IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT REVIEW PANEL ("JOINT PANEL")

ESTABLISHED TO REVIEW THE SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT

("PROJECT") PROPOSED BY BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO

AND POWER AUTHORITY ("BC HYDRO")

CANADA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AGENCY
AND

BRITISH COLUMBIA ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OFFICE

PROCEEDINGS AT HEARING

December 14, 2013

Volume 7

Pages 1 to 240

Сору

Held at:

The Pearkes Centre Gymnasium

10801 Dudley Drive

Hudson's Hope, British Columbia

APPEARANCES

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1	
2	December 14, 2013
3	Hudson's Hope, British Columbia
4	(Proceedings commenced at 9:00 a.m.)
5	
6	Opening remarks by the Chairman:
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning.
8	Can I invite people to could I invite
9	people to take their chairs, please. Small persons
10	can take off their hats.
11	Good morning, and thank you for spending your
12	Saturday morning with these hearings. I have no
13	opening remarks today, having said far too much
14	yesterday. And I would like to proceed directly to
15	our first witness.
16	There's been a slight change in order.
17	Dr. Christoph Weder is going to lead off this
18	morning, exchanging places with Derrek Beam, who
19	will be first off this afternoon.
20	Dr. Weder.
21	
22	Presentation by Dr. Christoph Weder, Heritage Angus:
23	DR. WEDER: Which one do I use? This
24	one? Whichever one?
25	THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah.

1	DR.	WEDER:	Okay.
2	THE	CHAIRMAN:	That will do fine. You
3		can	
4	DR.	WEDER:	My memory stick can
5		everybody hear me?	
6	THE	CHAIRMAN:	I'm sorry, you must use a
7		microphone.	
8	DR.	WEDER:	Okay.
9	THE	CHAIRMAN:	You are being transcribed.
10	DR.	WEDER:	So I'll just wait for my
11		presentation to be pu	t into the system, and I'm
12		just going to move up	so I can see which slide
13		we're going to use.	Oh, it's right there too.
14		Okay.	
15	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Push the button on your mic.
16	DR.	WEDER:	Okay. Well, thank you very
17		much for having me he	re today.
18		I'll just expla	in who I am and where I'm
19		from. My name is Chr	istoph Weder, and my family
20		and I just actually re	ecently moved to Hudson's
21		Hope. We purchased a	ranch up on Beryl Prairie
22		Road, and we moved in	from Alberta at Rycroft, so
23		pretty much 300 kilome	etres straight to the east of
24		us.	
25		And so I'm goin	g to talk a little bit about

1 our business and what we do and why we chose to 2 come to Hudson's Hope and how this whole dam fits 3 with us and actually the whole environment and what 4 we're doing here. 5 So part of my presentation I'm giving you 6 guys is we have a branded-beef program. We're the 7 only company in Canada that exports beef to Europe. 8 In fact, we started 10 years ago with a group of 9 producers shortly after BSE, and now we've become the largest beef exporter in Europe. Our company 10 11 now sells in excess of \$20 million of beef a year, 12 and I'm going to talk a little bit about that, and 13 this is -- what I'm going to show you is a 14 presentation that I give to my customer on what 15 sets our beef apart, and it's -- our story is more 16 than just beef. 17 We have a slogan in our company. Our company 18 is called Heritage Angus, and our slogan is "Be 19 Part of Something Good," which can be construed as 20 many things from how it's raised to the quality of 21 the beef and the story behind it. 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Weder, slow down. You're 23 being transcribed. 24 DR. WEDER: All right. So this is what I 2.5 show my customers, where we are in Canada, and

1 obviously these are where our two ranches are: one in Alberta and one in British Columbia. 2 There is my family. We have four children: 3 Pasco, Nero, Oro and Luna. And Erika is my wife. 4 5 And what we're all about and how we ranch is 6 about sustainable agriculture. We look after our 7 lands, and if we want to talk about ranching, ranching is probably one of the most 8 9 environmentally friendly ways of producing food in the world, because one thing about having cattle is 10 11 it allows for biodiversity to be completely around 12 As I always spoke about our ranch in Alberta, 13 we had 145 bird species, 45 mammal species, 7 amphibians, 1 reptile and 4 rug rats. And that's 14 15 what our business is about. We concentrate on cost of production, 16 17 specialization and value adding. We are also about 18 pasture-based systems and without concentrate 19 supplements. In essence, our business is about 20 four-wheel drived, solar-powered forage 21 biodigesters with a built in forage harvester and a 22 manure spreader in the back end. That's how we 23 make our living. 24 And our goal in agricultural is to work with 2.5 nature and not against it.

And that -- I'll let him finish that, or
we're going to get feedback.

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So, you know, our goal is to work with nature and not against it. And, you know, what I'm getting here is our beef is more than just beef. A lot of people just look at beef in a store as a product that you eat, but what they forget is that the environment that it supports -- and I often get -- hear about we should go visit national parks and so and such forth to see wildlife, and I'd like to argue that we have more biodiversity and more biodiverse lands on ranches than we see in any national park if it's managed correctly.

So I talk about our neighbours when I talk to our customers. That's -- you know, that's again what we're about, you know, little creepy crawlies. To the migratory. To these guys. To the big guys. And obviously these guys I have a problem with once in a while as well, but, you know, they're part of the ecosystem.

So these are pictures. This is what I sell when I sell our beef. These are the images and the stories that people want to know about. We supply some of the highest five-star hotels in the world including Kempinski and Grand Hyatts and Park

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Hyatts of the world. And not only do they want a quality beef product in terms of guaranteed tenderness and flavour every time they serve it to their customer, they also want a beef with a story behind it and a story that's real and not just a nice billboard that gets thrown up. They want something that's real, has got substance behind it. And that's really what we have to do as a company in ours. We're a small branded beef program. We can't compete with the likes of the Cargills and the JBSes of the world for producing beef at a cheaper cost, but we can compete by authenticity and maintaining the values of beef production and communicating that to the end users.

So again, just pictures here that I want to show. This is how we raise the whole thing and where it comes to.

So I worked as a beef specialist for 10 years for the Alberta government, and during that time the only story I could tell the farmers and ranchers I worked with that to be successful and continue, you have to find ways of lowering your cost of production, always find a way to limbo lower, because in essence the producer doesn't have a lot of impact in terms of the price he gets for

1	his product. And 10 years ago this coming January,
2	we had an Einstein moment and an opportunity to
3	start thinking differently instead of just
4	continuing to lower costs of production, produce a
5	better product.
6	THE CHAIRMAN: Dr. Weder, can you keep your
7	pace a little slower, please.
8	DR. WEDER: Okay.
9	Produce a you know, at a lower cost of
10	production and value adding and getting higher up
11	the value chain. So in 2004 we decided to take the
12	road less travelled, and we formed a company called
13	Prairie Heritage Beef Producers, and our goal was
14	that we're an association of innovative ranch
15	families that uses their collective resources to
16	sustainably produce a beef product that builds
17	customer confidence and loyalty, and that
18	includes stability is caring for the land, the
19	environment, maintaining family values and the
20	ability for ranches to generate fair returns for a
21	job to do with pride and honour. We call it
22	"eco-committed," meaning both ecologically and
23	economically viable agricultural.
24	We decided to produce a true value change so
25	that the producer gets paid fairly for the calves

1 he produces, that our backgrounders make a fair 2 return, that our feedlot makes a fair return, that 3 our packing plant, at our end our distributor, and then we have a customer that's willing to buy it. 4 So that's to cover the cost of production, return 5 6 on investment and a reasonable profit. 7 And we're lucky. We started our business in Vancouver Island with Thrifty Foods. It was our 8 9 first customer. It was our only customer for two years. Since then obviously a lot has changed. 10 11 Again, a story of pride and partnership. 12 talk about our ranchers, but the biggest thing that 13 we also talk about is that we're stewards to the land and looking after the land resources. 14 15 learned to start branding ourselves, and, you know, 16 Canadian Mountain Holidays was one of our first 17 customers. And I did a lot of food shows around the world, and I saw how other countries market 18 19 themselves. And really, that was Australian 20 livestock of meat, nature's finest ingredients. 21 See how other countries brand. 22 And so we had to figure out how do we brand 23 ourselves. 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Could you draw the connection 2.5 between this and the --

1	DR. WEDER: It's coming there. This is
2	the whole story here, so if you give me some
3	patience.
4	THE CHAIRMAN: All right.
5	DR. WEDER: So we branded Heritage Angus.
6	And what is ourselves? Yeah, we produce a quality
7	product, but this is what we are. We're Canada.
8	We're natural. We're range. We're superior. We
9	savour. This is what our program is. So all these
10	things. Most importantly it's environmental. And
11	these are our brands.
12	We bought a ranch specifically on the banks
13	of the Peace River, the hedgewaters of the Peace
14	River to take customers to show them what this is
15	all about. And when a customer comes from Europe,
16	they think of Canada, a number of things: it's
17	pristine as a landscape that is unspoiled, that
18	people that care for their environment and look at
19	long-term values.
20	And I guess the biggest one for me is I've
21	always talked about the land of the mighty Peace,
22	the Rhine of Alberta or Rhine of British Columbia.
23	And, you know, the reality is I grew up in
24	Switzerland or I came from Switzerland. If you go
25	look at the Rhine in Europe, it is completely

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urbanised and completely altered. When someone comes from Europe, sees a river that actually flows the way it's supposed to be and the way it moved with Mother Nature, that's what blows them away and that's what helps sell our beef program.

We're, you know, a growing beef concern, and we have a significant investment in keeping our business growing as well. And I guess the best one was the quote that I had, here, about protecting nature should be our priority.

The Washington Center for Global Development recently placed Canada dead last for environmental protection on 27 wealthy nations. Meanwhile, according to the Deloitte Canada report, Canada has slipped from 2nd to 18th as international travel destinations, thereby foregoing billions of dollars annually.

Evidently direct and indirect tourist-related spending produces even more spin-off revenue than auto manufacturing, mining, oil or gas. Why are we so intent on following [sic] our own nest when instead we could be showcasing the unspoiled beauty of our wild and natural places to a world where such destinations are increasingly rare.

We need a different long-term vision from our

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political leaders; one that recognizes Canada's greatest legacies to its own people and the world.

Our pristine waterways and unsecrated [sic] natural spaces.

And what I'm getting at is, you know, we make decisions based on the short term of now instead of looking long term for the next generations. one of the things that I think everybody in this room forgets sometimes is that one day we'll all be topsoil. And the reality is there is many generations that are going to be coming behind us, and I think it's important to look long term for those guys as well as to the decisions that we make now as to the effect it has later on and to the next generations, and, you know, I like to look at agriculture too. We've had a lot of technology changes and things that have become -- made us more efficient and everything else, and I think if we make decisions on current technologies as opposed to looking down the road to other technologies that could alleviate these issues --

Because this river that we come down is one of the marketing tools that we have for selling to our customers internationally. We have customers that this year came from Denmark, from Germany,

1	from Czech Republic, from the UK and recently just
2	from China, and that was the number one thing that
3	blew them way. You guys work and produce beef in
4	this kind of environment? That sells to us because
5	there isn't too many unspoiled places in the world
6	anymore.
7	So I'm just going to close off what being
8	part of something good is, and I'll leave it at
9	that. It's a howl of a coyote on a saltgrass
10	plain, the chatter of a prairie dog on a late
11	summer night.
12	THE CHAIRMAN: We may all be topsoil
13	eventually, but your words will live after you if
14	you slow you.
15	DR. WEDER: Okay. I thought that's what
16	we have tape recorders for, sorry.
17	It's the howl of a coyote on a saltgrass
18	plain, the chatter of a prairie dog on a late
19	summer night. It's also a respect for the seasons
20	and the anticipation of daybreak's first light.
21	It's weathered hands saddling a horse in the shadow
22	of the Neutral Hills, and the future of a
23	3-year-old honing their cowboy skills. It's a
24	grizzly bear ambling on the slopes of Butler Ridge,
25	and a mule deer standing still on the banks of the

1		Peace. It's also a be	eaver chewing on aspen that
2		just fell. It's ranch	n families working together to
3		produce beef using the	e sun. It's sustainability in
4		the environment and ag	griculture by working as one,
5		and that's what our br	rand is about, and that's why
6		I feel so strongly abo	out needing long-term vision
7		and what we do and mal	ke in these things and the
8		impact, because this w	will impact on how we sell our
9		brand down the road.	
10		Thank you.	
11	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Thank you very much.
12		Comments? Questions?	
13		Madam Beaudet.	
14	MS.	BEAUDET:	Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15		You said you mov	ved here. Which year?
16	DR.	WEDER:	We bought the property last
17		fall, and we moved	actually, we took the
18		property over this sp	ring.
19	MS.	BEAUDET:	Did you know about the Site C
20		coming up?	
21	DR.	WEDER:	Yes, I did know about Site C,
22		but I also felt that s	someone would have common
23		sense to look at long-	-term vision.
24	MS.	BEAUDET:	Thank you.
25	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Are there other comments?

In which case thank you very much.

Our next speaker is Grace Setsuko Okada.

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Presentation by Grace Setsuko Okada:

5 MS. OKADA: Good morning.

There are many issues and problems with the Site C project, and the details of these issues and problems are much better presented by others. I don't have the depth of knowledge to discuss them in detail, but what I do know is that we all tend to ignore problems and things that we believe in, have been convinced to support or just want to happen. There's a legal term and concept that describes this; it is willful blindness.

In my opinion, willful blindness is a dark cloud hanging over the Site C project. Love is blind, and that can be a good thing. We don't see the minor flaws in people we love. However, in the extreme, blind love can prevent wives or husbands from seeing an unfaithful spouse. All the classic clues may be known: lipstick on the collar, late nights. And yet, the larger picture of infidelity does not form because they do not want to see that picture. They don't want to connect the dots and come to a conclusion that may disrupt their image

of a perfect life.

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These people are willfully blind, just like those who don't want to see the real problems with Site C.

In the 1960s, many of the employees of two large and powerful corporations WR Grace and Beatrice Foods in Woburn, Massachusetts claimed to be unaware of the harm done by the practice of dumping chemicals, despite the fact that some of them were even involved in the efforts to cover up this dumping activity. These people were willfully blind about the organizations they worked for, just like those who don't want to see the problems with Site C.

Gayla Benefield worked to uncover the cause of health problems in Libby, Montana. She worked solely to discover the truth, for she had nothing to gain. She and other whistle blowers are committed to helping institutions do the right thing.

Whistle blowers care about people. They are persistent and patient, and they are just like other ordinary people. These are people who are not willfully blind but have the honesty to look carefully at the evidence and have the courage to

1 act. Some may even have the authority to correct 2 the problem. The analyzers of the Site C project 3 need to be people who are not willfully blind to the magnitude of the problems with the project. 4 5 Willful blindness is a legal term: 6 7 "A finding of willful blindness involves an affirmative 8 9 answer to the question: did the 10 accused shut his eyes because he 11 knew or strongly suspected that 12 looking would fix him with 13 knowledge?" 14 15 The executives of Enron, an energy commodities and 16 services company, were tried, convicted and imprisoned 17 for accounting frauds. The trial ended with a 18 legislation that increased the penalties for 19 misrepresenting records and increasing the 20 responsibility of auditing firms. The judge presiding 21 over the case against the Enron employees used the 22 concept of willful blindness to find them quilty because 23 the employees could have known and should have known 24 something that they chose to ignore. 2.5

1 "Many of the company's losses 2 started the collapse that could have been avoided if someone had 3 4 had the nerve and the foresight to 5 put a stop to it." 6 7 So we have this proposed Site C dam, and there are The BC Hydro employees are aware of many of 8 problems. 9 At the meeting on the 29th of October, the problems. 2013, in the Hudson's Hope Community Hall, many Hudson's 10 11 Hope residents spoke of their concerns. Some of the 12 concerns were about how the dam would negatively affect their lives, how real estate is being negatively 13 14 affected and probably will continue to be difficult for 15 Hudson's Hope, how unfair the legacy is, how other 16 sources of energy may be better choices than another 17 dam, how a study discovered a common pattern of harsh negative effects of hydroelectric dams affecting people 18 19 living close to the dam but who have the least power, 20 and how the compensation for the various dams was 21 unfairly calculated. 22 The BC Hydro employees did their best to answer 23 questions, and they listened politely to all the 24 statements, but they spoke from a position of willful 2.5 blindness, blindly representing BC Hydro's plan to build

1 this dam no matter what the problems are. 2 The World Bank funds many large hydroelectric dam 3 projects, and a study of the social impacts of these large dam projects reported many recommendations which 4 5 the World Bank uses to help them decide which projects 6 they will fund. Some of the recommendations from the 7 report were that there be mandatory monitoring of actual impacts on a yearly basis, that the living standards of 8 9 all affected people not be worse off after the dam is 10 built. And because of the severity of social impacts 11 suffered by impacted people, a traditional cost-benefit 12 analysis is not an adequate justification for the 13 decision to build a large dam. 14 15 "In too many cases, an unacceptable and often unnecessary 16 17 price has been paid to secure 18 benefits, especially in social and 19 environmental terms, by people 20 displaced, by communities 21 downstream, by taxpayers and by the 22 natural environment." 23 24 What we now need is someone who has the honesty to look at all of the information without being willfully 2.5

1 blind, someone who has the intelligence to evaluate the 2 information without being influenced by personal bias 3 and the bias of BC Hydro, someone who has the courage to recognize that something is not right, and someone who 4 5 has the authority to say, wait a minute, there's a 6 problem. That someone is the Site C Clean Energy 7 Project Joint Review Panel. In my opinion, the only way the Site C project gets 8 9 approval to proceed is through the Joint Review Panel deciding not to see the full impact of the problems 10 11 inherent in the project. My request is that the Panel 12 members not be willfully blind, that they open their eyes to all the issues surrounding the Site C project, 13 and that they not allow the bias of BC Hydro towards 14 15 mitigation and remediation rule the day as the be-all 16 and end-all for social and environmental problems. 17 Thank you. 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 19 Ms. Okada, could you -- Madam Beaudet wishes 20 to ask you a question. 21 MS. BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 22 Apart from bringing to our attention the 23 world of willful blindness, what I found 24 interesting also is that you have in your 2.5 references for reading an article from the Journal

1 of International Policy Solutions, and I was just 2 wondering if you were a graduate from the school of international relations. 3 MS. OKADA: 4 No. 5 MS. BEAUDET: I have, with respect to this 6 article actually -- and I'm sure BC Hydro has the 7 reference, but for the public, give it here. addressing the social impacts of large hydro dams 8 9 published by the Journal of International Policy Solutions spring 2007. And in this it refers to 10 11 the requirements now for the World Bank. Well, since 1997 when they formed the World Conservation 12 13 Union -- I mean, the World Conservation Union created the World Commission of Dams, because 14 15 around the world, there were many dams, and some of 16 them huge and impacting hundreds of people, and so 17 they developed a way of trying to assess how people are impacted, especially from a social -- from a 18 19 social view. 20 And in this you have of course the 21 compensation programs when all mitigation fail, and 22 they also have the notion of dispossession, which I 23 find very interesting. And the definition is the 24 deprivation of land, common resources, homes and 2.5 other assets depended on for livelihood and all

1	culture practices.
2	And I think when we look at this definition,
3	it's more in terms of a dam where you have to flood
4	a town of 100,000 people or
5	I'd like to ask Hydro when they evaluate if
6	there's an adverse effect, for instance, on
7	agriculture covering ranching or whatever is done
8	here in the Valley. They say that there is no
9	adverse effect because there is a compensation
10	program. And I'd like to know if they had in their
11	evaluation thought about the number of people?
12	Where is the threshold? I mean, it makes a big
13	impact if it's 100,000 people. If it's only ten
14	families, then that's not too much to compensate.
15	And I'd like to have your views on that. Where's
16	your threshold that it becomes significant as per
17	the number of people that are affected?
18	THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Yurkovich.
19	MS. YURKOVICH: Thank you, Madam.
20	So I'll start by there was a comment, a
21	reference made yesterday about the percentage, the
22	35 percent of the output of the dam with 5 percent
23	of the reservoir footprint. We do recognize that
24	if you are in that footprint, those numbers are
25	they don't matter, and we understand that. We

1 understand that there are impacts on people's 2 properties. It's an interesting question about the threshold, Madam Beaudet. It is a -- it's not a 3 question that we have considered in terms of what 4 5 would be the absolute number. It's something that 6 I would like to think about and perhaps contemplate 7 and then respond more fully after thinking about 8 that. But, yes, we have -- we recognize that, you 9 know, that there is a footprint for people, and that footprint is real. 10 11 I would like to spend just a minute on the 12 agricultural piece and how we are planning to 13 provide compensation on that front and mitigation 14 on that front, and I'm going to ask Ms. Jackson to 15 do so. 16 MS. JACKSON: Thank you. 17 You did refer specifically to the 18 agricultural section. The approach outlined in the 19 agricultural section considers four factors in 20 terms of land, operations, economics and then the 21 ongoing ability of the region to produce food, 22 self-reliance for the people of the region. 23 The section that focuses on the operation's 24 effects was prepared with the input of interviews with each agricultural operator, the -- to develop 2.5

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an understanding and appreciation. So our consultant who undertook that was personally present at those interviews. There's a couple of them present at those interviews, and we're taking all of that into account when they were looking at proposing the mitigation planning, understanding the size of the operations. And, I think, to build upon some of what Ms. Reynier said yesterday, for the majority of these farms and some of the presenters yesterday and over the days from those operations, the majority of these farms will be able to continue to operate even with the project in place. That is taken into account.

