long-term electricity  
11 needs. We agree with three financial reasons. Those  
12 authors found for why the project should not be  
13 approved. The significant decline in the cost of  
14 alternative sources of electricity, namely wind; the  
15 significant decline in the export market prices; and  
16 the dramatic drop since BC Hydro forecasted  
17 electricity needs.

18 Moreover it costs up to \$1.5 billion more  
19 than an alternative that would combine additional  
20 electricity conservation wind power and pump storage.  
21 This makes less sense for B.C.'s bank account, our  
22 B.C.'s bank account, yeah. So something may be  
23 required to meet the province's energy needs, but it's  
24 not Site C.

25 Even if the dam is not good for the B.C.'s  
26 budget, it is actually bad for Mikasew. Many members

1 of our nation rely on the fish harvest in Fort  
2 Chipewyan, hunting and guiding, ecotourism, and  
3 additional income for trapping. The existing dams and  
4 reservoirs on the Peace have already reduced our fish  
5 harvest at Fort Chipewyan, contributing to the loss of  
6 seasonable jobs and cash income for our peoples.  
7 Prior to the construction of the Bennett Cam, most  
8 Mikasew relied on fur trading as their primary source  
9 of cash income, and commercial fishing, which is  
10 obsolete now. No measurable income can be earned from  
11 trapping since the construction of the Bennett Dam.  
12 No member of Mikasew has been compensated for their  
13 loss.

14 If Site C impacts our bank, we will not  
15 hesitate to pursue damages against BC Hydro, like any  
16 business. We expect that BC Hydro would pass these  
17 costs to B.C. ratepayers, which brings me to our  
18 refrigerator. Mikasew relies on the pad for its  
19 diverse plant and animal species. The Mikasew Cree  
20 continue to hunt water fowl, muskrat, beaver, moose on  
21 the rivers, ponds and meadows of the delta. These  
22 animals thrive on the wetlands. We fish for many  
23 diverse fish. B.C. needs seasonal recharge and fresh  
24 nutrients to flourish. We also farm for the soil.  
25 Our farm on the soil of the delta and agricultural  
26 growth relies on the soil from the seasonal flooding.

1                    Since the construction of W.A.C. Bennett  
2                    and the Peace Canyon Dams, mechanized alteration of  
3                    the water flow has virtually eliminated spring  
4                    flooding of the delta. Water scarcity has assaulted  
5                    the delta ecosystem. Less than 50 percent of the  
6                    natural habitat remains available to our people. Due  
7                    to operational requirements, Site C will release  
8                    excess volumes of water to compromise the seasonal  
9                    balance of the wetlands. That balance, that recharge  
10                   that makes hunting and fishing possible and  
11                   meaningful. Put simply, Site C threatens to unplug  
12                   our refrigerator. That means either that we have to  
13                   pursue damages or BC Hydro will need to make  
14                   potentially expensive operational changes to Site C to  
15                   avoid these effects.

16                   But could we at least rely on our  
17                   medicines? Many locations on the delta are accessible  
18                   by water. Fishing, hunting and gathering camps,  
19                   burial sites, historic places, places of ceremony,  
20                   places my people go to learn. In earlier days the  
21                   rivers and tributaries provided transportation and led  
22                   the permanent connection to places spread across the  
23                   delta. Through the PAD we maintain our connection to  
24                   our ancestors, to our tradition, and the Creator.  
25                   Visiting those places we teach our children and our  
26                   grandchildren how to live a good life. Living in our



1 spiritual places makes us strong and resilient. Our  
2 relationship to the delta is our medicine. It  
3 facilitates healing within our people and within our  
4 nation.

