

THE CURRENT

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On behalf of all of us at Innergex Renewable Energy, we would like to wish Pemberton and Area residents a Happy New Year! With our third issue of **THE CURRENT**, the community newsletter for our Upper Lillooet Hydro Project (ULHP), we are pleased to share some highlights from 2014, both from the construction site and the community. We are proud of the immense amount of work our teams have done this year—from meeting important construction milestones safely and in an environmentally conscious manner to collaborating with community partners on important initiatives.

Construction has shut down for the winter season and we are preparing for a busy year ahead, with many more successful collaborations to come in 2015.

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 Québec, 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 balancing the best interests of the host communities, our partners, and our investors. For more information, please visit www.innergex.com.

Maintaining Safety and Public Access

Throughout construction, operation and maintenance of the ULHP, we use an Access Management Plan to manage public access to roads. The plan provides guidelines and recommendations on road access, upkeep and deactivation during construction, operation, and maintenance of the project.

While anyone can enter the ULHP

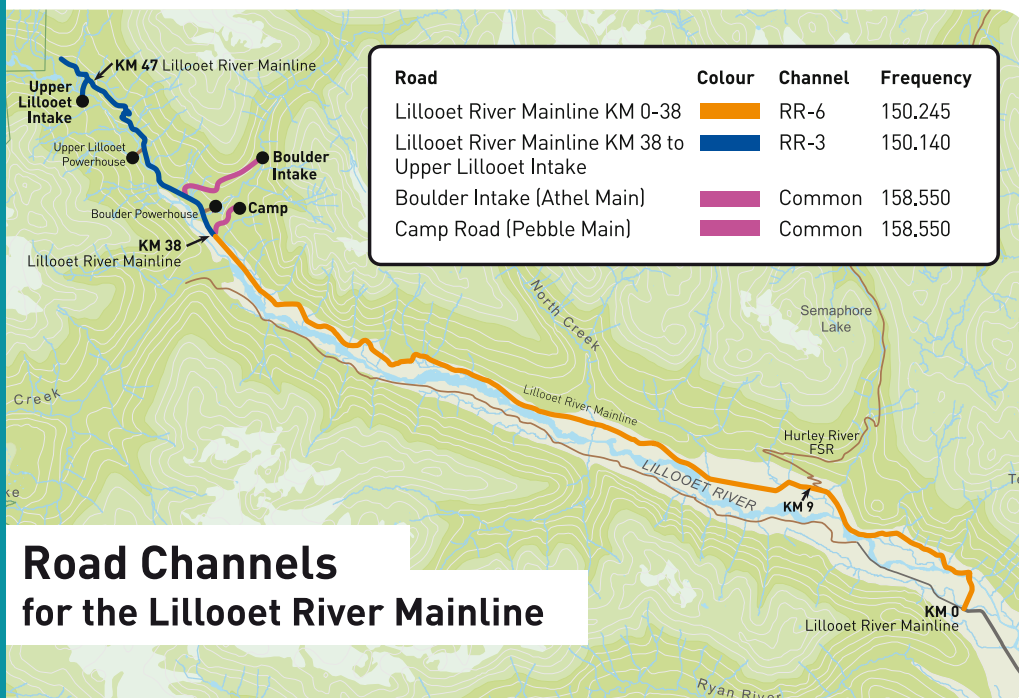
work areas (at their own risk), there are a few minor, safety-related restrictions, mandated by provincial and federal regulations:

- A spur road leading to magazine explosives storage areas is off limits to the public.
- Where there is a safety risk to the public (e.g. blasting activities), our contractors

secure the area with flaggers.

- When the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO) pronounces the landslide risk to be unacceptable to the public, the Lillooet Forest Service Road (FSR) is closed. When there are medium to high landslide risks, our contractor places flaggers at the entrance to both the powerhouse roads and the road to the Upper Lillooet River intake to track personnel entering and leaving the area.
- The Athel Main Line Road at KM 3 (aka Boulder Intake Road) is gated to restrict unauthorized motorized vehicles from entering the Mountain Goat Winter Range and associated 500 meter disturbance buffer from November 1 to June 15.