There's some summary tables. For example, on page 20-47 and other places in the documentation that try and convey some of that in terms of the relevant information that we have related to the amount of loss of land, for example, and the disruption. I mentioned yesterday, and I won't repeat it, but the development of site specification mitigation plans for each farmer are an important aspect of the mitigation that will enable those operations to remain viable. The presenter from earlier today, as he mentioned, has arrived recently. I don't know where his specific

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operations are, however if his acquisitions included land that would be affected by the project, those lands would be already included in our assessment, however at that time they wouldn't have been associated with his particular operation.

In terms of thresholds, you know, the environmental assessment approach and process, you know, encourages us and requires us to describe what was taken into account. First is a characterization using a number of criteria: magnitude, duration and some other typically quantitative or qualitative descriptive criteria to describe the nature of the effect. It also requires us to then discuss thresholds for residual adverse effects with respect to -- within our judgment, what our view of the significance was, using the stated thresholds that we did use.

In each -- each section has a different threshold derived from a different academic or a different discipline, if you'd like, that would be most appropriate for each of those disciplines.

Section 11 is where we describe on a properties basis some of the numbers that you've referred to.

We have tried to in each appropriate section of the assessment to provide that relative context that is

1		available in terms of our understanding of not just
2		the numbers but the nature of each of those
3		properties. I think that's why it's important to
4		look at section 20 when we're talking about
5		agricultural operations and then in section 11
6		where we're talking about the number of hectares of
7		parcels given the different nature of residential
8		occupation versus agricultural operation.
9		I think I'll stop there, but if you have any
10		other questions for us
11	MS. B	EAUDET: No, I think we were talking
12		the other day about the ethics of the decision, and
13		I think it would be interesting if for us, if
14		you give some thoughts about what are the
15		thresholds in terms of affected or dispossessed
16		population, please.
17	THE C	Ms. Okada, just before you
18		stand down, I'm I have to say I'm troubled by
19		the concept of willful blindness. It implies a
20		deep level of malevolence. It's a term that's been
21		used about German people during the nazi
22		governance, so I think it is an extremely strong
23		phrase and has even today specific legal
24		consequences, and I have to say that I don't
25		believe that anybody in this room is approaching

1	this question in a willfully blind manner.
2	I think sometimes large institutions can
3	behave in a way which seems inhuman. Sometimes
4	they are, but I don't ascribe the behaviour of a
5	large institution like BC Hydro to the beliefs and
6	behaviours of the individuals that make it up.
7	That said, I appreciate your comments about hoping
8	this Panel has open ears or an open mind and the
9	degree of impartiality, and we'll do our best.
10	Thank you.
11	MS. OKADA: Thank you.
12	THE CHAIRMAN: We have actually two
13	presentations coming up from Mr. William Lindsay,
14	first on his own behalf, and then as and then on
15	behalf of the Hudson's Hope Historical Society.
16	Mr. Lindsay.
17	
18	Presentation by William Lindsay:
19	MR. LINDSAY: Good morning.
20	My name is Bill Lindsay, L-i-n-d-s-a-y. I
21	moved to Hudson's Hope in January 1988 and retired
22	in 2006. I intend to remain living in this
23	community. For over 30 years I worked in local
24	government. Governments at all levels are elected
25	by their constituents to perform services for the

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people. I understand and have witnessed that there are often disagreements about what form those services should take. Many government leaders will place their stamp on a project and try very hard to see it become a reality.

What I am quite disappointed to see in this case is that a provincial government in its desire to have the Site C project come to fruition is to deny itself the opportunity to receive advice from a body that is established to study projects without having politics influence its decision and The deliberate exclusion of the recommendations. BC Utilities Commission from the review of the Site C proposal is very short-sighted and likely to have unfortunate consequences that will last for many years into the future. I don't know whether this Panel has the power, but I hope that you are able through your report to rectify this mistake and bring the BCUC back into the picture. I don't mean to imply that this proposed dam will not be properly constructed. It will. That's what BC Hydro does. But sometimes in its zeal to build the best, there is the tendency to overbuild.

We need an impartial body to study the project from a technical perspective and consider

1 whether the gold doorknobs are required or can we 2 safely get by with stainless steel. With a project 3 cost of 8 billion, even a small percentage saved from the total will be a substantial sum. 4 5 I want to also point out the irritating use 6 of the words "clean energy" along with any 7 reference to the Site C project. This is just some spin doctor's efforts to influence the public's 8 9 opinion so that it looks on Site C in a positive 10 It was done with the so-called smart 11 meters. Sure, there are additional functions being 12 performed that the old metres did not do, but there 13 are no cognitive actions going on inside those casings. A metre doesn't think. Nevertheless, I 14 15 acknowledge that spinning is an effective -- in a 16 devious way. But this approach is also demeaning 17 to the public and to the government for stooping to 18 those tactics. 19 I appreciate the Panel allowing me this time 20 to share my thoughts. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Before we move on 22 to the -- what the Historical Society has to say, 23 is there anybody who would like to speak up for 24 spin? 2.5 I guess we'll carry on.

1	Sorry.	
2	MR. LINDSAY: Mr. Chairman, with the	
3	Panel's permission, I would liking to request	
4	Chairman Ross Peck to join me. He's the chair	of
5	the society. When we were making our arrangemen	nts
6	to decide who was going to do this knowing that	
7	Mr. Peck was making a fairly lengthy presentation	on,
8	we didn't know the order and how that would be	
9	confusion.	
10	What I wanted to do initially in addition	to,
11	you know I think you're aware of Mr. Peck.	Γ
12	don't need to introduce him right at this moment	-,
13	but we have other board members present. Dick	
14	van Nostrand and Beth Summer, and Fay Lavallee.	
15	They're in the audience behind me. And as well	in
16	the audience is Councillor Kelly Miller, who is	our
17	liaison with the municipal council.	
18		
19	Presentation by William Lindsay and Ross Peck, Hudson	s
20	Hope Historical Society:	
21	MR. LINDSAY: Okay. I am presenting in	my
22	role as a member of the board of directors. Our	<u>-</u>
23	creator/manager is away on vacation leave, and s	she
24	could not change her holiday to accommodate the	
25	Panel's schedule.	

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In our written submission, we outlined the background and mandate of our not-for-profit society which basically is to tell the story of Hudson's Hope from a historical context. membership numbers roughly 100 persons who reflect a cross-section of this community. Accordingly, the board has tried not to take an advocacy stand about the proposed Site C project. Nevertheless, this hydroelectric proposal has raised many concerns with our board and members, and to that end we have engaged with the BC Hydro Site C team and have commented on its environmental impact statement. Also in our written submission we have attempted to identify areas of concern in relation to the environmental impact statement and the Proponent's responses. This morning I wish to expand on some of those identified topic areas.

Speaking about museum integrity and impacts, our museum is sited on the northern bank of the Peace River in downtown Hudson's Hope on property formerly owned by the Hudson's Bay company. Our primary concern is for the integrity of this site and any potential project-related erosion and sloughing issues. We understand that a riverside berm is proposed as a mitigation measure.

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As well as impacting the historic portage trail on our property, this structure could also potentially impact historic sites such as the old ferry landing that served as a paddle wheeler dock from the early 1900s. The site of Rocky Mountain Portage House, circa 1805, is located on private land just across the Peace River from our museum and should be a key focus in any mitigation plan for that area.

We trust that our society would be involved in all levels of discussion regarding the design and development of the berm project in order to minimize destruction to our facility and visitors and to be able to incorporate new visitor opportunities in and adjacent to the site. We are currently moving ahead with expanding facilities on our site in the form of the Rutledge barn relocation project and are finding ourselves frustrated by the potential ramifications of the proposed Site C project.

Many of our visitors comment on the natural and scenic attributes of the museum site overlooking the scenic Peace River. When one looks down river, it is not difficult to imagine

Alexander Mackenzie and Simon Fraser padding there

more than 200 years ago. However, trying to
maintain that visualization when face to face with
berm construction and reservoir clearing remains a
major concern.

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Next topic is loss of historical, archeological and paleontological sites, preservation, mitigation. Within our community we have experienced the construction of two upstream hydroelectric projects within the past 50 years. And with the recent acceleration of industrial activity in the area in the past 10 years, related primarily to shale gas and coal exploration, we have witnessed extensive loss of paleontological, archeological and historical sites, materials and knowledge.

We suggest that all efforts should be made to identify document reserve and interpret the rich historical resources of the area. And the Hudson's Hope historical society should be a potential partner that could facilitate conservation initiatives. Capacity and resources are always a limiting factors, and we look to BC Hydro as the proponents to help us meet these challenges.

Next topic is tourism and outdoor recreation impacts. On average, some 6,000 visitors a year

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visit the Hudson's Hope museum, and our strategic plan identifies the potential to increase that number. We have proposed infrastructure improvements to attract new visitors, but have grave concerns that the Site C impacts will negate our efforts.

A good portion of our visitors make the day trip to or through Hudson's Hope to enjoy driving the beautiful Peace River Valley. We can only see visitations decline in the face of reservoir clearing and road construction. Travelling tourists have an alternate route option via Dawson Creek, and we believe that many will take that choice.

BC Hydro has responded that construction activity will not prevent tourists travelling through Hudson's Hope, but we strongly disagree. We have suggested that an impact study be undertaken as part of its mitigation package.

Outdoor recreation pursuits bring many of our visitors to the Peace River Valley, and we also anticipate a decline in this area in conjunction with the changes proposed to the Peace River Valley. Mitigation to attract boaters through the construction of boat launch facilities adjoining

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the reservoir is likely to draw a clientele interested in visiting our museum, but support for development of features, exhibits could potentially enhance a museum experience and partially offset access challenges.

Okay. Dealing with safety and accessibility. The construction of this proposed dam reservoir and berm will inevitably result in a vast increase in heavy truck traffic across Highway 29 and Canyon Drive. There's already a marked increase due to the oil and gas activity in our vicinity. Our museum depends on its gift shop for a significant portion of its revenue. If tourism numbers decline because of fears of unsafe driving conditions, will we have an avenue to claim reimbursement? I do not wish to be an alarmist, but Canyon Drive has a long and steep slope, 10 percent, and a loss of brakes is a possibility for a fully loaded gravel truck.

It happens occasionally on the Farrell Creek hill. There are engine compression braking systems referred to many times as "Jake brakes" which assist the slowing of a diesel truck. However, there is a noise factor which accompanies their operation, and this barking sound can be heard throughout the town site. I'm not personally

1 looking forward to experiencing that during the
2 construction phase.

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Our museum site has limited space for vehicle parking. Many visitors including families and young children use the info centre parking area across Beattie Drive, also known as Highway 29. Although there is a signed pedestrian crosswalk that connects us, we hope that safety improvements can be made, perhaps a push-button-activated flashing light that is child friendly.

Last topic is housing and exhibit project -housing and exhibit project artifacts. If this
project proceeds, there are likely to be many
artifacts unearthed during the substantial
excavation that will take place along the Peace
River Valley and potentially when gravel is being
taken from the portage mountain vicinity.

No one can accurately estimate the quantity and nature of such archeological and paleontological finds, and analysis of each will be required, determined whether to keep it, and if so, who will keep it. Our society welcomes an opportunity to develop appropriate strategies with the West Moberly First Nations. Currently our museum has limited storage for new artifacts, but

1		we do not want to be overlooked as a repository for
2		that reason. It may be necessary to secure
3		artifacts on a temporary basis and then develop a
4		permanent solution. During the construction of the
5		Peace Canyon Dam, many dinosaur tracks and fossils
6		were taken to the Royal Tyrrell Museum and the
7		Royal Ontario Museum. Although such artifacts are
8		not lost, one must visit Drumheller or Toronto to
9		see them.
10		In closing, I acknowledge that hydro
11		development is part of the history of Hudson's
12		Hope, and our society has the ability to tell this
13		evolving society. On behalf of the Hudson's Hope
14		Historical Society, please accept our appreciation
15		for the opportunity to make this presentation
16		today.
17		Thanks.
18	THE C	HAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Lindsay.
19		Comments? Questions?
20		I take it that you have been in conversation
21		with Hydro about the last point that you made, that
22		is, the classification and housing and ultimate
23		disposition of artifacts that may arise during
24		construction; is that correct?
25	MR. R	OSS PECK: Yes, we have. We have

1	managed to get our facility designated as an
2	approved repository, I think is the word, and we
3	have gone through that process. We've realized the
4	magnitude of this.
5	We do not want hundreds of boxes or have the
6	ability to store hundreds of boxes of flakes and
7	chips, just so we've continued to have
8	discussions with that. We have our challenges, and
9	Hydro also has their challenges on how to deal with
10	this, but we've been in discussion.
11	THE CHAIRMAN: I'm glad to hear that there's
12	cooperation with West Moberly on this one.
13	MR. ROSS PECK: Yeah, and I don't want to
14	imply that we've come to an agreement, but we've
15	had a number of discussions with that, and they
16	have I don't know if Chief Willson is in the
17	room, but we're working towards trying to find out
18	if there is some way we can accommodate each
19	other's views on this.
20	At the one of the sessions, if I may, that
21	I attended, I was informed that there's three file
22	boxes that the Fort St. John museum could
23	potentially have, and I happened to be sitting by a
24	Doig River First Nations, and I said have you been
25	asked? And he said no. And I don't know where

1	that goes, but I think we need to have the
2	dialogue, especially on these archeological
3	artifacts with the First Nations before we come up
4	with a final plan.
5	THE CHAIRMAN: Very good. Thank you.
6	Are there other comments?
7	Madam Beaudet?
8	MS. BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
9	I'd like to go back to the point you raised
10	about tourism being impacted and that you disagreed
11	with BC Hydro's assessment of that, and I'd like to
12	know to what respect? Is it because there would be
13	blockages on the road? Or it would be noisy? What
14	mitigation measures could we propose in order to
15	avoid these nuisances and still have tourism to
16	come to Hudson's Hope?
17	MR. ROSS PECK: Yes, it's something we've
18	been wrestling with, and I know you will be hearing
19	from the tourism person in Hudson's Hope who talks
20	to all her members, a lot of the people that come
21	through, but it's again, it's one of those
22	things that's really hard to measure, but we have
23	people that will stop, walk over and look at the
24	river and say, we stopped because Hudson's Hope
25	community looks like a nice place to stop. There's

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no disturbance. We have flowers. We have wildlife running around. We have these tremendous views over the river, and some of that I don't know how you can mitigate or compensate for it. The travelling public has choices to make, and they're going to go to places, either real or perceived, that gives them the experience that they're looking for, and we just cannot see those things remaining the same.

Under a -- especially under the construction scenario in relation to the travelling people, both the local people and the tourism people. And our only potential option is to build it so they will come, so have a facility that -- something they may go through, some travelling hardships to get here to see.

We went through road construction here a few years ago when they upgraded Highway 29 -- and we could go back to our tourism numbers -- but I'm perceiving I think a 25 percent drop just during that summer of our visitors just because they didn't want to go through those constructions.

Now, you look at six or eight potential areas of delay on the road from Hudson's Hope. I know some of them will be off the main route, but I know from

1 when I travel from Farrell Creek into here there's 2 no way they can build those things without having 3 quite a bit of impact on the travelling public. Then you put all our heavy construction, 4 water truck traffic that we currently have on the 5 6 road, and it's not safe to drive that road now. Ι 7 can't imagine what it would be like with that. 8 so your tourists are going to make that choice and 9 say, no, we'll go someplace else, we'll go around Hudson's Hope. 10 11 MS. BEAUDET: I'd like to ask BC Hydro in 12 the planning schedule for the works on the 29th, I 13 think you have indicated when you start and when it's finished, and I would like for you to be more 14 15 precise if it's going to be over many summers or 16 it's going to be one summer, and give us more 17 details on the planning of that activity, please. MS. JACKSON: I will -- if I might address 18 19 a couple of items in there and in particular the 20 repository question that was raised with respect to 21 artifacts, and I'll ask Mr. Nunn to speak to the 22 schedule itself for highway construction. 23 We have had I think -- I believe we have had 24 the beginning of very constructive discussions with 2.5 the Historical Society and have approached them

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specifically to invite their participation in the heritage mitigation program that will be developed for the project. We've also approached the BC Archeology branch, because all of the mitigation that is done with respect to protected heritage resources under the Heritage Conservation Act will be ultimately at the direction and under permits from the heritage — from the Archeology branch under the Heritage Conservation Act.

I mention that because the placement of protected artifacts in the province of British Columbia are in facilities authorized by the BC Archeology branch. As Mr. Peck indicated, a facility like theirs can seek that status and become an approved repository. Similarly, any of the First Nation communities could also work with the BC Archeology branch to seek similar approach to demonstrating or developing secure facilities for the protection of such resources in the province.

There are -- there's been mention of Rocky
Mountain Portage House, which is the second fort
that was developed on the Peace River as been
discussed over a few times. They -- the
investigations on that have not largely been done,

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unlike those at Rocky Mountain Fort downstream near the Moberly River. They are on private lands.

They are an opportunity. Our assessment, our mitigation plan does identify them, and I do appreciate that when you look at our heritage chapter, there's a long list of numbers, and it's hard to identify which are which. Again, because of the protective status of heritage sites in the province of British Columbia, the specific names and locations and Latin longs for each site are protected information.

