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Date: February 16, 2023

**Attention:** Art Kaehn, Chair  
Regional District of Fraser-Fort George  
155 George Street  
Prince George, BC V2K 2X6

Email: akaehn@rdffg.bc.ca

By: Email

**Re: North Coast BC Electrification**

Dear Mr. Kaehn,

As noted in my September 16, 2022 letter regarding electrification, industrial customers are increasingly seeking to electrify their operations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Meeting the needs of potential large scale industrial developments in this region will require new 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines and associated infrastructure to be developed from Prince George to Terrace.

We're planning now for these additions to our system due to the long lead time to develop large infrastructure projects. They include:

- Three new 500kV transmission lines generally along the same route as the existing lines:
  - 5L064: approximately 170 km between Williston Substation near Prince George and Glenannan Substation near Fraser Lake.
  - 5L065: approximately 130 km between Glenannan Substation and Telkwa Substation near Telkwa.
  - 5L066: approximately 140 km between Telkwa Substation and Skeena Substation near Terrace.
- Expansion of existing substations.
- Three new capacitor stations or station expansions along the new lines at locations to be determined.

The figure on the next page shows the general location of the existing 500 kV transmission lines and identifies the new lines by number.

We have been reviewing preliminary studies that were completed when these lines were previously considered to determine what additional work is needed. We're also working to determine the regulatory and environmental requirements for these new lines and the associated infrastructure.

We expect the system additions will take around 8 to 10 years to plan, consult on, permit, design, and build. Our current schedule is as follows; however, we're still working to refine it.

Fall 2022 to Summer 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Desktop and field studies (i.e., environmental, archaeological, traditional use) and assessment to support route and capacitor station site selection</li></ul>
2023 to 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete studies and design work; seek permits and approvals</li></ul>
2026 to 2033	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construct transmission lines</li></ul>



As noted in my earlier letter, other system expansion including new transmission lines beyond Terrace may also be required. We will keep you apprised as our work on electrification advances.

To help us refine our planning, we issued the “North Coast Expression of Interest” (NCEOI) on February 15, 2023. The NCEOI will help us determine whether existing and potential industrial customers in the North Coast region are interested in electrifying their operations, the potential demand for electricity in the area, and where potential customers could be located. If you have questions about the NCEOI, please contact [admin\\_NCEOI@bchydro.com](mailto:admin_NCEOI@bchydro.com). Information on the NCEOI is also available on the NCEOI website at [www.bchydro.com/northcoast](http://www.bchydro.com/northcoast).

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the transmission system expansion projects or would like to meet to discuss.

Kind regards,

[Redacted Signature]

Debra Lamash  
 Stakeholder Engagement Advisor

cc:

Jim Martin, Chief Administrative Officer, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George  
 Mike Kellett, Community Relations Manager, BC Hydro