

Project Overview



Kokish River Hydroelectric Project Consultation on Draft *Terms of Reference* – Environmental Assessment

Project Description

Kwagis Power, a limited partnership of Brookfield Renewable Power and the 'Namgis First Nation, is proposing to develop a run-of-river hydroelectric power project on the Kokish River on northeastern Vancouver Island, approximately 50 km southeast of Port Hardy, 15 km east of the Town of Port McNeill, and 4.5 km southwest of Telegraph Cove. The Kokish River Hydroelectric Project will generate up to 45 megawatts of clean renewable power, producing enough electrical energy to supply approximately 15,000 homes.

The Kokish River Hydroelectric Project is subject to a harmonized federal and provincial environmental assessment process under the BC *Environmental Assessment Act* (BCEAA) and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA).

The Project will include:

- A low level weir, intake and fish ladder, located approximately 0.5 km downstream of Ida Lake, just downstream of the confluence of the Bonanza River and the East Fork of the Kokish River
- A 9 km buried penstock (pipeline) that, for most of its length, will follow forest roads on the east side of the Kokish River
- A powerhouse and switchyard (occupying 1 to 2 hectares) located near the Telegraph Cove Road and Beaver Cove Railway bridges
- A short section of tailrace channel for return of diverted water to the river downstream of the powerhouse
- A temporary clear span bridge over the Bonanza River at the outlet of Ida Lake, at the site of a former bridge crossing
- A 500 m section of 138 kV transmission line between the switchyard and the existing BC Hydro transmission grid

Environmental Assessment and Draft *Terms of Reference*

Kwagis Power must receive Environmental Certification under the BCEAA before the Project can proceed. The first step in this process is to obtain approval from the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) regarding a draft *Terms of Reference* (TOR), a document that specifies the studies to be conducted and the information that Kwagis Power must provide in its application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate.

A 30-day public comment period on the draft TOR is taking place from January 12 to February 11, 2009. After taking public comments into account, the EAO will finalize and issue the approved TOR to Kwagis Power. For more information and to view the draft TOR, please visit www.eao.gov.bc.ca or www.kokishriver.com. Copies of the draft TOR document are also available for public review at the Alert Bay Public Library and the Vancouver Island Regional Library, Port McNeill Branch.



Key Project Milestones

In November 2008, Kwagis Power submitted a proposal to BC Hydro's Call for Clean Power for sale of power to be generated by the Project. Negotiations will be commenced on an Energy Purchase Agreement with BC Hydro at an appropriate time in the Call for Clean Power process.

Project Activity	Approximate Milestone Dates
Baseline Environmental Assessment Studies	January 2004 – Winter 2008
Harmonized Federal/Provincial Environmental Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Application Stage • Application Review Stage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2008 – June 2009 • June 2009 – January 2010
Ministerial Review	January – February 2010
Provincial Project Approval (Environmental Assessment Certificate)	March 2010
Acquisition of Concurrent Provincial Permits and Approvals	April – May 2010
Acquisition of Required Federal Permits and Approvals	April – May 2010
Project Construction	June 2010 – Fall 2012
Project Start-Up, Commissioning and Commercial Operation	Fall 2012
Ongoing Project Monitoring	May 2010 – October 2020

Ongoing Public and Agency Consultation

Throughout project review and development, Kwagis Power will undertake a public consultation program to provide information to build awareness and understanding of the Project, provide opportunities for public input and information exchange, identify interested parties and project-related concerns, propose ways to avoid, minimize or compensate for project impacts and demonstrate how public input has been incorporated into project design.

Contact Us

Your input will help us to plan, design and implement a better project. We encourage you to share questions, comments or ideas on the Kokish River Hydroelectric Project by email, phone, fax or mail.

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