



Environmental Assessment Office

Inspection Record

Project Name: Northwest Transmission Line	Inspection Status:
Certificate #: E09-01	Inspection No:
Certificate Status: <u>Certified</u>	Inspection Date: 2013-06-17
Region: <u>Skeena</u>	Office: <u>Victoria</u>
Trigger: <u>Planned</u>	Incidents of Non-Compliance Observed: <u>Yes</u>
Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Level: <u>Level 3 - Moderate temporary impact likely</u>	Non-Compliance Decision Matrix Category: <u>Few NCs, not aware/capable to comply</u>
Inspector Name(s): Chris PARKS (EAO)	
Audit Record(s): <u>N/A</u>	Total Non-Compliance(s):
Proponents Name: BC Hydro	
Proponents Contact(s): Tim JENNINGS	
Mailing Address: BC Hydro Transmission and Distribution, Major Projects 1100-1055 Dunsmuir St. Vancouver, BC V7X 1V5	
Phone No: 604-699-9020	Fax No:
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Location Description: The Northwest Transmission Line Project is a 344 km Transmission Line (currently under construction), running between Terrace and Bob Quinn. The transmission line route generally parallels Highway 118 (the Nisga'a Highway), the Nass Forest Service Road, and Highway 37. Location lat and long below are for the Terrace Substation (southern terminus of the Project).	
Lat: 54°27'06.82 N	Long: 128°37'55.76 W
Sector: <u>Energy</u>	

Summary

MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS	
Inspection Period:	
From: <input type="text" value="2013-06-17"/>	To: <input type="text" value="2013-06-19"/>
Certificate or Act:	
<input type="text" value="Certificate under the Environmental Assessment Act"/>	
Activity: <u>On Site</u>	
Inspection Summary:	Response:
<p>Inspector from the Environmental Assessment Office (Chris PARKS, Compliance Officer) completed an inspection of portions of the Northwest Transmission Line Project against Conditions of EAC# E11-01, issued for the NTL Project. PARKS inspected construction works between the Cranberry River crossing and Bob Quinn by truck and foot on June 17, 18, and 19, 2013.</p> <p>The purpose of the inspection was to re-inspect construction practices at Revision Creek (previously inspected July 23 and November 15 2012) under snow-free conditions, relative to the requirements of Condition 10, and to further verify the certificate holders compliance with Conditions of EAC# E11-01.</p> <p>The following observations were made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The certificate holder was confirmed to be in compliance with condition 10 at the previously inspected Revision Creek location. 2. The certificate holder was noted to be in compliance with condition 19, at the specific locations inspected. 2. The certificate holder was noted to be in non-compliance with EAC conditions #7, 44, and 49. See inspection details section. A follow up inspection is recommended in Fall 2013 to confirm compliance with these conditions. 	<u>Order</u>

Compliance Summary	In	Out	N/A	N/D
Automatically populated upon upload				

Inspection Details

Types of Compliance: Construction

Requirement Description:

Condition #7 Geotechnical Stability

To mitigate potential adverse effects of high groundwater levels encountered during road or foundation excavation, temporary sumps and pumps will be installed and used, or ditches or drains will be installed. Roads must be designed with suitable ditches, drains or granular filters to intercept and control both shallow groundwater seepage and surface runoff. Suitable foundation designs must be developed for the materials or groundwater levels likely to be encountered.

Findings:

Access Road 334/3 was inspected. The See Appendix A: Figures 1-6. The road grade is steep, with the upslope cut and downslope fill unstable, sloughing, and eroding. The ditchline is filled with sediment and material migrating downslope from the cut. Culverts are plugged on both the upslope and downslope ends, and in some cases crushed. The road is in active use, as evidences by fresh tire tracks and sign requesting notification of Vallard medic prior to using the road. A large spoil pile composed of erodable material and woody debris is located at the base of road 334/3, adjacent to Highway 37 and within the riparian area of Ningunsaw River. A silt fence and erosion blanket had been placed at the toe of this spoil pile, however the pile has overtopped the silt fence and buried the erosion blanket.

