

# THECURRENT

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**Welcome** to our first issue of **THECURRENT**, the community newsletter for the Innergex Renewable Energy Upper Lillooet Hydro Project (ULHP). Through The Current, we invite you to get to know us better and learn more about our journey to bring more sustainable energy to communities so that all British Columbians can enjoy a cleaner future.

We're excited for this new opportunity to connect with the Village of Pemberton and area residents about our work in the community, what's happening with the project, and what you and other residents can expect as the project moves through construction.

## ABOUT INNERGEX

Innergex develops only renewable energy projects because we believe that the way to a cleaner future is through truly sustainable energy sources. We began developing, owning, and operating run-of-river hydroelectric facilities, wind farms, and solar photovoltaic farms in 1990. Today, we operate facilities in Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia and Idaho, USA. From the very beginning, our mission has been to produce clean and renewable energy by developing and operating high quality facilities while respecting the environment and serving the best interests of the host communities, our partners, and our investors. For more information, please visit [www.innergex.com](http://www.innergex.com).

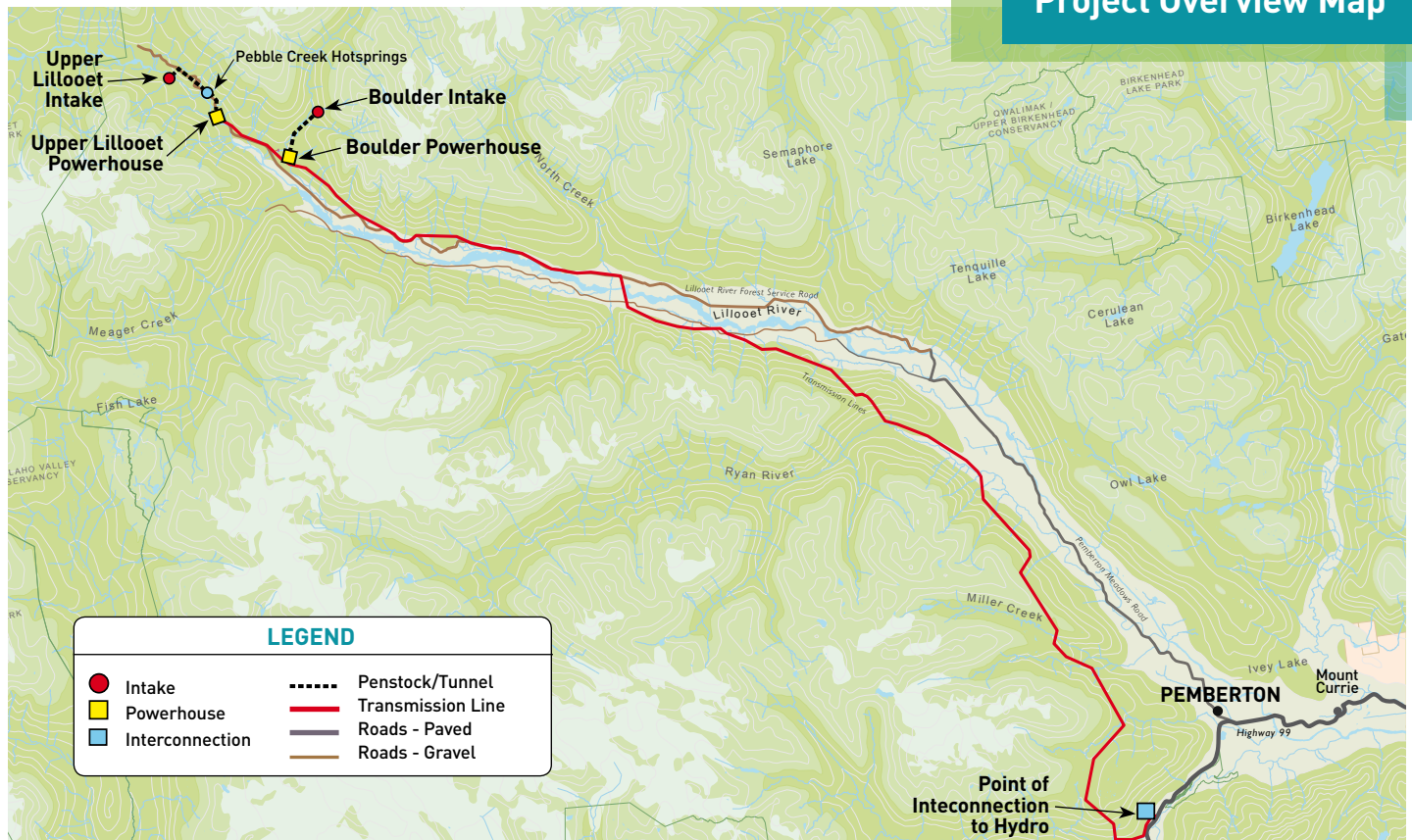
## Upper Lillooet Hydro Project

The ULHP<sup>1</sup> includes two run-of-river, clean energy-generation hydroelectric facilities (HEF) located in the Pemberton Valley: a 81.4 MW facility on the Upper Lillooet River and a 25.3 MW facility on

Boulder Creek. Electricity generated by the facilities will be transmitted to the BC Hydro system by a 230 kV transmission line. BC Hydro is building a new substation south of Pemberton, along Highway 99,

where the ULHP transmission line will be interconnected. The transmission line route does not pass through the Village of Pemberton.