In Summer 2014, MFLNRO rolled out standard resource road radio communications protocols for FSRs in the Sea-to-Sky District, which includes: standardized radio communication signage, a set of dedicated Resource Road Radio Channels, and standardized call procedures. For further details, please see MFLNRO's Sea to Sky District Engineering website: www.for.gov.bc.ca/dsq/Engineering/dsq_engineering.htm



Road Channels for the Lillooet River Mainline

Archaeological Work with Lil'wat Nation

The ULHP is situated within the exclusive traditional territory of the Lil'wat Nation. The Upper Lillooet River is a place of significant traditional and cultural value to the Lil'wat Nation, and has been used and occupied by Lil'wat people since time immemorial. Lil'wat's connection to this part of their territory was strengthened by the discovery of archaeological sites during an archaeological assessment carried out by Lil'wat Nation and Arrowstone Archaeological Research and Consulting (Arrowstone).

Archaeological sites in B.C., such as aboriginal pictographs, petroglyphs, and culturally modified trees, are protected under the Heritage Conservation Act. Protected sites cannot be altered, damaged, moved, or excavated in any way without a permit. There are two identified and registered archaeological sites within the ULHP, located near the Upper Lillooet River Hydroelectric Facility powerhouse and penstock.

Accordingly, the powerhouse and penstock have been designed to avoid these archaeological sites and Innergex has been working with the Lil'wat Nation to ensure the sites remain protected.

As part of Innergex's Environmental Assessment for the project, Lil'wat Nation and Arrowstone conducted a Traditional Use Study and an Archaeology Impact Assessment to identify archaeological sites and to recommend procedures

for avoiding, protecting, or mitigating potential impacts from construction activities on identified sites. Protective measures include placing boundaries around the perimeter of the archaeological sites, including a 10 meter buffer with snow fencing. An archaeological technician from the Lil'wat Nation has also been present to monitor any initial ground disturbance activities that occur within 50 meters of the site boundaries and to look out for any unexpected archaeological finds.

Additionally, the Lil'wat Nation put on a workshop to train frontline crews on how to identify a culturally modified tree and what to do if they encounter unexpected archaeological finds. Unexpected finds are to be immediately reported to Lil'wat Nation for review and confirmation, and all land-altering activities are to be halted until further direction is provided by the Lil'wat Nation.

Johnny Jones, archaeological technician from the Lil'wat Nation, is proud of his work with Innergex, protecting cultural and historically significant sites for his community: "It has been good working with Innergex over the years. A lot of research and field work has been done to make sure that Lil'wat cultural sites are protected, such as culturally modified trees, rock paintings, rock shelters, and many other sites that show Lil'wat use of this area before contact."



↑ Bird survey crew at the Lil'wat workshop



↑ Lil'wat Nation archaeological technician Johnny Jones with a culturally modified tree

Best Practices for Protecting the Northern Rubber Boa

During construction of the ULHP, Innergex follows a government-approved Construction Environmental Management Plan to help prevent harmful effects to wildlife within the project area. The Northern Rubber Boa, which is federally listed in the Species at Risk Act under Special Concern and in the provincial Wildlife Act, has been spotted at several locations within the ULHP area. The small (can reach a maximum length of 75 cm), slow, and harmless snake is reddish-brown/yellowish in colour and prefers habitat near water that contains rocky outcrops, talus slopes and an abundance of woody debris. Along with being nocturnal, the Boa hibernates from November to April and begins breeding in April and May. According to the Wildlife Act, it is illegal to capture, move, harm or kill the species, and under the guidance of the management plan, construction crews are implementing

mitigation and best management practices to protect the snake and its habitat.