5 The joint review panel did not conduct an  
6 assessment to determine the impact of Site C on our  
7 spiritual connection to the delta, deciding to instead  
8 remove any discussion of treaty rights from review.  
9 The PAD is already diminished by oil, gas, mining, and  
10 other industries. Meanwhile Site C puts the home of  
11 our spiritual connections under siege. It threatens  
12 and poisons our medicine and our way of life. While  
13 our community will pay social and cultural costs, B.C.  
14 ratepayers will have to pay financial costs to  
15 compensate for our loss of way of life.

16 Finally, water is like our mother. PAD is  
17 like our mother. Our mothers create, store, and share  
18 life. They carry the lifeblood of our culture and the  
19 way of our life, therefore represent the long-term  
20 sustainability of Mikasew. Just as we cannot exist  
21 without our mother, we cannot reproduce and regenerate  
22 without the delta.

23 So what does Site C do for our long-term  
24 sustainability?

25 **Proceeding Time 4:29 p.m. T04**

26 How will Site C impact our capacity to

1 regenerate for centuries to come in the delta? My  
2 ancestors signed Treaty 8 to guarantee that our way of  
3 life, their fishing, hunting, trapping and everything  
4 that came with those activities would continue  
5 uninterrupted. And in 1899 the Crown promised my  
6 ancestors survival of the way of life. In the  
7 language of the treaty and Her Majesty the Queen,  
8 hereby agrees with the said Indians that they shall  
9 have the right to pursue their usual vocations of  
10 hunting, trapping and fishing throughout the tract  
11 surrendered.

12 Commissioner Roth stated:

13 "As all the rights you now have will not be  
14 interfered with, therefore anything you get  
15 in addition must be clear gain."

16 For Mikasew, as for many other nations, this is the  
17 most important condition to the signing of the Treaty  
18 8, the ability to hunt, fish and trap as we have  
19 always done. The Crown promised no interference and  
20 what now? Site C would transform forever the existing  
21 conditions of the delta. Site C would render the  
22 promises the Treaty 8 impossible to fulfill.

23 Our traditional way of life is also now  
24 protected by the constitutional guarantees of Section  
25 35 of the *Constitution Act of 1982*. Site C endangers  
26 all hope of reconciliation, the goal of Section 35.

1 We don't want to be forced to prove the dams impacts  
2 on our way of life through litigation, negotiation and  
3 if possible compensation. This decision serves  
4 nobody. The project stalls, the government squander  
5 resources on disagreement, parties grow hostile and  
6 any hope of reconciliation fades.

7 Meanwhile we ask what Site C will do for  
8 Mikasew's long-term ability to survive. What will  
9 Site C do to our mother?

10 I will conclude by asking the Commission to  
11 carefully consider potential impacts of the Site C dam  
12 on the Mikasew's way of life, our mother and our  
13 lifeline and explain in your report that these are  
14 financial costs that BC Hydro failed to acknowledge  
15 but that could be shouldered by B.C. ratepayers if the  
16 project is canceled.

17 Thank you for your time and (foreign word)  
18 to my ancestors, and to late Willie Coutoreille for  
19 fighting for the PAD.

20 Thank you.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

22 **Proceeding Time 4:31 p.m. T05**

23 MS. LEPINE: I guess I shouldn't touch that.

24 THE CHAIRPERSON: That's okay.

25 **SUBMISSIONS BY MS. LEPINE (#0249):**

26 MS. LEPINE: My apologies. I'm also with the Mikasew

1 Cree, I'm Melody Lepine, L-E-P-I-N-E. I'm the  
2 director for the government and industry relations, so  
3 I work with Calvin.

4 I'm going to just elaborate a little bit  
5 about the costs associated with the Site C project.  
6 Referring to the cost to the Peace Athabaska Delta and  
7 the potential impacts to the Mikasew Cree.

8 So first of all, the first one, and this  
9 was a huge failure on BC Hydro's part as we were  
10 undergoing the environmental assessment process, the  
11 regulatory process, we were stressing the importance  
12 of an adequate environmental impact assessment to look  
13 at the downstream impacts, to look at the impacts to  
14 the Mikasew Cree, to our way of life, to our culture,  
15 to the ecological function of the delta, looking at  
16 the social impacts, looking at the ecosystem services,  
17 what sort of flow regimes and all of that.