All of those sites have been considered with respect to the nature of them and the classification, and we do expect that under -- with the direction and powers of access that the Archeology branch may grant, that significant work may be done at Rocky Mountain Portage House across from the community of Hudson's Hope. And we look forward and have extended our discussions to the Historical Society, and through Mr. Proverbs' team, work with the First Nations to look at the opportunities for the archeology program, not limited to that site, but also extending to the potential for the Aboriginal encampments that would have supported such a fort, the trails that connect

1	ć	and other resources.
2		I do acknowledge it's hard to find that level
3	(of detail in the environmental impact statement
4	k	pecause of the nature of the protection of the
5	S	sites, but if the Panel has any specific questions
6	V	with respect to any specific heritage site, we do
7	V	welcome those questions, and we would be happy to
8	I	provide the answer. They may be provided in
9	(confidence again in accordance with the
10	1	requirements or recommendations of the Archeology
11	k	oranch.
12	THE CHA	AIRMAN: Mr. Nunn.
13	MR. NUN	NN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
14		I could wax lyrical on the impact lines, but
15	- -	I think Mr. Porter did a good job yesterday
16	(describing the impact lines' methodology, and I
17	t	think it's important to note that the berm that
18	V	would be around Hudson's Hope to protect the
19	S	shoreline would be designed very conservatively,
20	ć	and it would be able to stand 200-year wind storms,
21	t	the wave action and the currents resulting from
22	t	that.
23		With respect to the highway relocations,
24	N	Mr. Peck I think has got a very good point. When I
25	V	was working on other projects in the Columbia, we

1 found that was an issue that was raised, and there 2 actually can be good communication around when 3 highways are going to be affected by construction, and that helps people plan. 4 The highway construction schedule is shown in the EIS in 5 6 section 4, figure 4.42A and B, and that shows the 7 times when the highway construction would be going 8 on. 9 For several of the sections the new highway work would be done adjacent to the existing highway 10 11 and would not really interfere too much with the 12 traffic, but there would be those times when the 13 new section is connected to the old section when 14 there would be issues potentially with traffic 15 flow. But I think through good communication, one 16 could minimize the effect of those delays on the 17 traffic. MS. BEAUDET: When you look at the two 18 19 schedule, the figure on the schedule, figure 4.42A 20 and 4.42B, the realignment works go over a period 21 of five years, and depending, you know, if it's 22 Bear Flats or Halfway River, et cetera, all the 23 segments will go over a period of five years. 24 it possible to reduce the timeline for that? 2.5 MR. NUNN: Madam Beaudet, you're

1	correct. The Cache Creek section has to be aligned
2	early, prior to river diversion because once the
3	diversion tunnels have been constructed and the
4	river has been diverted, the water levels will be
5	higher around Cache Creek, so you need the new
6	section in place prior to diversion.
7	The other sections have to be completed prior
8	to reservoir filling. There may be some
9	flexibility in the schedule, and I think as we move
10	forward with project planning and have consultation
11	with the various parties, we will try to consider
12	what we can do schedule-wise to minimize the
13	effects.
14	MS. BEAUDET: Thank you.
15	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
16	There are no more questions?
17	Mr. Lindsay, Mr. Peck, thank you very much.
18	Is George Desjarlais in the room?
19	Good morning.
20	
21	Presentation by Former Chief George Desjarlais:
22	FORMER CHIEF DESJARLAIS: Good morning. Mr. Chair.
23	Okay. I don't know if I'm going to say this right,
24	but Ms. Beaudet? Yeah? And Mr. Mattison.
25	My name is George Desjarlais,

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D-e-s-j-a-r-l-a-i-s. I live roughly one day's walk south of here at West Moberly First Nations, and I'm here today to talk about -- a little bit about the history of the people of West Moberly and the Peace River Valley and also to ask a question that has never been asked, and which is what I've been curious about basically all my life. Well, since about 1968.

Okay. Here we go.

What I have to say here today is my own opinions. My questions are my own. I do not have a mandate to represent the people of West Moberly or speak on their behalf, so therefore everything I say here today cannot be construed as meaningful consultation with West Moberly First Nations as a whole.

I have lived in this area almost all my life. Well, 12 years I moved to the Okanagan, so if you subtract that from 58, it would be 46 years I lived here.

As was the custom of my people, the first grandchild is to be raised by their grandparents, and I am the first grandchild of Molly and James Desjarlais. So all my life I was taught about this area and by those two elders, by my great

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grandfather and by other elders within the community of West Moberly and our neighbouring community of Saulteau First Nations and the Halfway River First Nations. I never knew why. I think maybe this is why.

But I guess we've seen a lot of changes according to their stories. They have seen a lot of changes happen over the years, and some of these stories that they told me are very old. The only way I could put a date on some of the stories they told me about this area was they said — they would say, before the coming of the white man. Around here I believe that's over 200 years old.

Because the way we passed history down, the First Nations people pass history down, is by -- it's oral. Nothing is written. And they repeat it. I used to wonder why. You already told me once. Why are you telling me this again? That's to ensure that the story is going to be told right when it's my turn to teach, and lately that's what I've been doing.

I've been teaching because all those elders are now gone, and I guess they have left it to me to teach the new generation and generations to come. I am now a great grandfather, so I can

1 hardly wait until I can start teaching him.

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But anyways there was -- the Peace River was pretty important to them, because they saw it as a -- kind of like a main highway, and at the same time they saw it as a dividing line from one group to the next. But in Alberta it was a little different because the Beavers or the Dane-zaa and the Crees warred a lot in Alberta, in the prairies. They eventually decided to call a truce and negotiate a peace treaty, all based on a handshake. That's how this river got its name, the Peace River, because this river was the line.

And when the coming of the white man happened, they, of course, had to move supplies up the river to here, Hudson's Hope. My great grandfather was one of the people that used to help pull the boats up river. I think they were called York boats or something. They would pull them up river. A whole string of men, I don't know how many, would pull all day long against the current of the Peace River from, I would imagine, Dunvegan, Athabasca, I don't know, someplace over that way, to bring supplies here over to Hudson's Hope. And then because the canyon was too powerful, they would carry it over the plateau here to the west of

us and roughly in and around where the existing WAC

Bennett Dam is, which is why that mountain there

got called Portage Mountain, and there's --

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So along the route, there was a lot of people that may have -- well, that got sick or died, and they have been buried there, all the way from Dunvegan to here. There's a historic trail supposedly that the men used to walk on the shore to pull these boats. A lot of it is probably under farmland right now. But the farmers along the river, especially between here and Site C, have found a lot of artifacts: arrowheads, flakes, spearheads, scrapers. Which I kind of wonder, because we haven't heard from the archeologists that were hired by BC Hydro that they may have found some artifacts, and they may have not. don't know. We haven't heard. But what I question there is that why are they using a grid pattern rather than just regular archeology? Because a grid pattern tends to miss a lot. When I was working with archeologists, Landsong Consulting Company, our method of archeology was to walk the field of a proposed development area and assess the highest potential as to where to look for artifacts.

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We compared that process to a grid pattern process that was conducted up north in the Fort Nelson area, and we found that 68 percent of arch sites were missed. Sure, they dug 55,000 holes, but I bet you there's more than 55,000 areas between here and the Site C, areas that have potential or high potential for arch sites. So there's -- Attachie was a community site of the Dane-zaa people, which now live in Halfway. As a matter of fact, some of them live in Doig.

One of the original signers of Treaty 8 is buried there, and if this Site C is built, he's going to be laying under water. To us that's disrespect. That's desecration of a sacred site.

The other thing too that is sacred sits on a property of Mr. Boon and his wife, and that's a sweat lodge. I run that sweat lodge. I earned that right 12 years ago to do that, to run a sweat lodge. And a sweat lodge in our tradition is a church. That's how we were taught to pray, which we believe was by the Creator. That lodge has a high potential of sitting under water. Even a lodge that is not being used still has its sacredness, because it's called -- we call it sacred land. We are not allowed to take down a

lodge. It has to fall down by itself. Not unless
we're going to replace the lodge in the same
location are we allowed to take one down.

When I was growing up, I used to stand outside in the wintertime when it was nice, or even in the summertime in the evening especially, and you can hear this distant almost like a wind, it just woo, made a sound like that. And I asked my grandfather what is that, because we always heard it. And he said that's the river. And I said what river? He said the Peace River. After they built WAC Bennett Dam or completed it, I haven't heard that sound anymore, and I believe it was because — I mean, it made that sound because of the roughness of the river coming through the Peace Canyon. And Moberly Lake is quite a way from here. And we used to hear it all the time.

In the wintertime we used the river, the ice on the river, as a bridge. Ever since then it hasn't iced up. And so we used to cross the river anywhere. Our main trails, one of them leads to here, across. I remember coming here as a kid, coming to the Hudson's Hope for a one-day rodeo, and we used to cross the river down here, just up here by — down below the museum, Maurice Creek.

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Sometimes they had a boat. Sometimes they had a ferry to cross everybody. We used to camp on the other side of the river, a great big camp. All for a one-day rodeo, but it was fun.

So anyways, there's also two locations that was talked about by the elders. One is called Dreamer's Island. And I don't expect anybody to understand this that hasn't been raised this way or the way we have been as a First Nations people and our relationship to the land and to the spirit world, and this is just down here at Alwin Holland Park.

There's an island out there, and this guy was going home one night or one day. He was coming to West Moberly, and he stopped there for the night, and as he was sitting by the campfire, he looked out at the island, and he thought, I wonder what it looks like up there, I wouldn't mind seeing it.

And he had this -- he was thinking about this as he turned in for the night. The next morning he woke up. He was on the island. He doesn't know how he got there, but he believed that the -- that was the spirits that took him there to show him what it was like; even took his horse up there. And when he finally got him and his horse off the island, he

got home, and he told the people what happened.

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Nobody believed him, so he brought them back. They climbed up there and actually found horse manure up there.

Just down the river here is an island. call it Vision Ouest Island. That island for sure will be under water, and that's where I was told to do a vision quest. That's how come I call it that. The old people say that you have to have four To date I've had two. dreams. These dreams started 15 years ago, and since then I've only had I need two more, and that's where I'm supposed to do it. And the reason why I think that's where I'm supposed to do it is that's where my ancestors used to do it. There's no other reason for it. So for me, that island is sacred, and it's going to be under water.

The islands along the river also. The old people used to say that that's where the water fowl, the wildlife, that's where they have their little ones. They used to say, stay away from there, let the little ones grow, let them get big so we can eat more. And so we always did and never have. All those islands are going to be gone. The prime birthing habitat for everything, it's going

1 to be gone, and we have a concern over that.

2 I guess about the mid '90s --

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Oh, sorry, there was a prophecy that was I don't know how long; it was before the coming of the white man. An old man was asked in a dream to do a ceremony, and he was shown how to do it, and in this dream when he -- when the ceremony was over, he said he had to go into a deep trance, That's the only way I can explain it. I quess. And he said he talked to a being. He didn't really see, but he heard. And he said there will come a time when there's -- this land will be full of these light-skinned people and this big river that runs through our country, they're going -- like the beaver, they're going to block it. They will build one big one, and for a long time they will hold it back. And then they'll build another one and another one and another one, because that's what beavers do. They will block a creek causing reservoir after reservoir. And he said they will hold back the water for a time and eventually that first dam they build, the big one, will break. the mid '90s when the sinkhole appeared in Williston, the elders at Moberly Lake became afraid because they thought it was time for that prophecy

1 to come true, but it was avoided.

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But one day it will happen. And while we're talking about WAC Bennett, there's a sign there, and this is a question that I've wanted to know since 1968, I believe, or '72, someplace in there. There's a sign there that is talking about Alexander Mackenzie and his trip through here. think it was in 1793 or something like that. there was one line that always bugged me, and it irritated numerous First Nations people. line says, he became the first man to cross the Rocky Mountains and continental North America. he had First Nations people as guides. Are we not humans? Are we not men? First Nations? Because BC Hydro doesn't think so. They've even got a sign that says that.

To me that just goes to show how much disrespect they have for us as a people. We told them that the site where this proposed dam is going to be, to the south of it, there's a flat. We told them that's where our people used to use as a camping area at the confluence of the Moberly and the Peace River. When across the river was -- used to be Fort St. John. And yet they're going to still develop on there. Artifacts were found up

1	there.
2	But the other thing too is this grid-pattern
3	archeology I believe missed a lot, and it wasn't
4	that many artifacts that was found too.
5	So I guess I might be running out of time
6	here, so maybe I should stop there.
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much,
8	Mr. Desjarlais. I'm sure there are questions that
9	people would like to ask. Let me start with the
10	obvious one: does that sign still exist at the
11	Bennett Dam?
12	FORMER CHIEF DESJARLAIS: Yes, it does. Yes, it's
13	still there.
14	THE CHAIRMAN: Gosh.
15	MS. YURKOVICH: I'm not aware of the exact
16	sign. I can tell you we're currently looking to do
17	a complete renovation of the WAC Bennett visitor
18	centre. It's an important tourism it's
19	important to talk to people about the legacy of
20	that dam and to provide a good place for people to
21	do that. It is I'm not doing that project, but
22	my understanding is that the First Nations have
23	been invited to participate in that along with the
24	district in terms of how the new displays and the
25	new stories are told in that upgraded centre.

1	THE CHAIRMAN: I'm glad to hear that.	
2	Are there other questions that people would	
3	like to ask?	
4	MS. BEAUDET: When you say you had two	
5	dreams and you still have two more to do, I presum	.e
6	it's where your sweat place is, and if it's	
7	flooded, then you feel that you will never have a	
8	chance to have those two other dreams?	
9	FORMER CHIEF DESJARLAIS: I can still have those dream	ıs
10	even after the island is flooded. That will give	
11	me the I don't know if you want to call it	
12	authority or permission, there, that's a better	
13	word permission to do a vision quest. The only	
14	problem is I won't have any place to do it.	
15	MS. BEAUDET: Thank you.	
16	THE CHAIRMAN: Are there other questions fo	r
17	Mr. Desjarlais?	
18	Then I thank you, sir.	
19	And we'll break for coffee. We'll return in	
20	15 minutes.	
21	FORMER CHIEF DESJARLAIS: Okay. Thank you.	
22		
23	(Brief break)	
24		
25	THE CHAIRMAN: Ladies and gentlemen, could you take your	

1	seats, please.
2	We will recommence with Katherine Burseth.
3	
4	Presentation by Katherine Burseth:
5	MS. BURSETH: Good morning.
6	For the clerk, my name is Katherine Burseth,
7	B-u-r-s-e-t-h.
8	It's been quite a couple days here in
9	Hudson's Hope. I see that I am going to repeat
10	some things, but they do bear repeating.
11	I indicated on the register form there's a
12	few things I wanted to address and one of them
13	being my general experience of the consultation
14	process to date. I'm in the tourism business. I
15	work at the visitor's centre at Hudson's Hope. And
16	every day I'm at work I get firsthand experience
17	with visitors having just experienced the Valley
18	and arriving in our community. I can tell you
19	Slow down. Okay.
20	THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah, thank you very much.
21	MS. BURSETH: And I can tell you they're
22	really very excited when they arrive and what
23	they've experienced as they travelled along the
24	river. I get comments like, I've travelled to
25	Alaska and back, and there's nothing as beautiful

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as this. That leaves me astounded, and, wow, that's perfect. So coming from north or south along the Alaska Highway, there's lots of great vistas, and then you take that Highway 29 west from mile 54, it's not long before you're viewing the Valley, and it looks like a mythical landscape, a diamond in the rough.

The valley, the way the river is threaded throughout numerous islands, the colour and the light playing on it with the Rocky Mountains for a backdrop and the lush green growth, the snow in the winter. I find every time I travel that valley it's just a different view because of the different seasons and climate, whether it's raining or snowing or -- but back to that visitor. One of my jobs I guess as a visitor centre councillor is to investigate what they like to do when they're here.

And one thing I ask them, if they would like to tour one of the two dams, and quite often I get this pained facial expression, and they say, no, I've seen lots of dams; I've seen the Hoover, Grand Coulee, Revelstoke; once you've seen one, you've seen them all. These are the men of families from that era of great mega projects, and they're bored with it all, and that's not what they came here to

1 see.

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If Site C got built, I believe that we'd become a real backwater community. Why would anyone come out to see a dam that's 40-plus years old? Back to that visitor.

They're interested in the Valley and its unique features. They see the signage opposing Site C, and they don't know what this is, this Site C, so they ask me. Now, you could understand our American neighbours not knowing, but the bulk of the visitors through the visitor's centre here are British Columbians.

I've heard reference to BC Hydro feeling like they have done a good job of getting the consultation out to the rest of the province, but I experience that differently on a daily basis at my workplace. I've been at the visitor's centre for seven years, and for the first five years, I was asked by my employer if I would refrain from expressing my political stance at the workplace and just be apolitical. And it's not that I was aggressively promoting my stance, but it was a subject that came up so frequently during the workday that I felt I should engage in the conversation.

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I've never had a visitor come into the visitor's centre that was pro Site C. If they were, they weren't saying so.

And I feel very negligent in all these years that I've had these visitors come in and express their horror that the Valley could be flooded and what could they do, and that I had no means of documenting this opinion. And I really, really wish I had. It's a lot of -- great -- a great opportunity that's been missed.

So the best I could do was explain where we were or what year we were in in the consultation process, a consultation process in which our concerns were heard but that was about it. T feel like we're just heard, and then we move on to the next meeting. You know, BC Hydro could say it's fair, we had our consultation process, we went through all the steps, and now we're read to build the dam. But did they address our concerns, or did they just hear our concerns? When it comes to the arguments of pro or con Site C I don't have the means or the education to throw forth. I want to thank all those that took time out of your life to crunch numbers and suggest that it's without doubt that natural gas would be more economical as an

1 energy source. That's, you know, some of the research they did that I haven't done. 2 3 And let me say here that the gas industry has dug its heels in our community, so it's already 4 5 So if it's been studied and here on the landscape. 6 it seems that gas comes out as a viable 7 alternative, then why refuse to look at it and 8 spend more time and money looking at Site C? 9 So if we have to fight the fight and we have to come up with all these strategies and crunching 10 11 numbers, we have so many good people taking time 12 from their lives, their families, juggling work, 13 social time, et cetera, and still coming up with 14 the concerns and bringing them to the meeting. 15 It's all fine to come up with emotional 16 arguments, but at some point I feel you have to be 17 digging through volumes of political or biological 18 research. 19 And on the other side, there are people to 20 promote Site C, and that's their full-time job is 21 to promote Site C. You know, that's -- they're 22 getting paid for it. So I think there's something 23 wrong there. 24 I'm going to go back to the visitor. 2.5 else can they do? Yes, recreation. Some have

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arrived with a watercraft. Sometimes they phone me from southern BC and, oh, we're coming on up,
Dinosaur Lake camping? Yeah, there's camping. But they saw on the map that Williston and Dinosaur
Lakes are close by. A reservoir is a reservoir,
and it's not a lake. I think cartographers should be mandated to note that on the map. Williston and Dinosaur Lakes are not lakes; they're reservoirs, and they present a unique set of as aesthetics.

On the river, there's many opportunities to access the shoreline. On Williston and Dinosaur Lake, pullouts are very limited as anyone who has been on those lakes can attest. As fragile shorelines, you must certainly have heard about on the two existing reservoirs. So when someone says they're going out onto one of these lakes, I have a concern for their safety and lack of knowledge of these reservoirs and the conditions they'll come across.

As a whole, the consultation process started and proceeds. It affects the social, moral and mental health of residents. As I've lived here for close to four decades, it's evident I like this area. In that time I've been a home and a landowner, and with that you get to invest into

1 your home and your property, and you've got something going on. Families raised and good 2 3 friends made, and yet hanging over us like a dark cloud has been the threat of Site C proceeding. 4 do I continue with the maintenance and improvements 5 6 to my property and my home? I'm losing a lot of 7 friends to this, just the idea of this project, you 8 know, friends that I've had for 30 years, 9 friendship invested. It's a very special thing, that friendship. And those friends, they love this 10 11 landscape, and they used the river. And they 12 thought that the politicians would push on through 13 They said they wouldn't and the dam would proceed. 14 bear witness to the project, and they move away, so 15 we've lost many residents to this concern. 16 And I want to bring up the sinkhole on the 17 Bennett Dam a few years ago and the fear of a breach, especially to the residents along the 18 19 river. There was sleepless nights, and some people 20 just couldn't take that anymore, and they moved 21 away as well. 22 So do I proceed with enhancing my home 23 towards the things I enjoy? I'd like to live each

day fully, not thinking what I'm doing could be all

for nothing, especially if we become a backwater

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1 barren land of industry of hydro, gas and coal. 2 The whole process is demoralizing, and I feel a 3 real loss of dignity. I have the issue even, you know, like, who is calling the shots here? 4 even for this hearing and registering, and so I 5 6 registered and started to work on my presentation. 7 And a few days went by, and then I was asked could 8 I present with somebody else. I've asked for five 9 minutes of time. So then that -- and I said, well, sure give me a list of who's presenting, which I 10 11 didn't get then, and about a week went by. And I 12 just wonder, you know, do we have to keep on fast-tracking everything? It's just like 13 14 everything is in such a big hurry. But thank you 15 that we got the second day in Hudson's Hope and 16 everybody could speak that wanted to speak. 17 Sometimes it feels like the one with the most money behind them wins. BC Hydro is sinking a lot 18 19 of dollars into this consultation process, and I 20 want to know if that's been included in the cost of 21 the dam, the projected cost. I sometimes feel it's 22 like the analogy of the bully holding his arm

against our foreheads and our arms are swinging but

to no effect. All this talk of mitigating, but

there are things you just can't mitigate.

