

July 16, 2008

Joint Panel Established for the Proposed Dunvegan Hydroelectric Project

Ottawa... Three panel Members were appointed today to a joint federal-provincial panel established to review Glacier Power Ltd.'s proposed Dunvegan hydroelectric project.

The appointment of Vern Hartwell (Panel Chair), Doug Larder and George Kupfer were made jointly between Canada's Environment Minister, John Baird, and the Government of Alberta.

The proposed project would be located on the Peace River near Dunvegan, Alberta. Glacier Power Ltd. is proposing to construct and operate a 100 megawatt (MW) run-of-river hydroelectric project on the Peace River. The powerhouse will consist of 40 turbine units constructed side by side extending from the north bank of the main channel for a total powerhouse length of 288 meters. The power would be transmitted along a new 144 kilovolts (kV) transmission line for approximately 4.3 kilometers to the southeast of the project to interconnect at an existing 144 kV transmission line.

A joint panel agreement between the Government of Canada, the Natural Resources Conservation Board (NRCB) and the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is now released after receiving public comments in early May 2008. It describes the process for conducting the joint panel review and details on the scope of the environmental assessment.

The joint panel agreement, biographical information on the panel members along with more information on this project are available on the Web sites of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (the Agency), Registry number 04-05-2996, the NRCB and the AUC.

The Agency administers the federal environmental assessment process, which identifies the environmental effects of proposed projects and measures to address those effects, in support of sustainable development.

Under the *Natural Resources Conservation Board Act*, the NRCB is responsible for determining whether natural resource projects are in the public interest, by considering the social, economic and environmental effects of proposed projects.

The AUC exercises jurisdiction over the siting of major electric transmission facilities and electric power plants as part of its mandate to ensure the delivery of Alberta's utility services takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

The NRCB and the AUC are independent, quasi-judicial agencies of the Government of Alberta.

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca
Natural Resources Conservation Board www.nrcb.gov.ab.ca
Alberta Utilities Commission www.auc.ab.ca

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