18 So we were requesting a number of those  
19 things to be undertaken by BC Hydro. However, they  
20 were refused. So there is a cost because we do not  
21 understand what the full impacts to our delta are  
22 going to be. So we feel it is necessary to do the  
23 environmental impacts assessment and we can't say for  
24 sure what this cost will be, but we can say that if it  
25 requires all of the things that I listed as a few  
26 examples, then that would come, I think, as a huge

1 cost to understand what the impacts to the delta are  
2 and what the impacts to the Mikasew Cree are.

3 I will also touch on what usually happens  
4 after an assessment. So you usually monitor to test  
5 the predictions with the assessment findings. So with  
6 that, we undertake a small community-based monitoring  
7 program in the delta. It's very small in nature.  
8 It's funded by the Mikasew Cree, and it's about half a  
9 million dollars, as an example. But if we were to  
10 look at Site C and the costs of monitoring downstream  
11 along the Peace River within the delta, monitoring all  
12 of the impacts we see to fish, fish habitat, to the  
13 flow regimes to the perch basins, to navigation  
14 issues, because when water gets so low you can't  
15 navigate in the delta. So we have to test for water  
16 levels constantly, as well as when there are high  
17 levels of water, sometimes there's the influx of  
18 different contaminants that come down and sediments  
19 and things like that from runoff.

20 So we would request, you know, adequate  
21 monitoring and so there is a cost to that monitoring  
22 and I just wanted to give you that example of the  
23 community-based monitoring as a perspective of what  
24 the minimum cost would be.

25 The third one is modifications. So when  
26 you monitor and if there are to be -- if we find

1 something is wrong. So currently there is a couple of  
2 weirs in the delta. BC Hydro put them in a number of  
3 years ago to offset some of the costs from the Bennett  
4 dam. They walked away. They put their weirs in there  
5 and they've never maintained them. And so we would  
6 see a more active approach in modifying and ensuring  
7 the flow within the delta is occurring and we would  
8 ensure that, you know, any type of these modifications  
9 during operations, should bear costs. They have to be  
10 responsible for these downstream impacts and impacting  
11 a world heritage site and the outstanding universal  
12 values of this delta. So there should be these  
13 adaptive management approaches to fixing what they  
14 break and be held responsible in covering that cost.

15 The last one I will cover is the cost is  
16 less operational issues. So basically this one is if  
17 we find something wrong, and say it's quite  
18 significant like it has been for us with the Bennett  
19 dam. Well, there's a cost to BC Hydro for damages.

20 **Proceeding Time 4:35 p.m. T06**

21 What are the liabilities if they completely  
22 destroy a world heritage site? If they completely  
23 destroy the culture of the Mikisew Cree. So those are  
24 legal implications and huge costs for that. You know,  
25 there's probably examples around the world that  
26 hydroelectric projects are destroying, I'm sure,

1 downstream communities of such as our community, and  
2 so there should be, you know, costs associated with  
3 those damages.

4 Those are the main points that I wanted to  
5 reference. I spoke about, you know, we did stress the  
6 importance of all of these issues in our consultation  
7 and through the regulatory process with Site C. We  
8 were refused a proper assessment. We were refused any  
9 commitment to monitoring and dealing with the  
10 responsibility should there be impacts to the  
11 community. And so, you know, we'd like to thank you  
12 for the opportunity now to correcting what we see as  
13 fundamentally wrong.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Ms. Lepine. A question  
15 please. So with regard to the downstream impact  
16 assessment, when you say you were refused, is it BC  
17 Hydro that refused to consider it? Is that what you  
18 mean?

19 MS. LEPINE: Yeah, the delta was not included in the  
20 environmental impact assessment.

21 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. And then it was scoped out at  
22 the environmental inquiry.

