

What can you do to help stop Site C?

- Provide written input during the present public consultation opportunity. Gather your facts from www.peacevalley.ca.

Comments specifically regarding the opportunity to comment on the Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines due June 1, 2012 can be found on the PVEA's blog, here: <http://keepingthepeace.wordpress.com/>

• Write to Premier Christy Clark at:
Hon. Christy Clark
Premier of British Columbia
Room 156
Parliament Buildings
VICTORIA, B.C. V8V 1X4
christy@christyclark.ca

- Write to your MLA

What about wildlife habitat? The river will increase in width up to three times due to flooding for the dam. This will cut the Yellowstone to Yukon Wildlife Corridor in half at its narrowest and most vulnerable point. Many large mammals require huge tracts of land for sufficient habitat. Wetland that supports migratory flocks will be gone. The habitat of several red and blue-listed species will be destroyed including fisher and Northern Myotis bats.

What do First Nations and residents say? The majority of the First Nations in northeastern BC are adamantly opposed to the dam. In an area already overburdened with oil and gas development, destroying this last, relatively untouched area in BC's Peace River Valley is the 'last straw' for First Nations and other residents. The communities of northern BC have borne the brunt of industrial development in the province for decades. People are still feeling the impacts of the first two dams that flooded people out of house and home.

Will the dam be safe? According to a recent geotechnical study, "The valley's steep slopes make it prone to landslides like the one that blocked the river...in 1973." A quote from BC Hydro's own reports says, "Site C would...fall into the 'High' or 'Very High' consequence category as defined by the Canadian Dam Association because of the potential damage downstream in the event of a dam breach and the economic loss as a result of dam failure."

Why haven't I heard more about this dam? The government has been quietly moving this mega project forward over the last few years. In 2010, they removed independent oversight of the BC Utilities Commission specifically on Site C, and most recently, they've chosen to host public meetings on it only in the north – none south of Prince George. Recently Liberal Premier Christy Clark spoke out in support of LNG stating, "Powering the second phase of the current Shell proposal [the third LNG plant] would require 100 per cent of the power that could be produced by the Site C dam. So it's a very energy intensive process." (Vancouver Sun, Feb 15, 2012)
BC Energy Minister, Rich Coleman, said "Just the proposed Shell LNG plant would take all of the power out of Site C..." **Why should BC taxpayers and Hydro ratepayers be required to subsidize the lucrative oil and gas industry?!**

Site C No Dam Way!

What you need to know about the proposed Site C dam in northeastern BC before it's too late!



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What is the Site C Dam? The Site C dam was named decades ago by BC Hydro as the location for their third hydroelectric dam along the Peace River. Over the last four decades the dam has been rejected by the BC Utilities Commission and the BC government as too risky and too costly. It would be 83 kilometers long, 60 meters high and would take nearly a decade to build.

Why is this proposal coming up again now? In a word: fracking. The oil and gas industry wants even more of Canada than it already gets. Natural gas will be transported to Kitimat where it will be transformed to liquid natural gas (LNG). It will then be shipped to Asia. The liquification process requires vast amounts of electric power.

How much will the dam cost? Current BC Hydro estimates put the price tag around \$8 billion dollars. This would be the most expensive 1,100 MW dam in the history of the planet! And costs are likely to increase as the construction progresses.

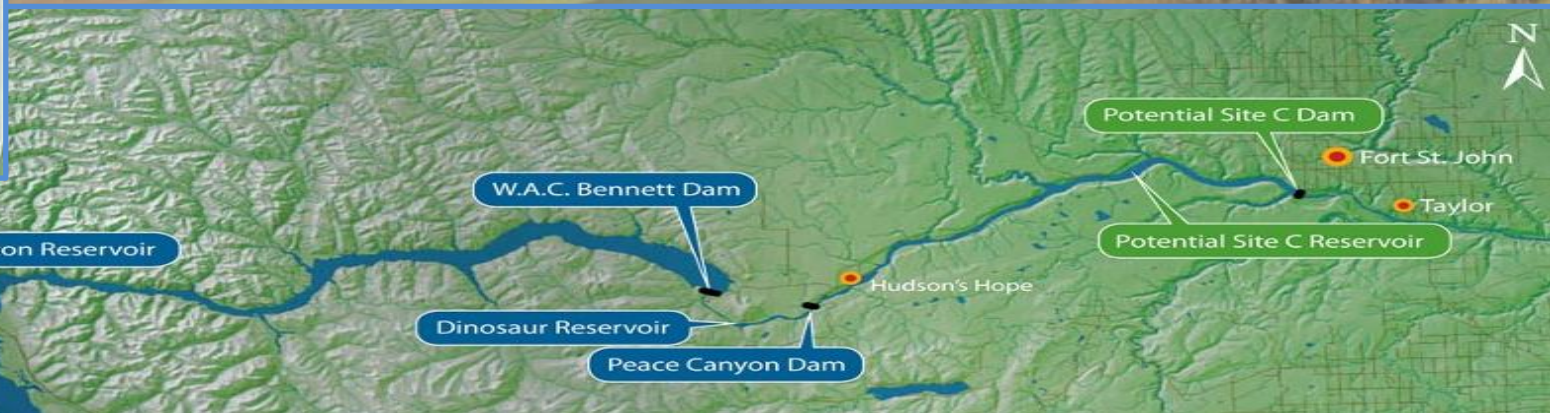
Who will use the power generated? Shell has indicated that it will build a third LNG plant in Kitimat. Premier Christy Clark recently stated that 100% of the power generated from the dam would be used at the Shell's LNG plant. Incidentally, China has recently discovered that it has the 2nd largest shale gas reserves in the world and they will likely be producing well before Site C is even completed – which would be 2022 at the earliest.

Who will pay for this dam? You will! It may seem unbelievable, but taxpayers will foot the whole bill. Ordinary British Columbians will pay through increased hydro rates and taxes to support BC Hydro, a crown corporation that is already billions of dollars in debt. Why isn't BC Hydro investing in truly clean and sustainable energy instead of relying on outdated technology that is so damaging to the environment?

What will happen to the Peace Valley? 107 km of the Peace, Halfway and Moberly River valleys will be lost forever. Over 13,000 acres of agricultural land will be washed away; 12,000 acres of Boreal forest will also be destroyed. The area is at high risk for landslides and the shores of the reservoir would become dangerous. In addition, the geology in the area means that there would be significant and cumulative silting. Wildlife habitat will be severely impacted, and recreational access will be significantly limited.

What about the land that would be flooded? Huge tracts of prime agricultural land in BC will be permanently destroyed. The valley will lose over 7,800 acres of class 1 and 2 farmland and over 5,300 acres of other agricultural land. This is the only prime farmland north of Quesnel. This land could provide enough produce to feed northern BC during the growing season. In addition, 12,000 acres of Boreal forest, an effective carbon sink, will be lost.

The Site C dam is proposed on the Peace River in northeastern British Columbia. The dam would cause an 83 km section of the Peace River, from the Peace Canyon Dam to Fort St. John, to be flooded, widening it by up to three times. Additionally, there would be 10 km of flooding up the Moberly and 14 km up the Halfway Rivers, all of which will destroy fragile shoreline ecosystems.



Where will the dam be built? In the Peace River Valley. This is a spectacular and special place. Nestled in the northeast corner of British Columbia, the Peace River Valley is home to fertile agricultural lands and farms, old growth Boreal forests, and a rich and vibrant First Nation, fur trade and pioneer history. The valley is also one of the most important wildlife corridors in the Rocky Mountain region.