Compliance: Out

Types of Compliance: Construction

Requirement Description:

Commitment #10 Geotechnical Stability

Should construction take place on active alluvial fans, design and construction practices must incorporate prescriptions outlined in MOFR's Land Management Handbook 57.

Findings:

Access Road 316/1 runs parallel to Revision Creek as identified in the inspection on 2012-07-23. Revision Creek falls on an alluvial fan as well as the ROW for the transmission line. The inflow of the creek is identified by flagging ribbon. Trees were cut and laid down on the alluvial fan; Golder Representatives stated that trees were fallen in a way so that they would not obstruct the waterway. They stated that trees would be removed after the spring snowmelt.

The 2012-07-23 inspection noted that tree falling into the stream channel of revision creek had caused or contributed to an avulsion of the stream channel at this location. Inspectors noted that the avulsion at at this location preceded the clearing work, however that the falling of trees into the braided channels contributed to the diversion of some channels subsequent to the avulsion.

The work at Revision Creek appears to meet the requirements noted in MOFR Handbook 57, as required by the condition. See also Appendix B for conditions when working in and around alluvial fans (Excerpt from MOFR Handbook 57).

Compliance: In

Types of Compliance: Construction

Requirement Description:

Commitment #19 Fish and Aquatic Habitat

For any new access road that requires a crossing of a fish-bearing watercourse, BC Hydro will install a clear span bridge that meets the requirements of the most recent version of the DFO Pacific Region Operational Statement for Clear Span Bridges unless otherwise advised by DFO.

Findings:

Inspected 2 crossings confirmed fish bearing (291/1A and 292/2A). These crossings had clear-span bridges installed as per the requirement. See Appendix A, Figures 6 and 7, and Appendix C (DFO Operational Statement regarding clear span bridges)

Compliance: In

Types of Compliance: Construction**Requirement Description:**

Commitments #44 and 49, Construction Environmental Management Plan - Sediment and Erosion Control Plan

Findings:

Inadequate sediment and erosion control measures were an issue on the two previous inspections. Inspectors noted a general lack of effective and erosion control measures throughout the project. This includes measures absent where erosion was occurring (no silt fences, water bars, erosion matting, straw mulch, or other measures), incorrect placement (silt fences installed across ditches and streams) or installation of erosion control measures (ie silt fences not dug-in, straw bale ditch breakers incorrectly placed such that sediment laden water flows around and erodes ditch line) and lack of maintenance of measures that were in-place.

Note that the observations made at road 334/3 are consistent with these findings. Active erosion is evident at that location, with no effective erosion or sediment control in place.

Recommend a follow-up prior to snowfall to confirm compliance with condition, preparatory to spring runoff.

See Appendix A: Figures 7-11 and Appendix D regarding the Sediment and Erosion Control Management Plan contained within the CEMP. See also CIMS Inspection Reports 272967 and 274721 (Appendix E and F)

Compliance: Out

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY PROPONENT(S) & ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

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INSPECTION CONDUCTED BY:

Signature

Date Signed :

Chris Parks, Environmental Assessment Compliance Officer

FINAL

ENCLOSURE(S) TO PROPONENT(S) & DESCRIPTION:

Appendix A: Photographs
 Appendix B: Excerpt from MOFR Handbook 57
 Appendix C: DFO Operational Statement regarding Clear Span Bridges
 Appendix D: CEMP Sediment and Erosion Control Plan
 Appendix E: CIMS Inspection Report 272967
 Appendix F: CIMS Inspection Report 274721
 Appendix G: June 18, 2012 Warning Letter

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS:

Previous inspections have identified non-compliance with conditions 7, 44 and 49. The certificate holder has received verbal advisories (May 8, 2012, and November 13, 2012) and a written warning letter regarding non-compliance with these conditions (June 18, 2012)(Appendix G). Non compliance with these conditions may lead to a moderate temporary impact to fish and fish habitat through sediment

delivery to fish bearing streams. In addition, current conditions at access road 334/3 may pose risks to public safety.

Recommend that an order under section 34(1)(b)(ii) of the Environmental Assessment Act be issued to the certificate holder to address non-compliance with conditions 7 and 49, by a date to be specified within that order.

Environmental
Assessment Office

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