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1 What are the criteria to be met that would --2 sorry, result in Site C not being built? 3 brought up today, and I also have written down 4 here, like, is there a bar or a graph? the criteria that, you know, it reaches the limit? 5 6 So would it be a loss of, say -- I don't know how 7 many species can be lost, but say seven species over two? Would it be the loss of 100 homes over 8 9 30? Would it be the amount of acres lost? many moose and their breeding grounds displaced? 10 11 If I want to fish or hunt after purchasing a 12 licence I have some very strict regulation 13 pertaining to the size, maturity of species, times 14 of the year I could do these activities. You know, 15 it seems there's always a conservation officer 16 handy. If you're out fishing, boy, if you don't 17 have a licence, you know, the fines are hefty. And they -- you know, they -- yeah. 18 19 So the building of a dam can't accommodate 20 these particularities, so why are the fish and 21 wildlife regulations tempered for the construction 22 project? You can't mitigate the seasons, and you 23 can't mitigate the habitat. Right now it just 24 seems that everything could be mitigated. 2.5 So my question again, who is setting the

1	standard? Or who's playing God? One thing I
2	didn't write down here, but being here yesterday
3	that just brought the question to mind was when is
4	projected or, you know, you read it in the
5	newspaper about the project is going to be, I don't
6	know, 7, 8, I don't know what it's at now, millions
7	of dollars. Do you include the cost of the
8	consultation process for four years? Do you
9	include things like yesterday as I was
10	listening, there is quite a few things that are
11	going to be mitigated, or monitored I should say.
12	So let's say if you're monitoring something
13	and then you come up with something, a problem, and
14	you have to resolve that, and then it's going to
15	cost more dollars, is that all included in the cost
16	of doing the Site C project?
17	Thank you.
18	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
19	I know Mayor Johansson wanted to make a
20	comment about consultation also. Maybe I'll ask
21	her to do that. You just stay there, and we'll ask
22	Hydro to respond to the questions that you raised.
23	MS. BURSETH: Sure.
24	MAYOR JOHANSSON: Thank you.
25	It was a very specific comment about

1	consultation, but I do have some actually general
2	ones, but I'll save those until later.
3	The question arose from the comment that
4	BC Hydro made about the renovations to the visitors
5	centre at the WAC Bennett Dam and the consultation
6	with First Nations and the District of Hudson's
7	Hope. And I can't speak for the First Nations, but
8	for the District of Hudson's Hope to the best of my
9	knowledge the district has been informed that there
10	will be renovations done. To my knowledge we
11	haven't been asked for input on to the into
12	those how those how the renovations would be
13	done or what would be contained in there, and I
14	just wonder if perhaps it be useful if we had a
15	definition of what "consultation" means in this
16	context? Thank you.
17	And I have two procedural questions. May I
18	do those now? I have two a couple of questions.
19	MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay.
20	MAYOR JOHANSSON: The second one is that I just
21	wondered if there would be opportunity for walk-in
22	comments. We have some people here I believe who
23	would be interested in doing that.
24	THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, yes. We will have time
25	for that.

1	MAYOR	JOHANSSON:	Thank you.
2		And the third qu	uestion was, yesterday when
3		you spoke about report	ting to governments and your
4		report, if I understoo	od what you said, you said
5		that you or the Panel	would be submitting the
6		Panel's report to both	n governments. And then I
7		wasn't sure about the	next sentence. And then the
8		governments would rele	ease it to the people? My
9		question is, can the p	public have comfort in knowing
10		that the report that	is published or that is made
11		public is exactly the	same report that the Panel
12		has made to the govern	nments?
13	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Yes. It will be exactly what
14		we give them.	
15	MAYOR	JOHANSSON:	Thank you.
16	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Now, they will have a
17		decision at that time,	I presume, and they may or
18		may not agree with wha	at we say, but the report that
19		we submit will be publ	lished in whole without
20		revision.	
21	MAYOR	JOHANSSON:	Verbatim?
22	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Yes.
23	MAYOR	JOHANSSON:	Thank you.
24	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Thank you.
25		Would Hydro like	e to comment on the questions

1	that have been raised about consultation?
2	Thank you.
3	MS. YURKOVICH: Thanks. Thank you,
4	Mr. Chair.
5	The first question was whether the cost of
6	consultation and monitoring and mitigation are
7	included in the cost estimate. I can confirm that,
8	yes, they are.
9	MS. BURSETH: I just wonder if you could
10	break it down. Could you break down what even the
11	consultation process is in a dollar figure?
12	MS. YURKOVICH: I don't have that figure with
13	me. It's substantial, because we have been
14	underway for quite some time, and as the Proponent,
15	we are responsible for undertaking that as well as
16	these consultations, so I don't have that figure
17	with me right now.
18	MS. BURSETH: So what is the cost today?
19	Because it does change frequently. Of the like,
20	when you read it in the newspapers, you know, this
21	dam is going to cost so much money.
22	MS. YURKOVICH: I don't have that figure with
23	me right here.
24	Sorry?
25	Oh, sorry, the total cost of the project?

1	MS.	BURSETH:	Yeah.
2	MS.	YURKOVICH:	\$7.9 billion, which
3		includes 3.8 is ac	tually the direct cost of
4		building the dam. The	ere's indirect costs, and then
5		there's an allocation	for which includes
6		mitigation and compen	sation and consultation and
7		the cost of the proje	ct coming to date along with
8		management, engineeri	ng and insurance, and then we
9		have a provision for	contingency and inflation and
10		interest during const	ruction.
11	THE	CHAIRMAN:	There is a detailed paper on
12		how that budget is made	de up. Do you have the
13		reference to it?	
14	MS.	YURKOVICH:	Do you have the number?
15	MR.	SAVIDANT:	There is some detail provided
16		in volume 1, appendix	F, part 1, and I believe we
17		also provided a techn	ical memo on the project costs
18		as well.	
19	THE	CHAIRMAN:	And that's all available on
20		the website, is it?	
21	MR.	SAVIDANT:	That has all been filed with
22		the CEAA and the	
23	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Thank you.
24	MS.	YURKOVICH:	The second question from
25		Mayor Johansson was a	bout consultation, and I

1	believe that Dave Conway provided a response to you
2	in November of 2011 which outlines what we
3	considered to be consultation related to this
4	project, which means and I can read that out, or
5	I can provide a copy of the letter to the
6	Secretariat if that's helpful.
7	THE CHAIRMAN: That might be a useful thing
8	to have on the website. Could you just summarize
9	what he had to say?
10	MS. YURKOVICH: Yes.
11	So we're looking to consult on all project
12	components and their potential effects and
13	benefits. We want to consider that public input
14	and put it into the context of the technical,
15	environment, economic, health and social and
16	heritage information.
17	We also want to make sure that we reflect
18	that back to participants, and we also want to keep
19	communities, stakeholders, property owners and the
20	general public informed as we move through the
21	various stages of the prospect, providing new
22	information as it becomes available.
23	Mr. Chairman, if I may, there was a question
24	asked by Mr. Desjarlais just before the break about
25	the sign, and I am now aware of the sign. My

1	understanding	- it is not a BC Hydro sign, but it
2	is located close	e to our facility. My understanding
3	is that it was ϵ	erected by the Canadian
4	Confederation Ce	entennial Committee of BC. It's
5	dated 1966. It	does contain the wording just as
6	Mr. Desjarlais s	said, and we will bring that to the
7	attention of the	e Province. Perhaps there's a need
8	to look at updat	ing or reflecting Mr. Desjarlais'
9	comments, but I	just wanted to make sure that you
10	had that informa	ation.
11	THE CHAIRMAN:	Thank you for that.
12	Mayor Joha	ansson.
13	MAYOR JOHANSSON:	Thank you for the
14	clarification, a	and I wouldn't have been the Mayor
15	in the time that	t the letter came through, and I
16	don't believe I	was on council in it was
17	November 2011?	
18	MS. YURKOVICH:	You're right. I recognize
19	MAYOR JOHANSSON:	Thank you. So there may be
20	information then	re that I may not be aware of.
21	MS. YURKOVICH:	Thank you.
22	THE CHAIRMAN:	Gentleman in the back,
23	Mr. Peck.	
24	MR. ROSS PECK:	Ross Peck.
25	Question f	for Ms. Burseth, in relation to

1	tourism, I don't have the reference, but reading in
2	the EIS, it was my understanding that the summation
3	was that the project would not have a negative
4	impact on tourism, and I would like to ask her if
5	that would be her impression.
6	THE CHAIRMAN: Ms. Burseth?
7	MS. BURSETH: Well, I've just yes, I
8	think it would negatively affect tourism. As I
9	indicated earlier that we're I really think
10	we're going to become a backwater. There's no
11	more the visitors or the tourists are really
12	impressed by that drive coming down the Valley, and
13	that won't exist anymore. I mean, I don't even
14	know where that highway is going to end up. You
15	know, it could be way the heck you know, you
16	won't have that the river in view as you go
17	along, and as I mentioned earlier, we're going to
18	have, like, an old dam here. They're not going to
19	come out here. I mean
20	THE CHAIRMAN: Just to note, in response to
21	a question from the Panel, Hydro did provide a
22	number of photo montages of that stretch of the
23	river as it looks now and as it would look when the
24	reservoir was filled, and those are on the website
25	somewhere. You might find them of interest, that

1	context. Thank you.
2	Are there further questions for Ms. Burseth?
3	Mr. Hadland.
4	MR. HADLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
5	This is to Ms. Burseth.
6	Hello. I just read the findings of the
7	report that was done in 1982, and the thing that I
8	found quite interesting was the population of
9	Hudson's Hope was 1,400. I think today it's 1,000.
10	I just wonder if, Ms. Burseth, having had this
11	experience through your booth, if you think that
12	there's some implication going back to the cloud
13	with the flood reserve?
14	MS. BURSETH: Yeah, I've considered that as
15	well. You know, short of going into well,
16	digging through maybe I don't know where you
17	would find the information for that, but I have
18	considered that as well. Our population is like
19	970 now. It was let's say for the last decade I
20	think it was about 1,170, let's say. And you do
21	have to ask yourself why is our population
22	declining, but I couldn't officially say that,
23	yeah, it was because of the threat of Site C. But,
24	you know
25	THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very much,

1		Mrs. Burseth.	
2	MS. B	URSETH:	I just wanted to say so I was
3		quite surprised when M	adam Beaudet brought up that,
4		again, what's the t	hreshold is the word that you
5		used. And that's I th	ink not I think I know
6		that's the same kind o	f question that I have and
7		mentioned. Like, what	is the threshold of damage,
8		let's call it, if Site	C was to proceed? And I
9		know you don't have an	answer yet to date, but I
10		think there should be	some more discussion about
11		that. Because, really	, you know, what's the limit?
12		How high do we have to	jump? There does need to be
13		a threshold, but I don	't know who's going to
14		determine that. I hop	e not BC Hydro.
15	THE C	HAIRMAN:	It may interest you to know
16		that our terms of refe	rence involve the finding of
17		significant adverse ef	fects, which and if they
18		cannot be compensated	for. Now, so the question is
19		the definition of thos	e adjectives, and of course,
20		any advise that anybod	y has for us on that would be
21		appreciated, otherwise	we fall back on our own
22		imaginations.	
23		Madam Beaudet, y	ou had another question.
24	MS. B	EAUDET:	Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
25		I was interested	in the point you made that a

1	reservoir is not a lake. And I'd like you to
2	elaborate a bit more on that, because I think in
3	the IS we sort of look at a change, a major change
4	between a river system and a lake system, and then
5	you bring the notion that it's not a lake system;
6	it's a reservoir. And I would like you, from your
7	experience working with tourists, what are the
8	what's the difference for you between a lake and a
9	reservoir.
10	MS. BURSETH: As I did state earlier, it's
11	accessibility to the shoreline, for one thing. So
12	let's use Williston Lake for an example, and you
13	need that accessibility to the shoreline, so
14	Williston Lake is it's notorious you
15	shouldn't really just if you're not an
16	experienced boatman or experienced with that lake,
17	you shouldn't just go send somebody out there and
18	say, yeah, good, have a good time, because the
19	winds that come up you can get 6-foot waves out
20	on that lake.
21	If you run into adverse weather, you would
22	want to be able to pull in somewhere to gain
23	refuge. The fluctuating levels, I always I
24	mean, it is noted. It is posted as you're
25	approaching one of those two lakes reservoirs

1	you see, they've got me well-trained. As you
2	approach, that there is dangers associated with it,
3	and it will be anything from debris or well, I
4	guess the changing water levels. I don't have
5	anything else to add, but perhaps if there's
6	somebody in the audience that could comment on that
7	as well, I would appreciate that.
8	MS. BEAUDET: Thank you.
9	THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Desjarlais may in fact
10	have the answer to that question. I'm not sure.
11	FORMER CHIEF DESJARLAIS: Thank you. I asked my elders
12	that question once, and they said the answer is
13	real simple. He said they said the Creator made
14	lakes, man makes reservoirs.
15	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
16	FORMER CHIEF DESJARLAIS: I would also just like to
17	take this time to thank Ms. Yurkovich for looking
18	into the sign thing.
19	And I would just like to say, BC Hydro, even
20	though that sign was put up by somebody else, was
21	always the blame for that sign, and even I blame
22	BC Hydro for it. So I think in future maybe I'll
23	take a better look at whose fault it is, but that
24	sign upsets me every time I go there and read it.
25	I even entertained the idea of taking a power saw

1	there and cutting it down.
2	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
3	Are there any other questions for
4	Yes, sir, in the back.
5	MR. BEAM: Hi. My name is Derrek Beam. I
6	have a question for Ms. Burseth.
7	Ms. Burseth, I understand that there was a
8	it was brought up, the portion of the maps that
9	have been drawn by Hydro, sort of a this is what it
10	will look like in the future if this reservoir were
11	to be. And I'm just wondering if you think one of
12	those maps is an accurate reflection of you
13	know, given the erosion, for example, in the
14	Williston reservoir, and the difficulty to be able
15	to access or get out of that reservoir if you're in
16	danger.
17	Do you think that the, you know, that the
18	drawings of the potential Site C reservoir that
19	BC Hydro has provided are an accurate reflection of
20	what it will indeed look like when you walk up to
21	the shoreline?
22	MS. BURSETH: Well, Derrek, you're talking
23	about the image? The image that
24	MR. BEAM: Yeah, what's been provided by
25	BC Hydro.

1	MS.	BURSETH:	Well, really
2	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Mr. Beam, if I may, I think
3		it's a bit of an unfa	ir question, because if you're
4		referring to the draw.	ings that I just mentioned, I
5		don't believe she's se	een them yet.
6	MS.	BURSETH:	No, the District of Hudson's
7		Hope, when they put or	ut impacts of Site C on the
8		community of Hudson's	Hope, yes, I did see them.
9		They're quite surreal:	istic looking, and I really
10		have to just go on the	e faith of that because, I
11		mean, I don't know how	w to project those things, and
12		so I have to just go	on the faith that somebody
13		knows what they're do:	ing when they make those
14		drawings and the calcu	ulations.
15	MR.	BEAM:	Okay. And my second question
16		was you were asked abo	out the difference between a
17		reservoir and a lake,	and I was wondering if you
18		think that the mercury	y levels in a reservoir that
19		poison the fish that	other animals eat, including
20		us, if you think that	that is the difference that
21		you would see between	a lake and a reservoir?
22	MS.	BURSETH:	Yes.
23	MR.	BEAM:	Okay. Thank you.
24	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Thank you very much.
25		Thank you, Mrs.	Burseth.

1	MS. B	BURSETH: I would just like to thr	OW
2		something in. This morning when I was listening	ng to
3		George Desjarlais talk and when he was talking	
4		about the spirit of the place and stuff, one of	ther
5		thing I have come across repeatedly with the	
6		visitors that come into the visitors centre her	re
7		and I always engage in long conversations with	the
8		visitors. It's really shocking how often peop	le
9		come in and they go, there's something about the	nis
10		place, I don't know what it is, but there is ju	ust
11		something really special about this place.	
12		And, you know, the first time I heard it	I
13		went, you know, yeah, I really like it too, I	love
14		it.	
15		But then it repeatedly happened, and peop	ple
16		keep saying I mean, they have travelled all	over
17		the world, and they go, there's something real	ly
18		special. They don't know they can't tangib	ly
19		say what it is, and so I can't help but think	when
20		George was talking that you know, about the	
21		spirit of the place here and that perhaps they	were
22		sensing that and picking up on that. That's my	Ÿ
23		comment.	
24	THE C	CHAIRMAN: The lineup is starting t	0
25		form up here. We have lots of people who now	want

1		to comment.	
2	MS.	BURSETH:	Shall I move?
3	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Let me just ask, Mr. Bach.
4		Do you have a q	uestion for this witness or a
5		general comment?	
6		All right. Car	ry on.
7	MR.	BACH:	It's a question I'm
8		Robert Bach. It's a	question as well as a comment,
9		I guess, is that being	g familiar with Williston
10		lake, I don't I'm	not familiar with well, I'm
11		familiar with lakes a	nd how they fluctuate. I
12		don't believe that I	know of a lake, and I'm not
13		sure whether you do,	that fluctuates 30 feet every
14		year. And is that yo	ur understanding? I mean, do
15		you know of lakes tha	t fluctuate 30 feet every
16		year?	
17	MS.	BURSETH:	Do I know of lakes? Or do I
18		know of these lakes f	luctuating? Which one?
19		Because, I mean, if y	ou're talking about like Arrow
20		Lakes, yes.	
21	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Please, through the Chair,
22		please.	
23	MS.	BURSETH:	What was Bob's question?
24	MR.	BACH:	I was just asking whether
25		you're	

1	THE CHAIRMAN: Do you know of lakes that
2	fluctuate 30 feet in a year?
3	MS. BURSETH: Do I know of lakes that
4	fluctuate 30 feet? Yes, the few times I've gone
5	down to Arrow Lakes.
6	THE CHAIRMAN: Are they a reservoir?
7	MR. BACH: Is that a reservoir though?
8	MS. BURSETH: Yeah, oh, I understand. I'm
9	so well-programmed, I
10	No.
11	MR. BACH: Okay. Thank you.
12	And further to that, one of my concerns on
13	the Site C project is the fluctuation of the
14	reservoir. It's my understanding that it could
15	fluctuate up to 6 feet twice a day. That's not a
16	lake. Definitely not a lake.
17	Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
18	THE CHAIRMAN: Chief Willson.
19	CHIEF WILLSON: It's a question for
20	Ms. Burseth.
21	As your role as the director for the
22	information centre, is there a when people come
23	up, call you and say where can we go to go out, do
24	you ever have people coming back to the visitors
25	centre and giving you an experience that they have

1	had happen on the reservoir?
2	MS. BURSETH: Unfortunately, no. So the
3	thing the dangers, let's say, that I perceive of
4	boating on a reservoir have come more from, you
5	know, conversing with community residents or, you
6	know, hearing about somebody that went on a water
7	vessel hunting up Williston Lake and they had this
8	experience that was endangering their life.
9	CHIEF WILLSON: Have you had responses or
10	comments from people using the valley as opposed to
11	use the reservoir?
12	Mr. Chair, sorry.
13	MS. BURSETH: Well, I don't know how to respond
14	to that because, really, they are coming here, and
15	they want to know they just want to know the
16	possibility of things, whether it's recreation.
17	It's what's available, and so I don't know how
18	to answer that question there.
19	THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very much,
20	Ms. Burseth.
21	MS. BURSETH: You're welcome.
22	THE CHAIRMAN: I'd like to call Terry
23	Curzon. I'd like to call him, but is Mr. Curzon
24	here? I'm sorry. I have two different schedules,
25	and they have different names on them. According

1	to another schedule no, it's still Terry Curzon.
2	If in that case, I think we should turn to
3	Mr. Peck's suggestion that anybody who has a
4	question or a comment should feel free to do so
5	starting with Mayor Johansson.
6	
7	Questions from the floor:
8	MAYOR JOHANSSON: I'm just wondering. I know
9	that, Mr. Curzon, he contacted me about this and
10	sent in a submission. He said that he would be
11	working, but I can try and contact him and see if
12	he's available.
13	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Where is
14	mister
15	Do you have a question, sir?
16	MR. BEATTIE: Oh, yeah.
17	THE CHAIRMAN: Please come to the
18	microphone, sir.
19	MR. BEATTIE: My name is Dennis Beattie. I
20	haven't been at the meeting. I've been out
21	elsewhere, but there is some questions.
22	I've put probably 350 hours a year on
23	Williston Lake boating. We have had several
24	meetings with BC Hydro. Dave Conway was involved
25	in some on trying to get clean up done on Williston

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Lake as far as -- this is going to go farther. As far as trees and stuff like this that's floating on the lake because it's so dangerous. We got a commitment for 10 years, and that don't seem to be happening very well. A written commitment.