23 MS. LEPINE: We presented at a hearing in Peace River.  
24 That was the closest hearing to our community.

25 THE CHAIRPERSON: Right.

26 MS. LEPINE: He brought technical experts. Dr. Carver.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yeah.

2 MS. LEPINE: One of the -- a very strong hydrologist who  
3 pointed out the flaws with their assessment and  
4 stressed the importance of including further reaches  
5 down the Peace River including the delta. And we had  
6 elders present as well their testimony, spoke about  
7 changes to the delta and the importance of the  
8 assessment because of declining water levels.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Right.

10 COMMISSIONER COTE: What reasons did they give?

11 MS. LEPINE: They basically, they took the same position  
12 that they always have for the past 30 something years,  
13 is we don't feel we are impacting you. You're too far  
14 away. And so therefore the potential impacts are  
15 negligible to none.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: This is BC Hydro's position?

17 MS. LEPINE: Yes. So they went as far as I believe Peace  
18 Point on the Peace River. But we said, well, that  
19 doesn't even include the delta. The most important  
20 part of the assessment in our opinion was the delta  
21 because of the function of the delta. It needs water.

22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mm-hmm, okay. Does anyone else have  
23 any questions? Thank you very much.

24 MS. LEPINE: You're welcome.

25 **Proceeding Time 4:38 p.m. T7**

26 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. We applicate your -- is





1           stewards of the lands. Can I get some help here?  
2           This microphone is falling over.

3                           And a participant of the Rocky Mountain  
4           Fort Camp, a passenger and coordinator of the Treaty 8  
5           Justice Caravan for the Peace.

6                           Thank you.

7   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Would you like to use the other mike?  
8           Would that be easier?

9   MS. TUPPER:        I'll check this out, and then maybe I'll go  
10           back and forth.

11   THE CHAIRPERSON:   Okay, yes.

12   MS. TUPPER:        And a participant in the PADA for the Peace.  
13           My grandmother, she was Cree and Métis, from  
14           Saskatchewan. [non-English word] She was Cree. My  
15           grandpa was British descent, and [non-English word]  
16           was Cree and Beaver, Dene Za.

17                           My mother's name is Yvonne Cochell, and my  
18           father's name was Arthur Tupper, and my stepdad's  
19           Willie Nome, and my daughter is Talisa. I've got  
20           siblings, relatives, and my auntie, cousins -- too  
21           many. I've got cousins all over and hence I was  
22           really happy to see Steve Cottrell. I met him during  
23           the Treaty 8 Justice for the Caravan.

24                           I've got to ask you a question, and the  
25           question is, is this consultation?

26   THE CHAIRPERSON:    Well, we're -- sorry.

1 MS. TUPPER: Is this a form of consultation? Would you  
2 consider this consultation?

3 THE CHAIRPERSON: No, we wouldn't consider this  
4 consultation. We're gathering facts and evidence to  
5 answer the questions that we're asked for in the OIC.  
6 But it's my understanding that there may be additional  
7 consultation that would follow from this, which would  
8 be undertaken by government.

9 MS. TUPPER: Thank you. And thank you for giving an  
10 example of that to me as well.

11 As members of the Treaty 8 nation, Saulneau  
12 First Nations and member of the Treaty 8 stewards of  
13 the land and Rocky Mountain Fort, that was what we  
14 asked BC Hydro numerous times. We would want the B.C.  
15 Utilities Commission's review, and thank you for  
16 having this. And thank you for going to the  
17 communities across B.C., and continuing thi,  
18 therefore.

19 I asked that because when -- as an active  
20 participant within my nation, our leaders would stand  
21 and say, when BC Hydro came, "This is not  
22 consultation." Just because they put pen to paper and  
23 they put in their travel claims and saying that they  
24 went to Saulneau, all of a sudden they call that  
25 consultation. When they came there with a set mind  
26 that they were going to build a dam, and not hear why

1 we were saying no to Site C for 50, 40, 30, 20, and  
2 even as recently as now, still saying no to Site C.