During project site orientation, construction crews receive training on how to identify the snake, their habitat, and high-risk areas. If a Boa is observed, work is stopped immediately and the Independent Environmental Monitor is notified to determine how to best protect the species and its habitat. Also, during the clearing, grubbing, and excavation phases, we try to minimize disturbance to areas that provide important cover and denning sites for the snakes. ULHP crews are particularly careful during the Boa's active season (April to October), by minimizing vehicle traffic after dark in known Boa areas to reduce the potential for road-kill. In addition to these best practices, if a sighting area needs to be heavily altered or disturbed during construction, a Qualified Professional with a valid wildlife salvage



↑ Rubber Boa observed on the Ryan River FSR

permit will relocate the snake(s) by hand to an area that is not impacted by construction activities. Fortunately, the salvage and relocation plan is purely precautionary, as there has not been a need for salvage and relocation at ULHP and we do not anticipate a need in the future. The final pieces of the protective measures take place once construction activities are complete, when temporarily disturbed areas will be revegetated and restored.

Supporting ULHP's Environmental Commitments: The Role of the Independent Environmental Monitor

During construction of all Innergex projects, there are many provincial ministries, federal departments and agencies we work closely with to ensure our projects are being built according to the highest environmental standards. Innergex and government agencies at all levels share the common goal of upholding our environmental commitments, as outlined in our Environmental Assessment Certificate and other permits. One of the central ways Innergex is meeting this objective is working alongside a MFLNRO-approved Independent Environmental Monitor (IEM) to monitor construction activities in environmentally sensitive areas and act as an agency liaison to ensure we are fulfilling our environmental responsibilities.

The IEM has a unique role, as an independent qualified professional retained by Innergex and reporting to government regulatory agencies. Environmental services include: erosion and sediment control and construction mitigation planning, water quality monitoring, Mountain goat monitoring, amphibian and fish salvages, among others. The IEM also has the authority to stop, halt, or temporarily alter work if site conditions or actions by the contractor pose a threat to the environment. Any work that is stopped can only continue once the IEM is satisfied with the solutions presented.

Additionally, the IEM prepares reports weekly, which are distributed independently and provide details on the project's compliance to relevant permits, and other commitments. These monitoring reports for ULHP can be found on the project website at: www.upperlillooethydro.com/construction/

For the ULHP and other Innergex projects under construction, we work with Sartori Environmental Services Ltd (Sartori) which has more than 65 years of combined experience in BC. We are proud to be working alongside environmental experts to help us build an environmentally sound clean energy project.

Who is the Independent Engineer?

Similar to the IEM, the Independent Engineer (IE) is the independent qualified professional retained by Innergex and approved by and reporting to the MFLNRO. The IE's primary role is to monitor construction activities to protect the public, the environment, and the design and operation of the project. The IE works under the direction of the Engineer under the Water Act, and like the IEM, has the authority to stop, halt or temporarily alter work if site conditions or actions by the contractor represent an undue threat to the environment or public health and safety.

The IE on the ULHP is True North Energy, which has more than 50 years of experience in BC and works closely with their BC based partners, including JEM Energy and Midgard Consulting.



↑ Lead members of the IEM and IE team (left to right): Steve Sims (IEM Delegate), Alex Sartori (IEM), Tom Hicks (IEM Lead Monitor), Jennifer McCash (IE Delegate), George Steeves (IE).

2015 Winter Operation Plan

This winter, construction on the ULHP is shut down (as of December 5), and our civil contractor, CRT-ebc, has installed hazard warning and avalanche signs. A small crew will be on site during the winter to maintain the construction camp infrastructure, mechanic/carpentry shop, and equipment. The Lillooet River FSR will not be plowed during the winter season, and our crews will be traveling along the Lillooet River FSR to the KM 38 laydown via snowcat. The crews will clear snow along the Pebble Mainline Road so they can drive pickup trucks and fuel trucks back and forth between the construction camp and the KM 38 Laydown. A snowmobile transition zone will be created along the Lillooet

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Snowmobile Transition Zone at km 38 along Lillooet FSR



2014 Construction Summary

Upper Lillooet River Hydroelectric Facility



↑ Construction of the Obermeyer Weir in the Diversion Channel

← Upstream and downstream cofferdams in place with Lillooet River flowing into newly constructed diversion channel



↑ Downstream tunnel support works



↑ Powerhouse construction as of November

Transmission Line



← View of transmission line looking east along the Lillooet River FSR at KM 21

← Helicopter stringer conductor in Segment 5

Boulder Creek Hydroelectric Facility



↑ Temporary diversion tunnel works at intake



← 300 Tonne Crane at Boulder Intake



↑ Tunnel drilling



↑ Powerhouse construction and tunnel portal in background

Camp Infrastructure



↑ Construction camp

← Camp in background, laydown in foreground and Boulder powerhouse and tunnel portal on the left.