Now, going and saying that, are we going to be able to keep BC Hydro's promises viable in this next dam? If they can't fulfill the ones on the old dam, how are we going to -- you know, what is the biggest promises they're going to be able to keep on the other dam?

You know, the other thing is there was a promise made, and it took over 40 years for it to come to life, for power for the local people on Williston Lake, and it wouldn't have come about except they were going through some old papers of Elizabeth Beattie, which is my grandma, and they come upon this written note. Then it took two years after that to get power, and the local people had to do their own right of way to get power, so how -- you know, these promises that BC Hydro make are not very good.

It's taken us several years to get a commitment to have a boat launch done at Dunlevy.

It's supposedly going to be let out for tenure in

1		December, this month, supposedly.	
2		We have probably the best scenario	and the
3		best boating on Williston Lake and nobody	does it.
4		The floating debris is not being picked u	p at this
5		end like it's supposed to be. We have in	l
6		40 years it will be 50 years probably	now
7		there's no campsites basically for the to	ourism.
8		There's been nothing done for the tourism	ı on
9		Williston Lake. So how are these promise	s going to
10		be kept on the other dam? And I think th	at should
11		be looked at very, very closely.	
12		And other than that, I think it's -	- I'm not
13		for or against it. I just think that the	promises
14		that are being made should be kept becaus	e they
15		haven't been kept in the past by BC Hydro	
16	THE CH	THAIRMAN: Thank you, sir. Ju	ıst before
17		you go, may I ask, is the debris problem	
18		diminishing on Williston Lake?	
19	MR. BE	BEATTIE: Not really. It dep	ends if
20		you've got an east wind or a west wind.	If you've
21		got a west wind, it comes to this end. I	f you've
22		got an east wind it moves back, so no. I	hey did a
23		couple years of debris clean up. They pi	led it at
24		Geddes Bay which is basically where it en	ds up.
25		They burned it. And then there's the exc	uses that

1	they couldn't burn because the Environment wouldn't
2	let them burn. So the past couple of years have
3	been nothing bailed out of the lake. It comes
4	down, but now it goes back. So these commitments
5	are not held up at all with BC Hydro.
6	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Who's next?
7	Mr. Hadland.
8	MR. HADLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
9	I think I have a letter here that you would
10	be very interested in. This letter is sent to
11	Mr. Stephen Bellringer, the CEO I mean, the
12	Chair of BC Hydro. And it's from Bill Bennett, the
13	Minister. It was received by the Land Commission
14	on December the 11th, 2013.
15	May I read this letter out?
16	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. And I would like it to
17	be part of the record too, so we will need to make
18	an electronic copy of it.
19	MR. HADLAND: Sure. I have extra copies
20	here. This is to Mr. Bellringer:
21	
22	"Re: Site C and the
23	Agricultural Land Reserve. As you
24	know, the Joint Review Panel has
25	issued a notice of public hearing

1	respecting Site C Clean Energy
2	Project (Project), with hearings to
3	commence December 9, 2013. The
4	Province is aware that one of the
5	issues at the hearing will be the
6	effect of the Project on
7	agricultural land, some of which is
8	within the Agricultural Land
9	Reserve. The Province is also
10	aware that BC Hydro has proposed
11	measures to mitigate effects on
12	agricultural resources in the
13	environmental impact statement and
14	expects that these measures will be
15	implemented. Considering this
16	joint environmental assessment, and
17	its public hearing process under an
18	independent Joint Review Panel, I
19	am writing to inform you that the
20	Government's current view is that
21	this process should not be
22	duplicated respecting these lands
23	by a further process under the
24	Agricultural Land Commission Act.
25	Should the Project receive approval

1	in the environmental assessment
2	process, the Government will take
3	appropriate action to ensure that
4	the requirements of the
5	Agricultural Land Commission Act
6	will not apply to any of the lands
7	potentially affected by the
8	Project. Please feel free to draw
9	this letter to the attention of the
10	Joint Review Panel at the hearing.
11	Sincerely, Bill Bennett, Minister."
12	
13	And that was copied to Richard Bullock.
14	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. That's
15	a useful and material document.
16	MR. HADLAND: Yes. May I
17	THE CHAIRMAN: It will certainly obviate the
18	necessity of calling the ALC to testify.
19	MR. HADLAND: As I had requested,
20	Mr. Chairman.
21	Just one note aside, just a piece of
22	trivia well, maybe it's not trivia. I think
23	it's pertinent. I was a commissioner on the Land
24	Commission some long years ago, and before my time
25	I think the provision for provincial I'm not

1	guro provincial procedent has only been enacted
	sure, provincial precedent has only been enacted
2	once. And that was on the 5-mile ranch outside of
3	Kamloops. And at that time, of course, the
4	provisions were made that the commission actually
5	could conduct some hearing and provide input. This
6	precludes that. I think it's quite significant,
7	sir. I do have extra copies. I'll just pass them
8	to here.
9	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Thank you.
10	And could you give a copy to Hydro too.
11	MR. HADLAND: Sure.
12	THE CHAIRMAN: If you've got an extra there.
13	Thank you.
14	This is kind of a strange letter. It's not
15	dated. It's addressed to the Chair of BC Hydro and
16	Power Authority. It was received by, apparently,
17	the Agricultural Land Commission on December 11th.
18	I'm just wondering Ms. Yurkovich, had you
19	seen this?
20	MS. YURKOVICH: I got this letter the day
21	after this issue was raised at the Panel hearings.
22	As you know, Mr. Chair, we have been quite present
23	here, and this was sent to my Chairman in
24	Vancouver. They did send a copy to us the
25	following day, so when the question was asked, I

1	referenced that we would seek direction from the
2	British Columbia Government. I see we have our
3	direction.
4	THE CHAIRMAN: I see. Okay. Thank you very
5	much for that nice note, the providence of this
6	document.
7	Mr. Desjarlais.
8	FORMER CHIEF DESJARLAIS: Thank you again.
9	There was a couple of things I failed to
10	mention earlier. It gets kind of that way when you
11	have too much to talk about.
12	One of them is to do with medicines. Like I
13	said, I was taught by elders from the Moberly and
14	Halfway areas. And one of the things I was taught
15	about was medicines.
16	The Peace River Valley or along the river
17	there's a plant that grows there. I don't know
18	what its scientific name is or even common name is.
19	I just recognize it. And it's a plant that treats
20	lung ailments. And it's the only place in the
21	whole Peace region that I see this plant. But
22	there's also other medicines. So that for me as a
23	medicinal healer of sorts, it becomes a rare
24	medicinal plant. And that's not a plant that's in
25	the species at risk list. It's only rare because

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this is the only place that I know it grows. that's not to say other elders or other herbal healers in our communities may know where this plant grows. The simple fact is they haven't told me so I know where -- what they know. So that becomes a rare medicinal plant, and this argument was one in 1994 I believe in Ministry of Forests and the Treaty 8 Tribal Association where one of the Proponents planned some spring herbicides. And the elders of the Doig First Nation found a plant that they used to heal heart ailments. And this plant grew in approximately six different blocks that were supposed to be sprayed. But they never really had a chance to visit all 446, I think -- or 146, sorry. My brain is going too fast.

And so they put that forward, and the environmental assessment board agreed with them that they need the opportunity to check the remaining blocks to see if this plant grows there. And it became known — this plant became known as a rare medicinal plant simply because the other First — the healers from the other First Nations did not know that that plant grew there. It was only the Doig elders that knew that or their healer that knew that. So I forgot to mention that.

1	And the other thing I forgot to mention was
2	after when I said the river used to ice over and
3	it was really deep, well, as a matter of fact I
4	think Hudson's Hope can confirm this, but the river
5	used to be deep enough to run steamboats.
6	Now you can drag bottom with regular
7	motorboats. And all that happened after the
8	building of WAC Bennett and the Peace Canyon Dam.
9	And now they're going to add Site C to it. It's
10	going to become even shallower down below.
11	And the other comment I'd like to make is to
12	everybody here, including yourself, pardon me, sir,
13	Williston is a reservoir; it's not a lake. So
14	please don't refer to it as a lake. God didn't
15	create it. BC Hydro did. Thank you.
16	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
17	The lady in red. Your turn.
18	MS. DEBORAH PECK: Thank you. My name is
19	Deborah Peck. I'm P-e-c-k. I'm an affected
20	landowner, not an impacted landowner. Impaction
21	sounds a bit medical to me. It sounds like an
22	internal log jam.
23	But anyway, to carry on, as a democracy we
24	get the government we deserve, I understand, and
25	but the other thing about a democracy is that

1 majority rules. So as rural landowners we tend to 2 get the short end of the stick. That's one of the 3 drawbacks, and again, this is the David and Goliath 4 picture that we have seen. But David won, didn't 5 he? 6 The majority of voters in BC are consumers of 7 They don't see the power in the Lower Mainland. 8 consequence of their power consumption. 9 with it. Our concerns are drowned out by the careful sale and clean spin which has been well --10 11 which has been well distributed and well fund -- by 12 the well-funded BC Hydro which by the way is us as 13 taxpayers. We're trying to protect a whole valley 14 ecosystem but keep getting divided into smaller 15 interest groups. In conclusion, power is a bit 16 like money, the more you have, the more you want. 17 The Valley is too valuable in too many ways 18 The cost is too high. Please don't drown to list. 19 out our rural voice. 20 Thank you. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Peck. Ma'am. 22 23 MS. VINCE: Hi. My name is Caitlin 24 Vince. I've lived in the Valley for just about 2.5 24 years. I moved away for university, but I've

1 basically been here since I was 4 years old.

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I have two major concerns with construction and quite a few smaller concerns that I want to address now.

Number one is I'm concerned with the dam's and the reservoir's effect on the growth of our community. I moved back here after going to university because I wanted to start my family here and build a life, and it's a beautiful community to do it in. I feel that the reservoir will affect that in quite a few ways, specifically the berm around the community.

And I feel that if we are wanting to attract more younger families to grow our community, then the construction of the dam will hinder that as well. So the two main concerns I have are, if we can't attract more younger families with young children, how will our school system survive?

Right now our school is already threatened with closure a number of times because we don't have a large enough population. So that's one of the effects.

And also I'm -- you know, as a young person in this community I want to start a future, and I'd like to grow possibly a business in the community.

1	And I'm just wondering how the construction of the
2	dam will affect our community growth in the next
3	five years and how that will affect a possible
4	business that I may be opening. Is that new
5	business even viable in the next five years, and if
6	not, I don't know what other options I would have
7	for economic growth in the community.
8	That's all I have to say.
9	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you for that comment or
10	those questions.
11	Are there other people who would like to
12	raise issues?
13	MR. BEATTIE: I didn't write anything down,
14	so I forgot lots. Erosion, I know that I've been
15	to several of these little advisory meetings and
16	they keep trying to tell the public there will be
17	no erosion or very little. And I stepped in
18	yesterday, and they were talking about erosion,
19	it'll make nice bags eventually and sand bags. Go
20	check Williston Lake out. It's 50 years out
21	Okay. Williston reservoir, how's that sound?
22	It's 50 years. And we're still losing up to
23	50 feet a year. A lot of erosion is caused not by
24	the fluctuation of your water, but it's caused by
25	wind. The minute they have to clean that basin out

1	with their timber, you're going to create wind.
2	Once you create wind, you're going to create
3	sloughing. We've already got many banks that are
4	sloughing without the wind or without the water.
5	You can't tell these people here, I'm sure there's
6	going to be no sloughing. It's going to be very
7	detrimental in a lot of places.
8	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
9	Next person, please. Thank you.
10	MS. FORRESTER: Thank you, Chairman. I'm
11	Nedra Forrester, N-e-d-r-a F-o-r-r-e-s-t-e-r.
12	I'm an affected landowner. I'm fortunate to
13	own one of the beautiful view properties along the
14	river, one of few that go to the water's edge or a
15	metre back from the traditional high water mark. I
16	don't know how you ever figure out where that land
17	is. The berm is to be built below my property. I
18	have not engaged with BC Hydro how they're going to
19	do that. I'm interested in the berm construction
20	in the event that reason does not prevail here and
21	that this proposed Site C is approved.
22	They say expropriation is the last thing. I
23	have no intention of going to them. So how are
24	they going to get how are they going to get this
25	property from me? And okay, so they do, and they

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go ahead and build the berm. And I'm just
wondering about the construction, are they just
going to do it from the bottom up, or are they
going to require access through or to my property
from the top? I realize that these were artist
renditions that -- the pictures that were
projected. But you know, it shows my house sitting
above a totally denuded bank. You know, how would
they ever compensate me for that?

And that would be property that isn't going to be impacted because the berm's supposed to save it, but it has no foliage on it. There is several underground springs that come to surface along that bank. They would be above the berm. I don't understand how you're going to have water coming down to the berm. Like, where is it going to go? I mean, they can't stop all the natural seepage along there, so what do we do, have a culvert under the berm that let's the water out but then that's also going to let the water back in with wave action and such?

Madam Beaudet asked Dr. Weder, did he know about Site C before he bought his property, and he said, yes, he did. Well, I didn't. We bought our property in 2005 even though we've lived in the

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Peace River since 1975 and were well aware of

Site C and the battles going on and -- you know, we
thought that this was shelved. It had been
defeated twice. We bought riverfront property, and
we want riverfront property. We do not want
reservoir-front property.

And again, I just don't know how that could ever be -- well, and because we did a new construction, then, you know, things have changed. You've got to be so far back from the river, you know, 2 feet up for every -- or 2 feet back for every foot up. So our home is in behind the safe line. But what happens in -- you know, we've been told just at the community level, not personally because I have decided to remain unengaged, that if we are impacted at a later date, you know, then we can -- we can approach them passively to take on my property.

But, like, where -- when does that -- you know, when does that line of effect come into effect? Like, if I -- say, if -- you know, if it does go ahead and I'm living on the side of a reservoir in 10 years and eventually I say, well, forget it, I just can't take the wind, the dust, the fluctuating, I want out, who is going to buy my

1	home, and will Hydro still be willing to, you know,
2	to buy me out?
3	And I have a big concern with Hydro buying up
4	the riverfront properties that are above the berm.
5	If they get enough of those, are they then going to
6	say, forget it, we own the property and we don't
7	care if it does slough in, we're not building that
8	berm. You know, do we have, you know, concrete
9	commitments that if Hydro does own all that
10	property that the berm will still be built?
11	Thank you.
12	THE CHAIRMAN: You have a number of quite
13	specific questions, some of an engineering nature
14	and some related to property management. I wonder
15	if Hydro want to respond to those at this point?
16	MS. YURKOVICH: Yes, the property specific
17	I'll turn over to Ms. Reynier.
18	But I can confirm, we would not move to
19	actively acquire properties until if and until
20	the project received certification and the
21	decisions required to move to construction. That
22	would be the time that we would then approach
23	people in the passive land acquisition program as
24	we referenced yesterday. If people are interested
25	and come to us, then we will have if it's a

1	property that will be affected by the project then
2	we will then we will enter into discussions.
3	I don't know, Judy, did you want to add
4	anything else on the property's side?
5	MS. REYNIER: If I might.
6	Hello, Mrs. Forrester.
7	So we conducted one-on-one consultation about
8	the location of the berm and the acquisition of
9	property rights that would be required for that in
10	the future. And I recall, Mrs. Forrester, I think
11	you and I had a chat at an open-house meeting about
12	that. And I think what's needed here is that we
13	need to have more one-on-one meetings. I think the
14	last time we approached you, you felt you had
15	enough information. It sounds to me like there's a
16	need now for a little bit more.
17	It's a fine line because we don't have an
18	approved project. You don't want to bother people
19	too much for meetings, but then if somebody's
20	clearly needing information, then we do step in to
21	have the meetings.
22	Mrs. Forrester had expressed a concern about
23	there being a lack of foliage in the photos, the
24	land behind the berm. That picture that she's
25	looking at was produced by the District of Hudson's

1	Hope. It's not a BC Hydro rendition, and it's not
2	our understanding, our intention to remove the
3	foliage behind the berm.
4	And the last question that was from a
5	property's perspective was on the subject of if
6	BC Hydro continues to buy the properties behind the
7	berm, would they still build the berm. My
8	understanding is that the berm is being built to
9	protect the community and that supply of
10	residential housing there.
11	THE CHAIRMAN: Maybe we could turn to
12	Mr. Nunn.
13	Can you build a berm from the bottom up or
14	the top down, and what happens to the springs
15	behind the berm?
16	MR. NUNN: Yes, we would build the berm
17	from the bottom up. That's actually described in
18	section 4.4.4.3 of the EIS. Drainage would be a
19	very important part of it. We would not want to
20	interfere with any drainage from natural seeps on
21	the slopes, so there would be culverts, for
22	example, as required to let the water out. And the
23	whole berm itself would be constructed from
24	free-draining materials. Basically gravels and
25	effacing of rocks itself would let the water

1	through.
2	THE CHAIRMAN: That's a start.
3	Anyway, you might want to take up the
4	invitation of a longer personal conversation.
5	Thank you.
6	MS. FORRESTER: Thank you.
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Mayor Johansson.
8	MAYOR JOHANSSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
9	just I tried to reach Mr. Curzon. I couldn't
10	find him. Anyway, I've left messages.
11	But the issue that he came to me about some
12	time ago was that and I had touched on it in the
13	submission made by the District of Hudson's Hope
14	simply because he hadn't come, and that was that as
15	a district just to back up a moment, as a
16	district we have an interest in keeping a viable
17	business going, right, to service the people. And
18	what's happened apparently is that BC Hydro
19	somewhere along the line changed its procurement
20	policy. So it now has one supplier. And that's
21	not our local hardware store. And so he indicates
22	that his he's cut his staff from five to two and
23	a half because of the reduction in business, and it
24	has put that decision if I understand him
25	correctly, has put at risk the business that he

1	has. And so that's of real concern of the
2	municipality. And I wish he were here to speak to
3	it more directly himself because I'm doing this
4	secondhand. I hope you understand.
5	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you for relaying that.
6	Just a second. I think Chief Willson is
7	next. No?
8	Okay. Mr. Peck.
9	MR. ROSS PECK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'll
10	try and keep this brief. Like all of us I've just
11	received the Agricultural Land Commission edict
12	from Minister Bennett. I don't interpret this
13	and I'm sure you will look at it closely is
14	precluding the Agricultural Land Commission from
15	their current legislation. And I'm sure lawyers
16	will be better than I do, but I understand one of
17	the things that's currently in the Agricultural
18	Land Commission Act for an exclusion of this size
19	is a public hearing process that has wider reach
20	than yours, provincial wide. And it actually sets
21	out a specific direction in those hearing
22	processes. And that is not happening with your
23	Commission. And so I would like you to look into
24	that if you could.
25	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. All right. We're aware

1	that we need to look into this, and we're going to.
2	Thank you.
3	MR. ROSS PECK: And if I can close with a
4	comment is that if there I'm sure you've noticed
5	quite a bit of skepticism in the room on the
6	process and whether we're being heard. And at this
7	late date we now have an order from the government
8	on a specific direction to go. I would suggest for
9	the sake of us all, if there's any other major
10	impediments to the project that the government
11	thinks need to be addressed, why don't they do this
12	now, fast track the thing and let us go and live
13	our lives.
14	Thank you.
15	THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Peck, I'm glad that we
16	are not part of the government. Thank you.
17	Chief Willson.
18	CHIEF WILLSON: Thank you, Chairman.
19	I apologize that I missed my counterpart
20	Mr. George Desjarlais. He used to be the chief of
21	the West Moberly First Nations before my term. And
22	I know he spoke quite a bit about our interactions
23	here with the Hudson's Hope band. I was not sure
24	if he made aware to the Panel that there's a grave
25	site here that was established in 1913. It's the

1 100th-year anniversary this year of the grave site 2 here. That is a -- it's a Beaver grave site. 3 with -- I have a question. I wanted to put that into the context of the question. 4 In the flooding of the Williston reservoir 5 6 and the creation of WAC Bennett and Peace Canyon 7 and Dinosaur reservoir, we're hearing lots of talks about mitigation of the Valley, they're going to 8 9 mitigate the effects of the Valley. Everyone's aware that this valley is unique and there's no 10 11 other valley anywhere in the northeast like this 12 valley. And understanding what happened and 13 transpired with the Williston reservoir, my 14 question to BC Hydro is how many areas have they 15 mitigated for the use of First Nations to access what used to be the river is now the reservoir for 16 17 our ability to practice and carry on in a peaceful, 18 quiet way of life with the reservoir? With their 19 extensive cumulative impact study they did, they 20 should have a pretty intense knowledge of what that

is. I'd like to hear what their response is to that.