## Project Overview Map



<sup>1</sup> Subject to BC Hydro's consent, the North Creek Hydroelectric Facility will be cancelled.

# Project Timeline

## January 2013:

→ Environmental Assessment Certificate Issued

## May - August 2013:

→ Provincial and Federal Permits Issued

## August - December 2013:

→ Clearing project area and conduct investigative works

## Spring 2014 - Fall 2016:

→ Civil construction begins

## 2015:

→ Completion of the ULHP Transmission Line

## 2015:

→ Completion of Boulder Creek Hydroelectric Facility

## 2016:

→ Completion of Upper Lillooet River Hydroelectric Facility



# 2013 Construction Activities

## Transmission Line Activities



← Reviewing clearing plans in the field prior to clearing the transmission line right-of-way (shown above).

## Lillooet River Forest Service Road Re-alignment near Truckwash Creek

→ Drilling at the west heading.



→ Site conditions at the Upper Lillooet River HEF powerhouse.

## Clearing and Geotechnical Investigations

← Clearing at Project laydown area.



↓ New stairs along trail.

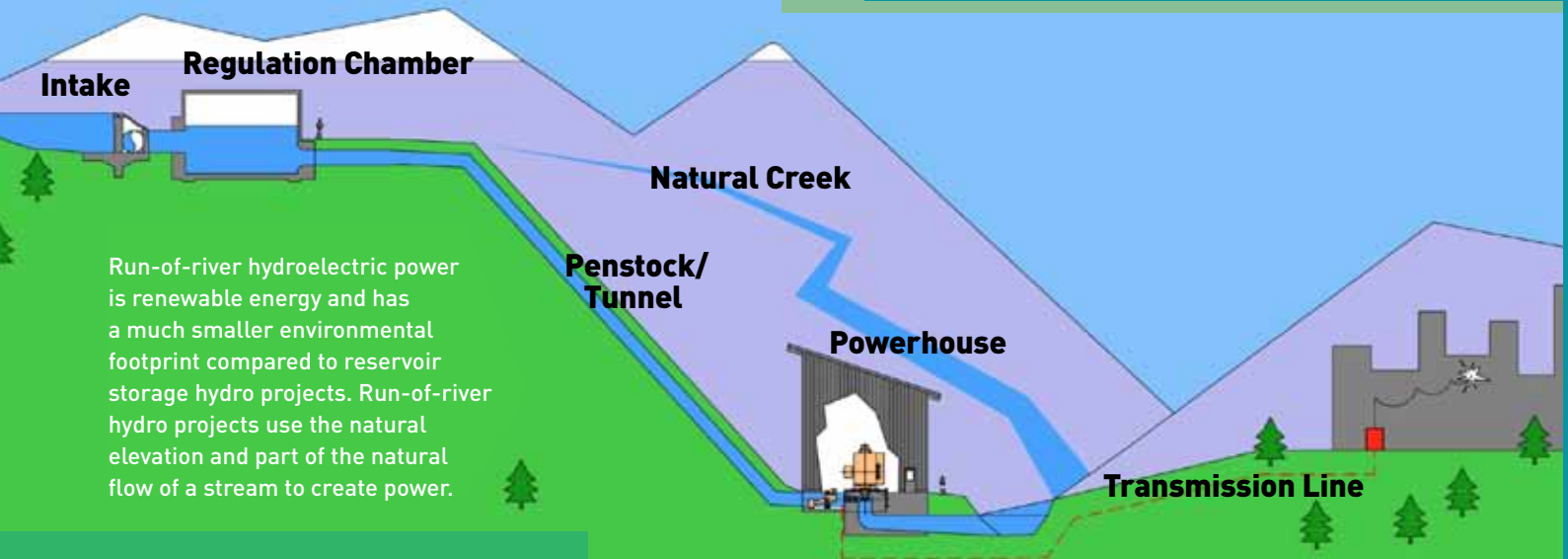


## Upper Lillooet River Trail Construction

↓ Wilderness type trail roughed in.