A Look Back at 2014 Sponsorships

This last year, Innergex has proudly supported many local community groups and service organizations in and around Pemberton and Mount Currie. Here are some examples:

In 2014, Innergex contributed to the Pemberton Valley Trails Association (PVTA) for work on the Valley Loop Trail-Airport Trail. The addition of this new section of trail will help the Squamish Lillooet Regional District and PVTA finalize the Valley Loop Trail, which is a popular 7.5 km non-motorized trail that showcases the Pemberton Valley.

In June, we were honoured to sponsor the Sustainability in Action Award at the third annual Whistler Excellence Awards ceremony and dinner. This award celebrates a Whistler business that has made a substantial and positive impact through incorporating sustainability in their business. Innergex was asked by the Whistler Centre for Sustainability to co-present the award to the winner, RDC Fine Homes.

This fall, Innergex was approached by Stewardship Pemberton to help fund their innovative Crab Apple Tree Project. Stewardship Pemberton collected crab apples along the main street in Pemberton and

used them to make jars of crab apple jelly and sauce to sell, with proceeds going back to their initiatives. The project's goal was to remove bear attractants in order to reduce the potential for human-bear conflicts within the Village of Pemberton.

If you have an exciting community-based project in the works, contact us to discuss the possibility of sponsorship. Our priority sectors for sponsorship are:

- Environment and sustainable development
- Autonomy and economic development of local communities and First Nations
- Socio-community projects
- Amateur sports, physical activity and health
- Education and entrepreneurship.

Innergex Donates \$500,000 to the Friendship Trail Bridge

Innergex is honored to work alongside the Village of Pemberton, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) and Lil'wat Nation on the Friendship Trail Bridge Project. In late 2014, the project moved a step closer to its fundraising goal after Innergex announced \$500,000 contribution along with in-kind technical support, engineering advice, and assistance with sourcing potential contractors.

The Friendship Trail Bridge, to be built over the Lillooet River, is part of the Friendship Trail, a 7 km-long non-motorized, multi-use trail that will provide a safe and ecological means to physically, socially, and economically connect the nearly 5,600 residents within the area. The Friendship Trail will be a vital link in the SLRD's Sea to Sky Trail, which, when complete, will be a 180km multi-use trail linking the Pacific Ocean south of Squamish with the town of D'Arcy and Anderson Lake. The goal is to have the bridge section completed by the spring of 2016. The Village, the SLRD and the Lil'wat Nation will be working together to fundraise and source the remaining funds and materials for the completion of the project.



↑ Staff with Whistler Centre for Sustainability Board of Directors at our Fitzsimmons Creek Hydro Project in Whistler

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 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

2015 Winter Operation – continued from inside

River FSR in the KM 38 area (leaving a layer of snow on the FSR). By mid-March 2015, CRT-ebc will begin snow blowing the Lillooet River FSR starting at KM 0 working their way to KM 39, depending on snow levels and avalanche risks. By April 2015, they will be back at work at the Boulder Creek powerhouse and tunnel. In May 2015, they will resume work in all other civil work areas when the various wildlife constraints come off. To ensure the safety of their crews, CRT-ebc will be instructing their staff not to venture out of the authorized areas. Additionally, CRT-ebc cannot provide services or emergency services to the public, unless under the lead of other emergency response agencies such as RCMP and Search and Rescue. Anyone entering the backcountry during the winter/avalanche season must be prepared for all situations and be able to self-rescue.