



Columbia River Treaty Review: Looking to the Future

Columbia River Treaty Review Team
November 2013

Agenda

- 6:30-6:40 Welcome and introductions
- 6:40-7:05 Review of latest studies
- 7:05-7:20 Overview of draft public report and recommendation
- 7:20-8:00 Discussion tables and report out
- 8:00-8:55 CRT local Government Committee recommendations
- 8:55-9:00 Next steps



Ministry of
Energy and Mines

Draft public consultation report

- Diversity of views but majority agreement
- Continue Treaty while negotiating improvements
- Engage with residents during negotiations
- No additional impacts to environmental and social values
- Greater say in Libby operations



Ministry of
Energy and Mines

Draft public consultation report (cont'd)

- No increase in flood risk
- Better transboundary planning to minimize flood damage
- Compensation for flood control services for U.S.
- Minimize or reverse development in floodplains



Ministry of
Energy and Mines

Draft public consultation report (cont'd)

- Recognize value of GHG-free power
- Reduce social and environmental impacts at the expense of power generation
- Maintain or increase compensation to BC for U.S. benefits across the full range of values
- Explicitly incorporate climate change adaptation in Treaty implementation



Draft public consultation report (cont'd)

- Ecosystems should be as important as power and flood control
- Reservoir levels should be stabilized to re-establish vegetation and wildlife habitat
- Greater support for domestic environmental mitigation/compensation programs
- Return of salmon if feasible

Draft public consultation report (cont'd)

- Address inequity between communities that have been impacted and those that have benefited
- Emphasize Columbia Basin Trust legacy mandate to enhance social, environmental and economic wellbeing
- Initiate water use plan for Kootenay/Koocanusa system
- Better understand and influence hydro operations



Ministry of
Energy and Mines

How we got here

- This recommendation and principles reflect the outcomes of the Treaty Review process to date.
- We would like your input and feedback into the recommendation and principles.



Ministry of
Energy and Mines

Draft Recommendation

Continue the Columbia River Treaty and seek improvements within the existing Treaty framework



Principles

- The primary objective of the Treaty should be to maximize benefits to both countries through the coordination of planning and operations
- The ongoing impacts to the Basin to meet Treaty requirements should be acknowledged
- Current Canadian benefit (CE) does not account for impacts in BC and full range of benefits in US

Principles

- Value of all downstream U.S. benefits (flood risk management, hydropower, ecosystems, water supply, recreation, navigation etc) should be accounted for and shared
- Called Upon Flood Control is a step backwards
- Disagreement on CU interpretation
- BC is open to discuss alternative

Principles

- Ecosystem values are currently, and will continue to be, an important consideration in the planning and implementation of the Treaty
- Need to explore ecosystem improvements recognizing within and outside the Treaty
- Need to comply with fed, prov regulations and respect for aboriginal rights

Principles

- Seek improved coordination on Libby Dam and Koocanusa Reservoir operations for BC interests
- Salmon passage restoration is each country's responsibility for their own structures
- Adaptation to climate change should be part of the Treaty

Principles

- We will continue to engage First Nations and communities throughout any negotiation process
- Canadian Columbia Basin issues not related to the Treaty will be addressed through other government programs and initiatives



Thank you