22 that.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you have a comment, Hydro?

Mr. Proverbs.

25 MR. PROVERBS: Yes. Thank you, Chair.

1		Chief Willson,	can you just repeat your
2		question.	
3	CHIEF	WILLSON:	With the flooding of the
4		Williston reservoir,	there was cultural sites all
5		along, camping areas	all along the river. In your
6		mitigation measures to	to date, have you ever
7		established or mitiga	ated the loss of those sites
8		with the local First 1	Nations here?
9	MR. P	ROVERBS:	Okay. Thank you.
10		So you're refer	cring to the Williston
11		reservoir?	
12	CHIEF	WILLSON:	Yes.
13	MR. P	ROVERBS:	Yeah. Chief Wilson, what I
14		understand is about for	four years ago there was a
15		meeting between BC Hy	ydro and Treaty 8. The meeting
16		was in respect to the	e Williston reservoir and any
17		outstanding grievance	es respecting the Bennett Dam
18		and the reservoir. I	I understand at that meeting
19		there was a commitmen	nt made by Treaty 8 on behalf
20		of the member nations	s to put together a discussion
21		paper respecting those	se grievances. Once completed,
22		we understand that the	nat discussion paper will be
23		submitted to BC Hydro).
24		At this point is	in time, Mr. Chair, that paper
25		has not yet been rece	eived.

1 CHIEF WILLSON: Mr. Chair, just an 2 observation, WAC Bennett has been operating close 3 to over 40 years here, and 3 years ago they asked us to submit a paper so they could understand the 4 effects of their operations with the local First 5 6 Nations and Treaty 8 rights. It scares me to think 7 that it's taken 40 years for that to come about. 8 West Moberly is the closest community to the 9 operation's centre of BC Hydro up here, other than Hudson's Hope. As a First Nations community, we're 10 11 the closest ones to these reservoirs and the dams. 12 And they are just now trying to understand what the 13 effects of WAC Bennett and Williston reservoir have 14 been on our communities. 15 The flooding of the Williston has drastically 16 affected us as you heard. The river was a highway, 17 a corridor. Hudson's Hope, the fort here in Hudson's Hope was established here because there 18 19 was First Nations here and they were trading with 20 First Nations. 21 Fort Grahame, farther up in the Valley was 22 established there. Same reason. Fort Ware, the 23 same reason. When the -- Fort McLeod. They were 24 all established because there was local First 2.5 Nations there, and they could trade with them, and

1 they established a trading route.

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When Alexander Mackenzie came through the area there was a report sent back talking about, as they moved through the area, there were so many animals throughout the valley that it reminded them of a stockyard.

To date, we have 400 caribou left in the South Peace. We have -- I've mentioned this earlier, we have passed our own traditional laws saying because the numbers are so low we won't hunt them anymore. We had to take the court -- the Province to court in order to get them to do what they had promised to do under the **Species At Risk****Act to put in protective measures and develop a recovery plan for the caribou here.

We understand the impacts on the fish here. You'll hear more about that throughout the whole sessions. I will be presenting on fish and the rivers.

There's no other place like this valley.

It's the last piece that we have for fish, for wildlife. We have access to the river, to carry on what we can't carry on anymore in the Peace Valley, in the Williston reservoir. There has not been any sites in the last 40 years ever mitigated for our

1 use on that. What we do have are signs plastered 2 all around the reservoirs saying, danger, unstable 3 banks due to landslides and uncontrollable raising and lowering of the waters. 4 This town here has sirens all around it 5 6 because there's a hole in WAC Bennett Dam, and we 7 live -- I live in town here. We live under a 8 constant threat of those sirens going off and having to evacuate this town to up top of the hill 9 to where the muster area is at the local airport 10 11 here. 3 o'clock in the morning in the middle of 12 13 winter when you're in dead of sleep, there may be a 14 fire, there may be an accident, and the fire alarms 15 go off. They have also sirens in town because the 16 pager system sometimes fail, and they have to alert 17 the local volunteer fire department through those sirens. And the effect that has on people, 18 19 everybody wakes up and wonders, is that the dam 20 breach starting or is that just an accident 21 starting, and what do we do. 22 Thank you. 23 THE CHAIRMAN: As a matter of fact, when was 24 the last time the flood siren was practised or 2.5 there was a practice alert? Does anybody recall?

1	CHIEF WILLSON: I don't know what they sound
2	like. I've lived here 14 years; I don't know what
3	they sound like.
4	MAYOR JOHANSSON: I don't know for sure. I
5	spoke to somebody the other day. I thought that he
6	told me it was one of the staff people. I
7	thought he told me two years ago, but some of the
8	people here are saying longer. So we could find
9	out that information for you. It was I can I
10	think relate we've had discussions with the
11	emergency services coordinator at the District, and
12	he doesn't feel that this design of siren is the
13	best design for what was here. It was put in here
14	after the as was mentioned, after the hole in
15	the Bennett Dam. I don't know what went into
16	selecting that design. It was not us that did
17	that.
18	THE CHAIRMAN: I'm reminded of being a
19	schoolchild, and you know we would have fire drills
20	and the bells would ring, and we would run out in
21	the yard and so on. It was a wonderful sky lark.
22	But an alarm system for which there's never a
23	practice isn't probably the best.
24	I'm thinking that we might have one more
25	comment, and then we'll break for lunch.

1	Mrs. Sylves is it?
Τ	Mrs. Sykes, is it?
2	MS. SYKES: I'm June Sykes. And this is
3	directed to the three Panel members.
4	You were sent a book called This Was Our
5	Valley from Shirlee Smith Matheson and also Earl
6	Pollan. She had those mailed to you and was
7	notified that we had till the 25th of November to
8	have them sent.
9	In the submission that she sent in those
10	books, she had you take special interest into
11	paragraphs where she described when the Williston
12	Lake the reservoir was formed, what had happened
13	to the animals, to the Native families up there,
14	how they were not notified that they had to move.
15	I would like to see that the Panel goes back and
16	research those books that you received.
17	Ms. Matheson is not allowed is not available to
18	come. So she mailed you those books well in
19	advance before this. Just brought that to your
20	attention. The book was This Was Our Valley.
21	THE CHAIRMAN: I know we have the books.
22	And
23	MS. SYKES: Happy reading.
24	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. And I have
25	actually read I guess one chapter. More to come.

1	Thank you.
2	Let us now break for lunch. We were
3	scheduled to take only an hour and 10 minutes.
4	It's 12:15. Let's say we'll be back at 1:30.
5	Thank you.
6	
7	(Luncheon adjournment)
8	(Proceedings recessed at 12:15 p.m.)
9	(Proceedings reconvened at 1:30 p.m.)
10	
11	THE CHAIRMAN: Can we reconvene, please.
12	It's 1:30, and we've all had another
13	wonderful Hudson's Hope lunch. Our first speaker
14	this afternoon is Derrek Beam.
15	Derrek.
16	I've written in handwriting on my sheet.
17	Sorry about that.
18	
19	Presentation by Derrek Beam:
20	MR. BEAM: No problem.
21	Thanks for giving me the opportunity to
22	address the Panel.
23	There should be a slide playing on the
24	screens here momentarily. It's just some pictures
25	of some of the life we've enjoyed in the Valley.

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So my name is Derrek Beam. I'm an affected landowner simply because I was fortunate enough to marry a beautiful young woman who happens to be the granddaughter of a local pioneer here known as Olive Powell. Incidentally, her mother's home was burnt downs and flooded for the Williston reservoir many, many years ago. That area was called Gold Bar, and First Nations peoples used to use that area as — they had already been using it, of course. They traded there. Quite a heritage.

So there's so many topics we can discuss in regards to the possibility of Site C, and I've chosen one that I think is less emotional for myself, and that's the land acquisition process or my understanding of it thus far via BC Hydro.

So based on the information I've been able to gather from consultation meetings and information packages and other folk's testimonies, my understanding is that it follows a process.

Basically what happens is you get a line drawn through your, you know, your property somewhere, and it has a different name. It might be a --you know, there's going to be a highway or an erosion impact line or berm done of inundation zone or what have you, so that's step one. Then step two is the

people who own that property are then informed that

BC Hydro has what they call passive acquisition

program.

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And what that means is that now that your property is worthless to anybody else, you should know that there is one place that you can sell it to. So, step three, should you decide to sell -- and I use "decide" in quotations -- BC Hydro hires one and only one appraisal company to provide one and only one appraisal for your property. Now, they do rotate through a list of appraisers, but only one company is hired. And the value of this property is based on what's called "fair local market value." Step four, the property owner can take the offer from BC Hydro, or they can take the offer from BC Hydro.

So the best part of this is not only does

BC Hydro passively force landowners to sell their

land to them and to only them, they state that the

way the property is valued is if the project does

not exist, and that evaluation should not take into

account any increase or decrease in property value

that may be caused by the project.

Now, that's a very interesting statement to me, and it's also not true. Because the fact is,

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BC Hydro set the fair local market value for this area many, many years ago since the possibility of Site C existed. And in my mind, every single acquisition that BC Hydro has made in this region should be reviewed and requantified because the property value along the Site C corridor has already been devastated by BC Hydro due to the constant threat of Site C.

They have single-handedly created a local market value in our area, and they have negatively affected property values along the river for decades.

So under the guise of passive acquisition, they pay the value of the property that was created long ago. I'm unsure about the legality of those acquisitions. The only way landowners can really get fair market value for their property is by comparing like properties in other regions of Western Canada that don't have the potential and haven't had the potential of a major dam for decades, so that would be a possible way to fairly assess the value of the land.

I'd like to talk about heritage a little bit.

A couple definitions of heritage include property
that is or can be inherited, something that's

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passed down from preceding generations, a tradition, the status acquired by a person through birth. There's nothing to address the fact that most of these landowners are unwilling sellers and/or would be giving up homes and their heritage.

There's nothing at all in place to address the potentially devastating emotional effects many families and their children will face should the Site C dam be approved. I can't imagine how First Nations must feel.

There's a lot of talk about mitigation. So let's talk about it. In the event that Site C is approved, will BC Hydro be allowed to continue to purchase properties using this fair local market value that has been set? And, if so, how is this justified? If not, what is proposed? I should note that in my eyes this is different than a regular appraisal. For example, if somebody builds a golf course next to you, good on ya, property is going to go up. If someone built a refuse site beside you, property is probably going down.

However, BC Hydro has clearly stated for the record that appraisals should be completed as though the possibility of Site C does not exist.

In the event that you approve Site C, what

plan would be in place to support the negative
effects on displaced property owners. What plans
does BC Hydro have to mitigation heritage,
particularly given there are families and First
Nations here that have already had their heritage
hurt very badly due to projects in the past along
the Peace River Valley.

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And since I have some time, and I want to have a couple of asides, BC Hydro has been telling us that we need power. There's been some presentations I know of already to the Panel showing that the need for power that BC Hydro is showing does not reflect what a lot of the statistics are showing, and I just don't understand. We have a power station, Burrard Thermal. It was updated around 10 years ago. We spent a lot of money updating it. And now we're being told that it's going to save us a lot of money to shut it down. But we need the power. It's incongruous.

I've also noticed that more than one of the homes along the corridor, the Site C corridor, have highway lines drawn directly through the centre of the homes, and it seems odd to me that folks somehow built their homes in what one day would be

1 dead centre of highways, and I'm wondering if there 2 would be any kind of process in the event that 3 Site C is approved and this moves forward that holds BC Hydro to tasks in regards to where the 4 5 proposed highway ends up being. 6 I'd also ask that BC Hydro provide a definition of "consultation." I know this has been 7 8 asked before. I haven't heard one, a clear 9 definition, of what consultation means. listened to how the project will move forward. 10 11 haven't felt like I've been heard. 12 I'm also curios whether or not there will be 13 a flowage easement placed on any remaining properties along the Site C corridor, and I would 14 like a definition of this easement provided. 15 16 Thank you very much for hearing my concerns. 17 I sincerely hope that the people of BC are being 18

Thank you very much for hearing my concerns.

I sincerely hope that the people of BC are being heard. I sincerely hope that the folks in southern BC in the largely populated areas understand the magnitude of this project. I'm unsure whether they will or not.

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I remember moving up here 16 years ago from southern BC, having never heard of Hudson's Hope and having no idea that the power I was receiving down there was coming from this small community.

1		Thank you.	
2	THE CH	IAIRMAN:	Thank you, Mr. Beam.
3		You raise	a number of quite specific
4		questions, and I	think I'd like to ask Hydro to
5		comment on them.	
6		One that h	as been mentioned but not in any
7		particular depth	has to do with appraised values.
8		What do you use	for comparables?
9	MS. RE	CYNIER:	So as I said before, we
10		BC Hydro employs	independent fee appraisers. We
11		have been using,	I think it's approximately seven
12		companies to dat	e, and we're in contact with
13		another seven co	mpanies. Either they have been too
14		busy or on other	work, so they haven't been able to
15		do the appraisal	s for us.
16		So we have	this roster of appraisers. We
17		instruct them in	the terms of reference to appraise
18		in accordance wi	th the Expropriation Act , so what
19		we are compensat	ing property owners is everything
20		that they would	otherwise be entitled to without
21		going through th	at mechanism so that they're not in
22		any way what'	s the word the conversation
23		isn't diminished	by the fact that they haven't held
24		out for expropri	ation. So the Expropriation Act
25		has got some cle	ar principles about how you

1 compensate, and one of the things that they say is 2 that in the evaluation you mustn't take into 3 account any increase or decrease in value caused by the scheme which in this place would be the 4 5 project. 6 So the appraisers have been instructed to do 7 that. We've used, as I said, approximately seven 8 companies. The appraisals that we've been getting 9 have all been roughly in line with each other, and people who we have settled with have done so with 10 11 no pressure to settle. 12 THE CHAIRMAN: But if I may, the key 13 question for an appraiser is to guess what the value of the land would have been like without the 14 15 prospect of Site C, and the usual way of doing that 16 is looking for closely comparable properties as 17 near as you can get, you know, maybe downstream or 18 something like that. So as a matter of fact, the 19 seven appraisers, what do they use for comparables? 20 MS. REYNIER: Well, the majority of 21 appraisals that we've been getting have been for 22 small town-sized lots with a single-family 23 residence on. We haven't in the last five years or 24 so been buying sort of larger ranch-type properties 2.5 as much. Like, more recently we've just been

1	buying the people who have been com	ing to us
2	have been from the town of Hudson's Ho	pe, so the
3	comparables have been within the town	of Hudson's
4	Hope for those properties.	
5	THE CHAIRMAN: How would you ap	proach a farm
6	property that was within the lines?	
7	MS. REYNIER: We would look fo	or comparable
8	sales of ranches within the region, an	d we've got a
9	list of in the office that I'm in,	we sort of
10	keep track of listings and sales as th	ey come up.
11	So we have a fair idea ourselves of wh	at properties
12	are selling and what values. And I'm	assuming the
13	appraisals will select from those.	
14	THE CHAIRMAN: The part that ma	ıkes me
15	scratch my head is I guess the uniquen	ess of these
16	bottom lands and slope lands that you	would be
17	acquiring. Since you would be acquiri	ng all of
18	them and they're all in the flood rese	rve, I don't
19	understand what the comparables would	be.
20	MS. REYNIER: Well, they would	l look to
21	probably in that case as I said, we	haven't sort
22	of encountered that yet, but I'm imagi	ning that we
23	could get comparables from downstream	of the dam,
24	for example.	
25	THE CHAIRMAN: You rotate throu	igh a list of

1		seven or so appraisers,	you mentioned?
2	MS.	REYNIER: I	That's what we're doing right
3		now. Were the project	to be approved, we would
4		have a sort of more for	rmal way of doing it. We
5		would advertise, have a	a request for quotation from
6		a number of appraisal c	companies and such, but right
7		now because it's a smal	l number of properties
8	THE	CHAIRMAN:	You would have a thorough and
9		modern procurement proc	cess that would choose the
10		best qualified appraise	ers that you could find and
11		so on? Would there be	any appraisers left over for
12		owners who wished to ge	et an independent view to
13		joust BC Hydro with?	
14	MS.	REYNIER:	I think so, yes. There's
15		quite a number of appra	aisers that are willing to
16		work doing appraisals e	either for us or for the
17		property owners.	
18	THE	CHAIRMAN: Y	You would not have taken the
19		cream off the can by ta	aking the best seven?
20	MS.	REYNIER: "	'The best" meaning the most
21		competent?	
22	THE	CHAIRMAN: M	Most competent or cheapest or
23		whatever criterion you	use.
24	MS.	REYNIER: T	There are a fairly large
25		number of appraisers in	n BC that are proficient at

1		doing this.	
2	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Who know the local market?
3	MS.	REYNIER:	Well, we use both local
4		appraisals, and also	we've used appraisals from
5		Prince George and other	er places in the northern
6		region as well as I be	elieve we've used someone from
7		the Okanagan as well.	
8	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Okay.
9		Several of the	other points that you raised,
10		Mr. Beam, have been d	iscussed in previous sessions,
11		so I'll just skip ove:	r them right now, but I wanted
12		to come to this quest:	ion of flow easements. I
13		hadn't heard of that	one before. What's that?
14	MR.	BEAM:	Actually, I'd prefer if you
15		could ask BC Hydro to	provide a definition a
16		flowage easement, if	that's all right.
17	THE	CHAIRMAN:	All right.
18		Is this a term of	of art for Hydro, a flow
19		easement?	
20	MS.	REYNIER:	A flowage the term of
21		flowage easement is so	omething that BC Hydro I think
22		invented in the 60s, a	and what it actually is is a
23		form of statute right	of way. It isn't actually an
24		easement, so that's a	technical point. But that's
25		what BC Hydro was cal	ling the rights that they were

1		acquiring around reservoirs up until I would say
2		about 10 years ago. We now call the same thing a
3		statutory right of way, and as we described with
4		the impact lines, different uses would be allowed
5		or different uses would be restricted within the
6		zones within the statute right of way.
7	THE C	HAIRMAN: Okay. So the answer is that
8		that's an obsolete term, and that the process that
9		you would now use is the one that you described in
10		some detail the other day. Thank you.
11		Are there other questions for Mr. Beam?
12		Mr. Bach.
13	MR. B	ACH: Yes, my name is Robert Bach,
14		and I have been selling real estate in Hudson's
15		Hope for the last 20 years. I don't know that I
16		have a question for Mr. Beam. It would be more for
17		the chair to direct to BC Hydro. I just I find
18		the whole process of passive acquisition flawed.
19		It has been from the beginning. It's very
20		negatively affected the real estate market in
21		Hudson's Hope since I've been practising, and it's
22		gotten to the point now where it's basically flat
23		lined our market here.
24		It affects me personally greatly, which is
25		one of the reasons why I didn't want to try to

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speak to it because I don't think I could keep my
emotions out of it, but I would like to say that
the appraisers that you're inquiring BC Hydro of, I
talk to the appraisers. They call me because they
have a very, very difficult time appraising
properties in Hudson's Hope to begin with and have
since I've been in practice.

