

MEETING SUMMARY

Columbia Basin Regional Advisory Committee Webinar

BC Hydro 2021 Integrated Resource Plan

Jan. 21, 2021, 1pm – 2pm Pacific Time via Zoom

The Columbia Basin Regional Advisory Committee met on Jan. 21, 2021 by webinar. The main purpose of this webinar was a presentation on BC Hydro's 2021 Integrated Resource Plan – Clean Power2040.

Welcome

Brooke McMurchy, B.C. Columbia River Treaty Team

- Brooke McMurchy welcomed attendees and acknowledged the traditional territories of the Columbia Basin Indigenous Nations.
- She mentioned an announcement would be coming soon about a Columbia River Treaty virtual town hall, organized by the B.C. Treaty Team, expected to take place on Feb. 24, 2021. CBRAC members were encouraged to attend and help promote the event through their contacts/communication channels.

BC Hydro's 2021 Integrated Resource Plan: Clean Power2040

Bill Clendinning, Director, Energy Planning & Analytics, BC Hydro

[View presentation](#) for more detail.

- The Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) is BC Hydro's plan for their integrated power system.
- It considers a 20-year outlook for how much electricity customers will need in the future (demand) versus how much BC Hydro has the capacity to generate (supply).
- It assesses the gap between demand and supply and includes strategies to bridge that gap.
- BC Hydro is currently consulting with Indigenous Nations and the public about their energy needs for the future. Their input will inform a draft IRP, which will be available for comment in the spring of 2021.
- There will be further consultation on the draft IRP before the final plan is submitted to the BC Utilities Commission in December 2021.
- Bill noted that BC Hydro has had to adjust its forecast based on the dramatic shift in electricity usage seen during the pandemic, which has resulted in reduced commercial power use and increased residential use.

Planning Objectives:

- Bill spoke about BC Hydro's planning objectives and asked CBRAC members for their input.
 - Keeping costs down for customers;
 - Limit land and water impacts;
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through clean electricity;
 - Support reconciliation with Indigenous people; and,
 - Support the growth of B.C.'s economy.

Energy and Capacity:

- Bill explained the difference between energy (amount of electricity produced and consumed throughout the year) and capacity (the maximum amount of electricity that can be provided at any moment. Also known as "peak demand").
- BC Hydro's system must have the ability to generate enough electricity for that peak moment.
- Both energy and capacity are considered when looking at customers' future needs.
- The IRP looks forward in time to when BC Hydro may not have enough supply to meet customers' demand.
- The current forecast estimates that BC Hydro has enough supply for approximately 10 years.

Planning topics:

- Bill next spoke about BC Hydro's plans for the next 20 years.
 - **2020 – 2030: managing current resources** by assessing existing conservation and energy management efforts, expiring electric purchase agreements, and small BC Hydro facilities reaching end of life.
 - **2030 – 2040: exploring new resources** by considering greater conservation and customer involvement, new or renewed local power sources, and upgrades to the existing BC Hydro system.
- The IRP considers a variety of scenarios when comparing options to prepare for future uncertainties.

Next Steps:

- CBRAC members were invited to submit their input for this phase of consultation by January 31, 2021 via an online survey at bchydro.com/CleanPower2040. They were also invited to send questions or comments to cp2040@bchydro.com
- The IRP team will follow up with CBRAC at a future meeting to seek input on the draft IRP when it is available for public comment, likely in the spring or summer of 2021.