3 The repercussions of that is -- it's  
4 horrendous, or I wouldn't be standing here today if I  
5 wasn't taught by my grandparents to stand. And if we  
6 need to, I would teach my daughter and the future  
7 generations to stand for another 50 years against this  
8 mega-dam. We're prepared because the repercussions of  
9 this dam, and I echo whole-heartedly what my nation --  
10 my brother nation here, Mikasew Cree, what they said.  
11 Standing, and their words about our livelihoods and  
12 our treaties, we share the same treaty, Treaty 8, and  
13 I'll echo the elders on the video.

14 Our elders told stories 50 years ago to the  
15 B.C. Utilities Commission's report. They also told  
16 their livelihood stories, and it was written down.  
17 And we cannot dismiss what they say. And my hand's  
18 out to the single mothers, single fathers, to the  
19 elders, who are raising children, who are trapping,  
20 hunting, and living off the land still to this day.  
21 Traveling from 1200 kilometers, which I met four of  
22 you in Fort St. John, to here to Victoria, it's a  
23 different kind of atmosphere.

24 If I was to say BC Hydro has many holes in  
25 their hide, you guys wouldn't know what it meant. But  
26 back home, that means that there's a lot of bullet

1 holes. Their hide is no good. We wouldn't buy that  
2 hide. We wouldn't trade that hide.

3 **Proceeding Time 4:53 p.m. T09**

4 But here, I guess that means a bad business  
5 plan. Bad business plan, because they don't have  
6 energy buyers currently for this mega-dam. Throughout  
7 these years, my 30-year fight against Site C, standing  
8 up with my grandparents and my mother and my  
9 generation, is that they still don't have current  
10 buyers for this energy plan. And that's a bad  
11 business. When you have a grandmother or a  
12 grandparent financially supporting a grandchild with a  
13 business that doesn't have buyers for energy, but  
14 wasting millions and billions of dollars, we call  
15 foul. That's a bad deal.

16 But also like I'm echoing Fort St. John,  
17 this also has ramifications and different effects.  
18 Health, mental health, our wellbeing, our livelihoods  
19 as treaty First Nations, in our region. We're  
20 considered sometimes a third-class poverty, below the  
21 poverty line. We have suicides, we have high traumas,  
22 we don't have policing. We don't have enough mental  
23 health workers or medical services currently in our  
24 bands, or social workers. And that's really scary  
25 because in my band we had a murder, and that's --  
26 that's unheard of. And suicides, we had too many --

1 one too many suicides. One suicide is bad, but having  
2 many in one year, that's even worse.

3 And that concerns me because my  
4 understanding from this business complex is that my  
5 nations, or my brother nations, could sue BC Hydro for  
6 the effects of rescinding our Treaty 8 rights. But  
7 when you give our bands money, it escalates that high  
8 trauma by ten times, if not a hundred times. And I  
9 don't wish to see anybody else die. Especially by  
10 their own hands, or by the hands of their lovers.

11 I'm wearing a red skirt today. It was made  
12 by Roxanne *Cachustus*, in honour of murdered and  
13 missing women, indigenous women and girls. Saulteau  
14 First Nation, my band, recently lost -- this year, my  
15 cousin was killed by a hands of a man, and her 15-  
16 year-old daughter. And that man wasn't local. That  
17 man was coming to our region of northeast B.C.,  
18 because a mega-project like Site C, and he was looking  
19 for a job. Because that's how attractive this mega-  
20 dam is.