It hasn't changed. It's just gotten worse to the point now where we don't have any comparable sales in Hudson's Hope for them to make their comparisons to. And if you take Site C and the flowage easements and the veil of uncertainty that's cast over this valley for the past 40, 50 years, and the 35 years I've been here, it's really skewed the market unbelievably.

I don't know that BC Hydro knows the magnitude of how much they negatively affect this community. I really don't think that they understand, which is a very big problem.

And the term flowage easement is used very much so. We have a property that has a flowage easement on it, and it basically is what I call a rape, pillage and plunder easement. It basically says that anything that Hydro wants to do in conjunction with the operation of their facilities,

1	they can do, and anything the landowner wants to do
2	on that piece of property that the flowage easement
3	is on, they have to get written permission from
4	BC Hydro before they can do it.
5	So basically takes the property, even though
6	you still own it, you really can't utilize in any
7	way with any certainty. I think that's all I have.
8	I can't say anything more. I just get too
9	emotional about it. I get too passionate when I
10	speak, and that's the reason I didn't speak
11	yesterday.
12	This has hurt Hudson's Hope greatly, has hurt
13	me personally, the townspeople, the market, and it
14	continues to do so. It's just escalating now to a
15	point where it would take a decade to reverse what
16	just has happened in the past two years there.
17	I thank you for listening to me.
18	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Bach.
19	Madam.
20	MS. BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
21	I'm going back to the second point that
22	Mr. Beam is making in his brief, asking what will
23	be in place to support the negative effects of
24	displaced property owners. I know this would be a
25	mild approach compared to what people potentially

1		can suffer here, but I would like to ask BC Hydro
2		if there is a process when they determine what will
3		be the name of the reservoir and the name of the
4		dam? Is there a committee that would be formed and
5		people could come and present, give proposals that
6		would historically recognize what people have lost?
7		How does it work?
8	MS. J	ACKSON: We haven't named a new dam or
9		reservoir in many years, so we have not presumed
10		a process at this time. I'm sure we'll be open to
11		suggestions and advice as to how that would happen.
12		I do know that facilities in the past are not named
13		until they're commissioned, so the decision on that
14		would be at the end of the construction phase.
15	MS. B	EAUDET: But historically we know that
16		you have the Williston reservoir, the Bennett Dam.
17		Historically it's given to the name of if you
18		can explain, you know to the name of somebody in
19		power. Or has there been a committee to try to ask
20		people how they want these reservoirs to be called?
21	MS. J	ACKSON: I would those are I
22		think as has been discussed here, when the Bennett
23		Dam was finished, it was a very important asset to
24		the province. And I believe that I would look back
25		and imagine that that was the naming of those

1		facilities were undert	aken in	consideration of that
2		at the time. All of t	the name	s there were after
3		people in governments	or BC H	ydro who were involved
4		with those facilities.	. We ha	ve many facilities
5		around the province.	Many are	e named more
6		geographically, Peace	Canyon 1	Dam. The second
7		facility on the Peace	River i	s named after the
8		Peace Canyon, and the	reservo	ir is called the
9		Dinosaur reservoir, wh	nich did	reflect the
10		paleontological resour	ces tha	t were within that, so
11		I wouldn't presume the	e basis	for how these
12		facilities would be na	amed, bu	t as I said I'm sure
13		we'll be open to sugge	estions o	on a process.
14	MS. BE	EAUDET:	Thank y	ou.
15	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Chief W	illson, you have a
16		question for Mr. Beam?		
17	CHIEF	WILLSON:	I have	a question for
18		BC Hydro regarding	I can't	remember what you
19		called it it's the	flow ear	sement, the new
20		terminology for the fl	owage e	asement. The
21		statutory right way, w	what does	s this consist of,
22		Mr. Chairman?		
23		And I have a fol	llow-up	question depending on
24		the answer.		
25	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Okay.	What is a statutory

1 right of way? 2 MS. REYNIER: So I think that was Mayor 3 Johansson that explained it very well yesterday that when you own fee simple land, you own a bundle 4 5 of rights, and it's sort of like having a fistful 6 of pens. So in order BC Hydro to construct and 7 operate its facility, it needs to have some rights 8 on -- in most cases on these properties it would 9 just be on a portion of the property and not the entire property to allow for the flood impact line, 10 11 the erosion impact line and the stability impact 12 line. 13 So a document is registered on title that 14 allows BC Hydro to do various things on that 15 section of the property, so it would say that 16 BC Hydro could erode or have temporary flooding or 17 whatever the shoreline effects would be up to the furthest impact line. And also in the same 18 19 document, there is a clause in there that is like a 20 restrictive covenant and that it prohibits the 21 owner from doing various things, and in this case 22 for public safety reasons where a concern is in 23 having people living there in houses. So there's a 24 restriction on new housing development in that 2.5 area.

1		So what happens is when if you owned a
2		property that we required or BC Hydro required as a
3		statutory right of way, the property representative
4		would come to your house, explain the extent of the
5		statutory right of way, go through the document
6		with you, explain the different clauses, encourage
7		you to get independent legal advice on it and an
8		appraisal would be sent in to appraise the value of
9		BC Hydro owning those specific rights on that
10		specific portion of property.
11	THE C	HAIRMAN: Now, if I may, that
12		particular subset of fee simple rights on that
13		particular piece of property may diminish the value
14		of the rest of the property. And that would be
15		taken into account in setting the price for this
16		statutory right of way?
17	MS. R	EYNIER: Absolutely. That has a term,
18		a real estate term, injurious affection. So
19		sometimes when you are restricting rights on a
20		portion of a property, the say it was 1 acre of
21		a 10-acre property, the 9 acres that's left isn't
22		worth the same as 9 acres. It's worth something
23		less than that. So what the appraiser does
24		traditionally in this area of appraisal is what
25		they call a before and after approach. They look

1	at what the property was worth before and what it's
2	going to worth be worth with the statutory right of
3	way in place.
4	And the statutory right of way document is
5	then registered at the land title office. It
6	appears on the title of your property as a charge,
7	so that it's registered.
8	THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah. As a follow-up, if I
9	may, you mentioned that the flow easement was now
10	an obsolete term and you aren't doing that anymore.
11	Are the old existing flow easements being
12	modernized?
13	MS. REYNIER: I imagine that they would do.
14	In the project area I believe we have approximately
15	ten flowage easements that are in place. What I
16	noticed in my review of the files is they were
17	based on some other way of trying to calculate
18	where the safe line was going to be when they were
19	set in the 70s, so they would be replaced with not
20	only a new document, but probably a new area. It
21	might be more; it might be less.
22	THE CHAIRMAN: Chief Willson.
23	MR. WILLSON: So my follow-up question to
24	Hydro's response to that is in Treaty rights
25	exist on Crown lands. They don't exist they get

1 excluded from fee simple lands unless there's an 2 agreement in place between, say, my Nation and 3 Mr. Beam to access his land and so that we could have an area to fish and camp at and stuff like 4 5 that, and those agreements exist in some places. 6 The easement around Hydro's property 7 restricts access to the First Nations to the 8 river's edge so that we can establish our camps. 9 How has that been addressed throughout this process? How do we have access -- fishing is a 10 11 Treaty right. It's constitutionally protected 12 under the Treaty. The Williston reservoir has this 13 easement around it, and we are restricted access 14 through safety measures and operation measures of 15 BC Hydro. Downstream of the dam we have 16 established an area at the Halfway confluence where 17 we try to use every once in a while, but as we set 18 up camps, we have Hydro employees come down and 19 tell us you can't camp here because they may spill, 20 and they don't know when they'll have to spill, and 21 if you camp here, you're in danger on that. 22 does BC Hydro address the easement with our Treaty 23 right? Like, where do we fish? 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Hydro? 2.5 MS. REYNIER: Chief Willson's question was

1		how would having a flowage easement in place affe	ct
2		access to the river for First Nations people or t	.he
3		statutory right of way?	
4	THE CH	HAIRMAN: And by necessary implication	n
5		to the exercise of Treaty rights.	
6	MS. RE	EYNIER: Yeah, I'm going to pass it	to
7		Trevor, but as far as I know, I don't think it	
8		would have any effect or change.	
9	MR. PR	ROVERBS: Thanks, Mr. Chair.	
10		Chief Willson, I would want to look into th	iis
11		and clarify. What I can reflect upon is my past	
12		when I was involved in negotiating Treaty rights	
13		and Aboriginal rights, and often there was a	
14		consideration of public safety at play. That cou	ıld
15		come into play here in terms of impacts on the	
16		exercise of your Treaty rights, but I would want	to
17		seek some clarification on that.	
18	THE CH	HAIRMAN: I see distinguished counsel	-
19		rising.	
20	MR. FE	ELDBERG: I don't know if it is on	1.
21		Thank you, Mr. Chair.	
22		I just know we do have a session on the	
23		Aboriginal rights and Treaty rights and discussion	n
24		of the scope of the Treaty rights and what they	
25		mean will be at that session, and perhaps that's	

1		the best time to addre	ess questions like this
2		because it will be in	a proper context.
3	THE C	HAIRMAN:	We certainly will be
4		addressing that in som	me depth, but this is a pretty
5		simple questions. The	ere is an easement around
6		Lake Williston. There	e are signs saying it's
7		dangerous to go there.	. If you camp too close to
8		the water, an officer	may tell you to move uphill.
9		This would appear to k	oe an infringement of a Treaty
10		right.	
11	MR. F	ELDBERG:	The classic well, the
12		classic limitation on	a Treaty right is that the
13		Treaty rights are exer	rcised except where lands are
14		taken up lands that	t are taken up are lands that
15		are visibly occupied a	and used for another use.
16		That's a short way of	putting it, and for this
17		afternoon, that's prob	cably the shortest way I can
18		put it. If the lands	are not used to a visibly
19		put to a visibly compa	atible use, they can be still
20		used, as Mr. Proverbs	said, for Treaty rights.
21	THE C	HAIRMAN:	So let me put the question
22		this way, if Site C go	oes forward and there are
23		general restrictions a	about the use of the shoreline
24		for safety reasons and	d so on, would Hydro
25		characterize that as a	a potential infringement of

1	Treaty rights.
2	MR. FELDBERG: The question has to be looked
3	at fairly closely in terms of whether the lands are
4	being or already have been taken up is one aspect
5	of it.
6	The second aspect of it is whether the lands
7	can continue to be used for Treaty rights, and then
8	for the exercise of Treaty rights.
9	And then the third is as I'm sure we'll get
10	into in some detail at the session in January is
11	whether or not the process by which they're taken
12	up has been one that preserves the honour of the
13	Crown, and that's the analysis that you have to go
14	through, rather than discuss it in the abstract.
15	It's probably best to be specific.
16	THE CHAIRMAN: That's very good. I think
17	that may help Chief Willson for that session.
18	Do we have further comments or questions for
19	Mr. Beam? Otherwise I'll turn to the next
20	presenter.
21	Mr. Beam, thank you very much for the
22	stimulating and interesting conversation.
23	
24	Presentation by Stephie Ackroyd:
25	MS. ACKROYD: So my name is Stephie

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Ackroyd, and I live at Moberly Lake, but I'm a teacher here, and I was unable to come to present because I have a job to do, and I have to stay at work and not present, so I'm here today.

Mr. Beam's presentation in the fact that people are going to lose their property, and I'm a local teacher, and our populations are drastically going down from people saying if Site C is going in, I'm moving. If you have people who lose their property, it's not going to be a happy time. They might leave too. So my question to Hydro is what is Hydro and the government planning to do to assist this community with the loss of people who are angry and upset about a dam, that they have not been heard in all the meetings I've been to, that they don't want.

Also, I'm wondering, what kind of support

Hydro expects to give to our local school and

clinic and other amenities so this community

exists, because if we don't have a school with a K

to 12 program or a clinic, how is Hydro ever going

to get anybody to work here because they can't send

their kids to school or have medical services to

help them.

1	THE (CHAIRMAN:	Thank you.
2		Hydro, do you w	ish to respond at this point.
3	MS.	JACKSON:	Thank you. I will I guess
4		I'll just answer with	a couple of examples and just
5		recognize that, you kr	now, BC Hydro operates here
6		and this community is	important to BC Hydro as well
7		in terms of attracting	g and retaining our employees.
8		As we've mentioned we	have important facilities
9		here to the province a	and to BC Hydro.
10		And I also wante	ed to reflect that we have
11		I have heard, not only	y today, but in the many
12		meetings I've been wit	th the community that there's
13		always room for improv	vement. We've had a long
14		relationship already,	and we will continue to have
15		a long relationship to	ogether in the future.
16		I guess I would	like to reflect on a few
17		examples where I belie	eve that we have had some
18		success in supporting	the community while also
19		recognizing I know the	ere's always more that might
20		be wanted of us and ma	aybe always more that we could
21		try and achieve.	
22		In the last deca	ade we completed a
23		water-use-plan process	s. That was a process that
24		enabled us to identify	y both renew and new
25		commitments with respe	ect to some of the recreation

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facilities that have been mentioned on the
Williston reservoir, Dinosaur reservoir and
downstream on the Peace River, and I was part of
that process and very active in the community.

I acknowledged that the implementation of those launches has been longer than we would have liked. We've encountered difficulties in placement and design of some of those. These are difficult topographical and geographic locations to construct, but we continue those commitments, and we will achieve all of the commitments that have been made.

I also know that I'm very pleased that the community has been successful in attracting a new doctor, and BC Hydro and our senior management here have been very engaged in supporting that, as an example, you know, knowing that it takes some financial resources. I know though over the years as well BC Hydro has provided facilities, provided the home for the doctor and other assets, so I just wanted to recognize that -- while I recognize there's always a long list -- through actions that we continue to take and continue to take back to senior management for decisions, that we're always looking to expand and respond.

1		And I also acknowledge that the list is
2		probably never finished, and we'll continue to be
3		present, engaged, bring our senior leadership here.
4		That's very helpful to us as staff to have
5		Ms. Yurkovich, who I'll just say had to leave
6		tonight to go to her father's 85th birthday party,
7		otherwise she would have stayed. But it's
8		important for us to have the senior leadership here
9		because it makes it easier for us as staff to take
10		the good ideas back and to get support for them.
11		So we do encourage you to continue to
12		bringing them forward to us. Not only of
13		course, this is a Site C process but in our
14		normal engagement through our community relations
15		and through our people in town.
16		Thank you.
17	MS.	ACKROYD: I wasn't talking about how
18		you support the clinic and how you support boat
19		launches and recreation. My question is the
20		population is leaving. If people are angry because
21		their property has been taken and they have not
22		gotten a fair price, are they going to buy a house
23		in town? Probably not.
24		The doubt about Site C and the forever going
25		to meetings and is it going to happen, the people

1 are giving up in the community. The numbers are 2 down. So my question is what is Hydro doing to 3 help with the numbers, because even now Hydro has a hard time getting people to come to Hudson's Hope 4 5 So that is my question, not about boat to work. 6 launches and clinics, and I know you do lots in 7 that area. Okav. MS. JACKSON: 8 Thank you. 9 I believe yesterday we mentioned that BC Hydro's -- with respect to attracting and 10 11 retaining our own employees to move here with their 12 families. We're currently redeveloping the 13 townhouses that we have here. It would be 30 units 14 available, and that's an important asset to help 15 people to move here and then decide to stay. Maybe 16 they're not sure when they come as, I think as many 17 people have said here, they often decide within a 18 short time that they would like to stay with their 19 families. And so through our operations we are 20 committed to remaining -- renewing that investment 21 in employee housing and in ensuring that that's 22 something that keeps the population here. 23 I also believe that this process, you know, 24 getting a decision on Site C itself will be 2.5 important for adding the certainty that this

1	community needs with respect to how the future will
2	unfold, and I think that the conclusion of a
3	decision on whether or not the project will
4	proceed, in of itself, will actually help with some
5	of what you've described.
6	MS. ACKROYD: Okay. Thank you.
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
8	I wonder in the interest of time whether we
9	might hear our next general witness and then
10	return. I do want to hear questions, comments from
11	the floor.
12	Our next speaker thank you, Mr. Beam is
13	Rev. Lavallee.
14	
14 15	Presentation by Rev. Fay Lavallee, St. Peter's Church:
	Presentation by Rev. Fay Lavallee, St. Peter's Church: REV. LAVALLEE: Good afternoon.
15	
15 16	REV. LAVALLEE: Good afternoon.
15 16 17	REV. LAVALLEE: Good afternoon. My name is Fay Lavallee, and I'm representing
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15 16 17 18 19	REV. LAVALLEE: Good afternoon. My name is Fay Lavallee, and I'm representing St. Peter's Church. It's a shared ministry church owned by the Anglicans. And I'm here actually on
15 16 17 18 19 20	REV. LAVALLEE: Good afternoon. My name is Fay Lavallee, and I'm representing St. Peter's Church. It's a shared ministry church owned by the Anglicans. And I'm here actually on behalf of the parishioners and also myself
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	REV. LAVALLEE: Good afternoon. My name is Fay Lavallee, and I'm representing St. Peter's Church. It's a shared ministry church owned by the Anglicans. And I'm here actually on behalf of the parishioners and also myself concerned with the building of Site C.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	REV. LAVALLEE: Good afternoon. My name is Fay Lavallee, and I'm representing St. Peter's Church. It's a shared ministry church owned by the Anglicans. And I'm here actually on behalf of the parishioners and also myself concerned with the building of Site C. St. Peter's Church is one of the oldest log

1	asked you if I could approach you, and you said
2	yes, so I don't want people to think I'm coming
3	there with a weapon or anything, but I wanted to
4	let you know
5	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
6	I'm given a picture of a lovely log church,
7	which I will share with the Panel, and we will scan
8	it for the website.
9	REV. LAVALLEE: Okay.
10	The church was constructed in 1938. A grant
11	of \$500 was received from the diocese in Quebec.
12	With volunteers and financial assistance from the
13	community, this little log church was erected. You
14	could imagine there weren't very many people living
15	here in 1938. The hand-made pews, the alter and
16	other adornments remain there today. The church
17	has always been kept in good repair with the latest
18	four-year renovation that was completed in 2004.
19	Again, grants and donations from the community and
20	other judicatories were received for this amazing
21	project.
22	The parish hall was built in 1988, and it
23	sits behind the church. And again, through hard
24	work, labour and love, it was constructed with only
25	a \$5,000 loan, payable to the United Church. The

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reason I wanted to bring up this money is because we are a small little church, and we are a small congregation, so to you \$5,000 might sound like nothing, especially when I see all these educated people from the cities, and they're dealing in millions, and we're dealing in \$5,000.

It took us ten years to pay that back, but we did. We had bake sales, and we had rummage sales, and we had grants. We had a total of \$7 in our building fund when we wanted to start building our new hall, because the church doesn't have a bathroom. You can see it's a very tiny church.

So we wanted to have a place where we could have public functions and we could get the kids in there and have Sunday school. So we had a little priest at that time; she was only 5 foot nothing. We had \$7 in our bank account for building, and she said, you guys, you can do it, now just get busy. So that's exactly what we did. We had maybe seven people on our committee from the church, and we worked very hard, and we did it lovingly.

Now, the church is situated right beside the museum, and the hall is closer to the river bank than the church. It's no doubt that the bank's stability line will encroach on this property.

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What will happen when the water in the reservoir washes against the soil day after day eroding the banks? We have asked for a written guarantee that should our buildings become threatened and have to be moved that it would be at no cost to the church.

Right now, the bank is kind of eroding because there is a spring right below the bank of the church. And we've even looked at that ourselves and wondered what's going to happen. And now if a berm goes up, I have questions like was referred to with Nedra, what's going to happen with all those springs? It's eroding now, and I don't think any kind of construction is going to be able to stop it from that because the spring is a natural source of water.

Needless to say, St. Peter's Church is regarded as a community church. Over the years people who don't attend our service have supported our church with volunteer labour and with money. Funeral services, baptisms and marriages are performed under the canons of the diocese, and we're pleased to be able to give back this way to the community as God wants us to.

