



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



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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.



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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