21 And my concern, when I spoke at the  
22 Saulteau First Nations joint panel review hearing was,  
23 you're not even checking criminal records for these  
24 people who's coming to our community. You're not  
25 seeing if they're molesters, or rapists, or murderers,  
26 or drug dealing, or anything. You're allowing more

1       strangers, transient workers into our communities and  
2       you're thinking because you're providing jobs that's  
3       good enough. But what about our local people that  
4       need jobs too? And I don't like what I'm learning  
5       about this project, that too many of the workers there  
6       are not even local.

7                So, it's been years that my elders have  
8       been standing together, '60s, '70s, early '80s, '90s,  
9       with the government and knowing that they shelved this  
10       mega-project on -- the government shelved the project.  
11       And in 2000, the year 2000 wasn't even thought of, but  
12       2010 they dusted off the shelf and it seems like every  
13       decade that's what they've been doing with this major  
14       project. We thought we won and defeated Site C in the  
15       80s. That was very -- that was no more. And here it  
16       is, it's showing its ugly face again.

17               So we're -- I'm asking for that flood  
18       reserve where our region to be listed, that if this  
19       Site C is cancelled for the flood reserve to be listed  
20       to protect our micro-climate and our boreal forest.  
21       My ancestors' ancestral grounds, remains, and bones,  
22       my elders have joyful and fun memories of this place  
23       where I camped at Rocky Mountain Fort where the  
24       confluence of the Moberly River and the Peace River  
25       met. We need fresh water and fresh air, and there's  
26       abundance of medicines and fishing that Mikasew Cree,

1           that I echo too, that was in our nation. You can't  
2 mitigate poisoned fish.

3                        You know, when I read the federal permit  
4 for this mega-project, they said that they're going to  
5 build a dam, but they're going to put a fish ladder so  
6 the fish could jump through the mega-dam. But first  
7 they're going to truck the fish around the dam, and  
8 then bring them back to the spawning areas where the  
9 Moberly River and -- and you can't sort poisoned fish.  
10 They wouldn't know which one is suspected with  
11 methylmercury or from the erosion of the soil.

12

13                                       **Proceeding Time 4:58 p.m. T10**

14                        And it's just like -- it's a slow eco-cide.  
15 It's a slow genocide of our protein, of our food  
16 sources. And that concerns me too as well. It  
17 concerns a lot of us, actually, and our protein source  
18 -- sources of our moose, elk, and deer. Our calving  
19 grounds are in the middle of the island, to the Peace  
20 Island, and I invite anybody in this room to walk with  
21 me along the Peace River, and I'll show you. I'll  
22 talk to you and I'll show you what areas -- and why  
23 it's important to me personally, but to my family, to  
24 my nation, and to my neighbour nations.

25                        I was asked today by a young guy because he  
26 -- I really liked this guy, so I wrote down his



1 question, because it's really good. He said, "Why  
2 aren't the Treaty 8 nations speaking out more?" When  
3 you wear a person down, of saying -- 50 years ago they  
4 said no. 40 years ago they said no. 30 years ago  
5 they said no. 20 years ago they said no. When you  
6 wear a person down and then say, "Oh, by the way,  
7 we're going to build it anyways, despite your 50 years  
8 of saying no to a mega-project," you're wearing down  
9 our elders. Unless that was the plan of BC Hydro,  
10 B.C. Liberals all along, is to wear us down.

11 And also too was I don't know more movement  
12 -- our elders -- they only want to say no once. They  
13 don't want to keep on saying no. So they're being  
14 silent at the moment, and a lot of members are being  
15 silent at the moment, because they don't stand up and  
16 speak. And I think -- well, today is an example. Two  
17 of our nations here are speaking today. It's because  
18 they're tired of being -- saying no. So please listen  
19 to their previous submissions from the other BCUC --  
20 Utilities Commission's report.