## What is run-of-river power?



Run-of-river hydroelectric power is renewable energy and has a much smaller environmental footprint compared to reservoir storage hydro projects. Run-of-river hydro projects use the natural elevation and part of the natural flow of a stream to create power.

With the ULHP, each facility will divert a portion of the water from the respective river/creek through an intake structure and a tunnel and/or a penstock (pipe) will transport the water from the intake to the turbine(s) located in the powerhouse. All diverted water will be returned to the river/creek—clean and unchanged.

The ULHP is designed to minimize the impact on the environment (wildlife and wildlife habitat, fish and fish habitat, erosion, vegetation etc.) as well as social and

heritage values (including archaeological and First Nation's traditional use), and health and economic values. We know we have the responsibility to live up to our environmental commitments and to build and operate the project according to the highest standards. Our Environmental Assessment Certificate, awarded in January 2013, is the result of years of preparation, based on extensive environmental and technical studies and hours of public consultation with experts and community members.

## Mountain Goat Monitoring Program

In BC, the Mountain goat is recognized as a priority species by the provincial government and there are regulations in place to ensure populations remain healthy and in their native habitat. For Innergex, protecting Mountain goats in the ULHP area is a priority, especially during construction. Based on advice from qualified professionals, we have taken steps to keep Mountain goats and their critical habitats safe. For example, as part of the requirements for the Environmental Assessment Certificate, a Mountain Goat Management Plan was put into place to outline mitigation and best management practices required to avoid or minimize the effects from construction activities. The plan, which was reviewed and approved by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) and BC Environmental Assessment Office (BC EAO), ensures

that construction activities will have no negative effect on Mountain goats.

For the Upper Lillooet River Hydroelectric Facility, specifically at the Truckwash Creek Mountain goat migration corridor, four key mitigation measures from the plan include:

1. Create a visual and a partial auditory barrier between the tunnel portal and migration route to assist with migration and to minimize disturbance from construction activities.
2. Two-week shutdown period after the first significant snowfall in the fall and the start of snow melt in the spring.
3. Minimize construction noise from November 1 to April 30.
4. Construction in November and May must not occur before sunrise and after sunset in areas in or within 200 meters of the Mountain goat winter ranges and identified migration corridors.



Also, Mountain goat activity will be monitored from three strategic locations within 500 meters of clearing/construction activities at the Upper Lillooet River facility tunnel portal. Construction activities will cease for 48 hours if a Mountain goat is spotted moving towards the migration corridor and/or if a Mountain goat is observed within a 500 meters line of site of a construction activity. Needless to say, Mountain goats are a priority species for Innergex, too! Stay tuned for more updates on our findings on Mountain goats in the ULHP area.



## Benefits of Hydroelectric Energy

Innergex is very proud of the ULHP. Run-of-river hydroelectric projects have a low impact on the environment compared to almost any other form of energy generation, and some of the many benefits to hydroelectric energy generation include:

- Offsetting potential greenhouse gas production from carbon-based power plants (such as coal and natural gas).
- Being virtually emissions-free: the project is 97.8% lower than the emission intensity of a natural gas generating station and 98.9% lower than of a coal generating station.
- Displacing between 5,000 tonnes and 13,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year.
- Generating enough clean energy to power approximately 40,000 homes.
- Have low potential for risk to water quality.

## Join our Mailing List!

Interested in receiving regular updates on the project, including construction highlights, road closures, and events? Send us an email at:

[info@upperlillooethydro.com](mailto:info@upperlillooethydro.com) and we'll add you to our mailing list. Don't forget to check our website regularly for updates on the project at: [www.upperlillooethydro.com/project](http://www.upperlillooethydro.com/project)

## Innergex in the Community

In September 2013, we opened our new office at **101-7330 Arbutus Street** in Pemberton and we look forward to hearing from you!

For Innergex, considering the community's needs and encouraging community participation are central to our work.

Our office in Pemberton is open to answer questions, receive feedback, and to provide more information on all aspects of

our work. We appreciate the support we have received for the ULHP, and we are enthusiastic about making a meaningful contribution to the community.

We would love to see you in person—our **office hours are 10 am to 4 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**, or by appointment.

Give us a call at **604 894-6862** or email us at [info@upperlillooethydro.com](mailto:info@upperlillooethydro.com).



## Interested in working on the Upper Lillooet Hydro Project?

You can submit your resume to:

Civil Contractor:

### CRT-EBC

Pemberton Industrial Park  
Phone: **604 894-5002**

Resumes can be sent to:  
[recrutement@crtconstruction.ca](mailto:recrutement@crtconstruction.ca)

OR

Transmission Line Contractor:

### Westpark Electric Ltd.

Phone: **604 846-0039**

Resumes can be sent to:  
[careers@westparkelectric.com](mailto:careers@westparkelectric.com)