21 And I also think when I was injuncted from  
22 Rocky Mountain Fort, the BC Hydro lawyers, and I  
23 remember this quite -- because he was pretty dramatic,  
24 that lawyer. They had no right of being there. You  
25 have no human rights to be there, you have no treaty  
26 rights to be there. And yet my cousin said, all I

1           needed to do is show my Treaty 8 card and I should  
2           have been allowed on my territory. And especially  
3           with an environmental assessment that they gave us in  
4           Volume 5. It says I had every right to practice my  
5           ceremony, to gather, and to have ceremonies before  
6           they destroyed that valley forever. And I wasn't  
7           given the opportunity. Instead I got injuncted by BC  
8           Hydro, and that's not fair.

9                         We need justice for that river, and we need  
10           time to gather, and not that the project's going  
11           through, but I'm hoping that it doesn't.

12                        So it's been a long journey and 30 minutes,  
13           or 20 minutes, doesn't give it enough justice. So I'm  
14           pleading for you, like we have been for the last two  
15           years, at different venues, with different people, and  
16           I'm very grateful for the people that showed up and  
17           stand up, is that we want justice for our river now.  
18           We want to be able to have that meaningful  
19           constitution with the component, and with each other,  
20           to say "Yes, we value this river."

21                        My boyfriend and I have been hunting for  
22           the last three months, and we went hundreds of  
23           kilometres, and we got no luck. We had no moose. And  
24           that concerns me and him. He's a trained hunter, he's  
25           instinctively -- like many young hunters, they know to  
26           hunt before winter-time, to feed many -- one moose

1           could feed up to four families. And it's pretty sad  
2           that with the current destruction -- sorry. With Site  
3           C's construction site, going 24 hours 7 with the noise  
4           and the lights on, and it's a migratory corridor.  
5           There's big signs all over saying that it is, and we  
6           know that as First Nations people our moose is not  
7           crossing that river. The moose is staying on one  
8           side, on the northeast, and on the other side of the  
9           South Peace. Well, even with the South Peace it's not  
10          really -- they're not really coming around. And that  
11          concerns us because of the protein sources, and also  
12          too is because we need that protein to offset -- the  
13          opposite of diabetes. We need that protein.

14                           And that concerns me, as a First Nations  
15          person, because as the Treaty 8 does say that as long  
16          as the sun shines, the river flows and grass grows, I  
17          have every right to live as my ancestors did, and so  
18          does everybody else who belongs to the Treaty 8  
19          nations. And that river, even though it's flowing,  
20          it's also infringing the animals' movement, and also  
21          the bears in that area too as well.

22                           And the birds and the fish. They -- you  
23          guys heard it all. I'm sure you guys did. And I know  
24          I'm repeating a lot, and echoing what a lot of people  
25          have said. And my request for solutions is upon  
26          cancelling the project, maybe use that \$1 billion for

1 our health services in the northeast.

2 **Proceeding Time 5:03 p.m. T11**

3 We are the bread basket of British Columbia. We  
4 provide oil, gas, mining, forestry. A lot of industry  
5 products come from our neck of the woods, and if some  
6 of that money could come back for our health  
7 professionals, our mental health workers, social  
8 workers and doctors, our schools, our highways, a lot  
9 of that money could be put back into our communities  
10 and to help us. We don't have many roads here like  
11 Victoria to get to one venue. We only have two roads,  
12 two highways maybe, and those highways got potholes.  
13 I think you guys experienced it when you're in Fort  
14 St. John, potholes and construction that's needed and  
15 stuff, and the weathering.

16 So that's it for now. Thank you so much  
17 for listening.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thanks, Ms. Tupper, thanks for coming.

19 On that note, thank you very much to all of  
20 you who spoke, and we will take all of your comments  
21 into consideration, thank you. And thanks everyone  
22 also who joined us in the audience too.

23 I'll wish you a good evening, and for those  
24 of you that are going to stay we'll be back at 6  
25 o'clock for a community input session. Thank you.

26 **(PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 5:04 P.M.)**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FORGOING  
is a true and accurate transcript  
of the proceedings herein, to the  
best of my skill and ability.

  
A.B. Lanigan, Court Reporter

October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017