Mr. Chairman, three churches are located on the main corridor going through town. During

1 realignment of the highway and other construction, 2 the peace and tranquility of Sunday morning worship will be disrupted. Nothing like the sound a 3 grating J-brakes to interrupt the silence of prayer 5 and reflection.

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Construction of the berm that has been proposed along the river bank will also be an This won't be acceptable. annoying problem. God as our witness, this won't be acceptable. would ask -- and I know you're going to just love this one -- we would ask that a time prohibition be placed on the construction of the berm and the hauling of those trucks on the highway during Sunday morning services, even if it's just one hour. But I imagine that sounds pretty ridiculous when we're talking about a \$3 billion job.

St. Peter's, at present, doesn't have a priest living within the community to lead worship services. Visiting clergy come from Fort St. John and from Chetwynd twice a month. Travelling during realignment of the highway will pose a risk to their safety. Travel time will be longer. who's to say that the Ministers will want to even come to Hudson's Hope under those circumstances? What will happen to our little church then?

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I've been a part of St. Peter's Church since the 70s, and it's become my way of life. I can't fathom anything that threatens the tranquility and the beauty of this sacred house of God.

There is a view from the loft in the parish hall of the river. When anyone goes up there, they're in awe of the scene below. Those green islands will disappear along with the wildlife that come down to drink from the river should this project proceed.

Apart from the church, though, I love this community. We came here in 1968 and have always been involved with the community life, civic and social aspects of the town. I worked for the town at the time when the Peace -- when the Site C first came to being, and that was -- it was '79 or '80, and I went down to Vancouver. And coming from a little community like Hudson's Hope and going down to Vancouver -- and I went with two Mayors: the old Mayor and the new Mayor. And I think -- well, everyone here probably knows who they were. But we got down there, and, my gosh, I took a look around, and I had the new Mayor here and the old Mayor The new Mayor was as afraid as I was there. because there was all these people around that we

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figured -- well, I figured they're much more intelligent than myself. And, yet, the old Mayor, he just sat there, and he just thought, bring it on, ladies, bring it on. And low and behold, he had one of BC Hydro's lawyers really uptight, and she just couldn't figure him out.

But apart from that, there's a quaint little walking trail that goes down past the pumphouse towards the river. Little bridges have been built along that trail, and for years that was one of my family's favourite places to go and while away the hours with the dogs and picnic lunch.

The other place that was our favourite is the glen, that's Peace -- that's Alwin Holland Park.

And both of those places will be under water.

Well, the berm will be along the river, so we can't go and see all those nice little streams that come out anymore, and it will all be flooded.

My son had a special secret fishing hole on the river where he would spend hours. Now that their family has grown and moved away, I'd hate to see this area damaged so that new families, young families coming to our town can't enjoy the beauty of the nature. BC Hydro has an effect on Hudson's Hope and has for a long time.

1	Of a population of 500 or 5,000 in the
2	60s and you can imagine how many people were
3	here in the 60s to getting 5,000 people here
4	practically overnight, they put trailers everywhere
5	they could find a place to shove them in. They put
6	the trailers in there. They dug little holes in
7	the ground as their septic system, and then they
8	moved on. Then along came and our population
9	dropped probably down to around 1,200 or something.
10	And then along came the other dam, back our
11	population, up again it went. And we're wondering
12	now how are we going to accommodate all of this?
13	And all of this has a strain on the infrastructure
14	of our town. And I know because I've worked for
15	the district then, and I know how hard it was to
16	come to any kind of a resolution with BC Hydro.
17	BC Hydro has so many bosses that they put it
18	in one basket, then it would go to another basket,
19	and it would get lost. Anyways, that's my opinion.
20	Okay. So then we went through this I
21	think it was 2,383 was what our population with
22	Site well, Peace Canyon Dam was being built, and
23	now it's settled down, and our population is
24	dropping and dropping and dropping.
25	It is also dropping in our church, like, 970

1 people, and you can't tell me that it isn't because 2 of this big thing that hangs over our head. 3 just makes me -- well, I can't even tell you how I 4 feel because it gives me such a sick feeling in the 5 bottom of my stomach. And we are so few and you 6 are so many. Look at all the people sitting here. 7 That's about a tenth of our population right here. 8 And here we sit trying to put forward our views so 9 that you will understand our feelings. just -- like, we're as important -- I'm as 10 11 important as the next person, and, yet -- down in 12 Vancouver -- and, yet, because everybody else has 13 said too, it's the population that drives I guess 14 development. And if the population wants it, and 15 we don't want it, there's not much we can do about 16 it but sit here and, what, beg? Complain? 17 to be a fatalist, but I could only see that our population is shrinking even more after the 18 19 completion of Site C. Hudson's Hope will be like a 20 ghost town, not the colourful, busy, little 21 community that it is today that I love so much. 22 Is it any wonder that when you look out and 23 you see all of the people behind me that they have 24 got sad faces? Everybody is sad about it. 2.5 isn't anything good about it, because it's going to

1	affect our very lives, and that is the whole gist
2	of it. It's our lives that are affected by
3	BC Hydro. And the development of, yet, a further
4	man-made reservoir, not lake, will be again in our
5	boundaries. That will be three, Mr. Chairman,
6	three man-made reservoirs. And you cannot compare
7	that to a lake, because a lake is a natural thing.
8	A lake is put there by God, and it is a natural
9	thing. And everything that lives in that lake is
10	there because it's supposed to be. But you put a
11	reservoir there, then, my gosh, you've got to get
12	the fish and put the fish into the reservoir
13	because there aren't any. I mean, it was just
14	land. It was just trees. So where do the fish
15	come from? You have to put them in there, and
16	that's not natural.
17	But that concludes my submission for today.
18	And I want to thank you very much for allowing me
19	to speak.
20	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.
21	
22	(Applause)
23	THE CHAIRMAN: I wonder if there are any
24	possible questions for Rev. Lavallee.
25	REV. LAVALLEE: They have heard from me a

1	lot.
2	THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any comments at
3	this point?
4	Then thank you very much.
5	Then I would ask Douglas Summer to come
6	forward.
7	Welcome.
8	
9	Presentation by Douglas Summer:
10	MR. SUMMER: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman,
11	Panel, and everyone else in the room. Obviously
12	THE CHAIRMAN: A little closer
13	MR. SUMMER: I need to speak a little
14	closer to the mic.
15	Yeah. That can be managed.
16	I think the Panel has seen just a brief
17	description of what I wanted to talk about in my
18	so-called presentation and the fact that BC Hydro
19	and Power Authority and the BC Government's desire
20	to construct this one last mega project. It seems
21	inconsistent with the need to develop alternative
22	sources of electrical power. I just can't fathom
23	why we have to have this one last hydro mega
24	project in the province of British Columbia, if
25	that's going to be the last one, and we're going to

go to alternative energy sources for our electricity needs.

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As an aside to that statement, the threat of further development on down the Peace River Valley has been lived with here since the inception of the Wenner-Gren project back in the 1950s.

Now, for the Panel's information, I too have -- or am part of the family that had properties in the upper Peace and in the lower Peace that would now be affected by this Site C development. We weren't as affected as the family that Derek Beam spoke of and his wife's family. But we've still lived with all the effects that have come from that -- what we perceive has been this threat. I believe that this Peace River Valley has given up enough already to fill the energy -- the electrical energy needs of the rest of BC and others.

Another point is that the loss of the rest of the BC Peace Valley's prime agricultural lands to our reservoir is absolutely unconscionable at this time. And, again, I refer to the fact that we've had a flood reservoir in place since the late 1950s that has stifled the development and the use of those lands.

1 I know -- basically, I only had three points 2 in my presentation. I'm wondering if you would 3 allow me to ramble on about a couple of other 4 things. 5 Thank you. 6 Recently, there's been talk that there should 7 have been a Peace basin trust somewhat fashioned along the lines of the Columbia basin trust that's 8 9 been in place for a long time. Strange that it should only be talked about now when they want to 10 11 further degrade our local environment. 12 Another point that kind of irks me is 13 BC Hydro's statement that the natural gas liquefaction industry will have needs for large 14 15 amounts of electrical energy, and I'm of the 16 opinion that those proponents of those same LNG 17 plants and whatnot would very likely be in a 18 position to generate their own power from that same 19 natural gas that they would be using in liquefying. 20 There was a letter given to me today that

There was a letter given to me today that just seems to have the goal of gagging the Agricultural Land Commission in anything it might have to say in regards to a loss of those prime agricultural lands I spoke of sooner -- or earlier, rather.

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1	I just believe there's too many reasons for
2	us, the people of British Columbia, to again make
3	the decision, that the costs are too great to
4	approve the project of Site C at this point in our
5	history.
6	Thank you.
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir.
8	Questions? Comments?
9	MS. ACKROYD: On the radio the other day I
10	heard when the hearing started to happen in Fort
11	St. John that BC Hydro was going to begin it or in
12	the process of the beginning talk about what they
13	were doing around alternate energies. And like
14	Doug says, I don't see an alternate energy plan
15	from Hydro. I have a geothermal house. There were
16	grants that were given to me by the BC government
17	but now don't exist. So I was able to put
18	geothermal in because I was supported in alternate
19	energy.
20	So I'm wondering what Hydro has actually done
21	and discussing about alternate energy and plans
22	that they were doing for the individuals and
23	communities in the province.
24	THE CHAIRMAN: I should have asked earlier,
25	could you state your name for the record, please.

1	MS.	ACKROYD:	Oh, sorry. Stephie Ackroyd.
2	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Okay. Thank you.
3		Any comment on	about alternate there has
4		been some discussion	about
5	MR.	SAVIDANT:	Yes, I think when we
6		undertook one of t	the components of the
7		environmental impact	statement is an analysis of
8		alternatives to the p	project. We looked at a range
9		of them, both portfol	ios including solely clean
10		resources, which are	primarily wind. There's some
11		run of river in there	e, biomass, with some upgrades
12		to BC Hydro facilitie	es and pump storage
13		capabilities. And we	e also look at clean plus
14		thermal portfolios, w	hich included again clean
15		resources as well as	some gas-fired generation for
16		peaking capacity.	
17		So we have look	ed at those. The conclusion
18		of that was that Site	e C was cost effective compared
19		to those alternative	resources. I should say in
20		addition to that port	folio analysis of the supply
21		side we do look at a	range of you talked about
22		geothermal heating ir	the home. As part of our
23		demand side managemer	at program and some of our
24		other initiatives, we	e do have we are expecting
25		to get a significant	amount of energy from those

1		processes. And our demand side management program,
2		I think in terms of what we call load displacement
3		which is customer generation of the customer
4		side of the metre, we're expecting roughly 900
5		gigawatt hours of energy in I think the 2026 to
6		2027 time period. That the majority of that
7		comes from industrial users, but there is some
8		residential and commercial energy also expected
9		from that program.
10	MS. A	CKROYD: When you looked at that, were you
11		looking at what are the costs and how much it would
12		take in energy and resources to ask the citizens of
13		BC to look at their energy consumption and look at
14		it in a different way? Or was it this will cost us
15		this and Site C will cost us this so Site C wins?
16		Can you explain that a little bit?
17	MR. S.	AVIDANT: So we looked at I
18		should have said one of the other alternatives we
19		did look at with respect to the project was
20		increased conservation and efficiency programs. So
21		we currently have a DSM target, which is
22	MS. A	CKROYD: What is "DSM"?
23	MR. S.	AVIDANT: Sorry, demand side
24		management. It's conservation and efficiency.
25		It's PowerSmart. So when you see PowerSmart,

1		that's one major component of our DSM program. We
2		did look at going to additional conservation and
3		efficiency as well as one of the options. We
4		generally our demand side management program, it's
5		significant right now. We're expecting it to take
6		up 78 percent of our expected growth and demand
7		requirements over the next basically to 2021, so
8		over the next just under ten years, and we expect
9		it to grow beyond that. We looked at going beyond
10		that, but we concluded that that would not be cost
11		effective and would put a higher risk of
12		deliverability, especially in terms of the capacity
13		we received from that demand side management. We
14		didn't feel we could rely on it.
15	MS. A	CKROYD: So while Site C is being
16		debated, although I know that the rock piles are
17		already accumulated and many, many people have been
18		hired, so it makes me think that it's a done deal.
19		What has Hydro done since the beginning of these
20		hearings that have promoted citizens in communities
21		in this province to look at their consumption and
22		alternate energies other than PowerSmart?
23	MR. S	AVIDANT: Sorry, can I clarify, what
24		have we done since the start of these hearings to

1	MS. A	CKROYD:	Yeah, with citizens.
2		Because Hydro and com	mpanies and whatever can do
3		things, but I hear ab	oout PowerSmart, nothing else.
4		I don't get anything	about what's are your
5		consumption books? S	So what is Hydro other than
6		PowerSmart doing sinc	ce these hearings have started
7		that is trying to con	nvince the population that we
8		must stop using as mu	ach resources as we are? And
9		are you lobbying the	BC government to start to
10		support alternate ene	ergies so that we do not have
11		to build another dam	on another river?
12	MR. S	AVIDANT:	So PowerSmart is one
13		component of our dema	and side management program.
14		It's not all there is	S .
15	MS. A	CKROYD:	So what other ones
16	MR. S	AVIDANT:	When you look at things like
17		the smart meter initi	ative that we put out, one of
18		the key objectives of	that is to make people more
19		aware of their consum	nption. Generally what we see
20		is when people are mo	ore aware of their consumption,
21		they tend to reduce t	their consumption, and that's
22		included in the expec	cted demand side management we
23		get. We have a net m	metering program, which I know
24		several people in thi	s room are aware of, so I
25		won't go into detail	on that. And we also work

1 with government on codes and standards. So that's 2 where we're trying to improve the required 3 efficiency on things like appliances and to try and actually make sure that the minimum efficiency 4 requirements for those appliances are higher. 5 6 The final thing we do as part of our demand 7 side management program is what we call rate structures. So if you're a residential customer, 8 9 you will likely have a tiered rate. What that is intended to do is it's intended to make you aware 10 11 of the marginal price of electricity, to make you 12 aware of the -- of that extra consumption and to 13 help bring that consumption down. As I said, these are all the tools that we're expecting to use, and 14 15 these are all the tools that are included in our 16 current demand side management target. 17 MS. ACKROYD: And has Hydro lobbied the 18 government -- I'm not sure if that's what you do --19 around preheating hot water with solar panels, 20 looking at people putting alternate energy into 21 businesses, like should ever future construction in 22 this province have some form of alternate energy in 23 it? Has Hydro done anything to promote that? 24 MR. SAVIDANT: We work with government. 2.5 That would be generally part of our codes and

	standards program. I can't I don't have
	knowledge of the specific items that we do with
	regard to that. But we work with them on building
	efficiency codes. We work with them on appliance
	efficiency and things like that, so we work with
	them on a regular basis to
THE C	HAIRMAN: If I might supplement
	Ms. Ackroyd's question. I believe I've seen
	newspaper reports to the effect that the demand
	side management programs have been cut by some
	\$330 million recently. Is that in fact correct?
MR. S	AVIDANT: I don't know the exact
	spending difference. What we've looked at recently
	is we have a short-term surplus right now. When we
	look at our load projection for this project, we're
	looking at load requirements once that surplus is
	gone. What we've done is we've looked at ways to
	reduce our short-term spending with the expectation
	of increasing it in the future to reach our demand
	side management target. So we're we have a
	short-term reduction. But we still have not
	changed the amount of energy and capacity we're
	expecting to get from those demand side management
	programs. What we've generally done is change the
	timing of that spending and the expected energy

1		that results.	
2	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Thank you.
3	MS.	ACKROYD:	Thank you.
4		I just have a c	comment that a lot of this
5		stuff I don't underst	and because I don't spend my
6		time reading BC Hydro	assessments. But unless
7		BC Hydro asks the cit	izens of this province to
8		start looking at ener	gy and other alternatives,
9		we're going to end up	building a dam. So you know
10		all the stuff you're	doing, but I don't as a
11		citizen, and probably	the people in this room don't
12		know all the details.	
13		When PowerSmart	started, it was the selling
14		campaign. There were	people in stores trying to
15		sell you light bulbs	and whatever. And as a
16		teacher, we need to c	onvince the young people and
17		us that saving energy	is important and that
18		flooding a dam is not	the way to go but to change
19		our habits.	
20	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Thank you.
21		And thank you,	Mr. Summer.
22		I think we've e	xhausted the questions that
23		were being asked of y	ou.
24	MR.	SUMMER:	Thank you.
25	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Judy Duff.

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Presentation by Judy Duff:

3 MS. DUFF: Good afternoon.

My name is Judy Duff, and I'm here today

speaking as a newcomer to and a citizen of Hudson's

Hope.

Since I was a child I've always had images of British Columbia as this beautiful place of giant trees and valleys and rivers and mountains and wildlife in abundance. I also grew up understanding that we are stewards of our environment. As such, we have an obligation to future generations to ensure an environmental future for them as well. For almost 40 years I've heard firsthand about life in this area from a homesteader family who came here and broke the land and made it their own. They lived with nature and made a living. I heard about the richness of their lives on this land and in this land and the beauty of it and saw that their children had the freedom to explore and to know with confidence what country is really all about. I've been here to visit several times over those 40 years and have always appreciated how ruggedly beautiful it is.

When I moved here in February of 2013 from

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Ontario I still expected to see that beautiful

Northern BC. What I didn't expect to see was the

carnage of animals on the road, the devastation of

the forests and the land, and after I was here for

a while, the suffering of the people.

I'm not naive to the fact that power dams, mining oil and gas and coal are all historically embedded in our lives. I came from an area in Ontario where the oil and gas boom began. I've driven by the fields where the oil wells are pumping every day and the fields and crops are growing around them. And we found a way to be civilized.

The oil and gas refineries of Sarnia, Ontario have always been of great concern, and they're in my home backyard, because any spills that came from those refineries would poison the water for the entire US-Canadian border that went from Sarnia right through to the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. It matters a lot.

I lived in Northern Ontario for a number of years where I saw the effects of iron ore mining and the sinter plants and the fallout from that and how it killed the trees. I saw how the tailings from uranium mines had been dumped into lakes,

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filling those lakes, and then when the perimeters were built up to hold more, the shorings didn't last, and the tailings flooded and flowed everywhere killing everything. Neither of those are replenishable. None have come back.

I have lived in the Sudbury area, and it really looks like Mars between the mining, the fallout, the tailings, the poor. It's very desolate. And none of those impacts are in isolation. But none of that compares to the scale of what I've seen in my trip to come out here to live and what I've discovered on my side trips down, you know, various roads just trying to find nature. All of the pictures that are coming up on the scene now are things I've taken since I came here in February. It is so beautiful.

I've been privileged to be able to paddle on the Peace, and I go there every chance I get because the scenery is just so incredible. I've come to know people in the area, and I know we're here to talk about BC Hydro and the impact of Site C, but the real conversation is so much bigger. Site C can't be isolated from the larger environment, the environment of the country of Canada itself. Just because this is a BC project,

it's not limited to BC and the complex impact it
will have. You have to take a wholistic look.

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The animal carnage I saw on the road while driving here, it was on an extreme stretch of 30 kilometres of road. I saw 25 moose dead on the road in 30 kilometres. I thought, how can that Then I realized the happen, how can that be. number of trucks that I was seeing on the road. And because I drove here in February, the deciduous trees were all bare. And the thinly veiled barren hillsides that were logged and pitted with no habitat left showed through. Animals whether in herds or alone require a certain amount of space per animal and per species for them to survive and thrive. They move about. They cannot be herded into tiny corridors of permitted space and so conflict with human beings and our traffic regularly.

The red hillsides also surprised me. I knew the pine beetle damage was severe, but to see the entire hillsides dead with an occasional green tree was really hard to comprehend. That has changed logging use, and it's become fodder for potential of wildfires, tremendous threat to ranches and towns, and it's a devastation for the whole

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country. But then when I started seeing how the logging has stripped whole areas, and now there are landslides because of the logging that's taken it down to -- there's nothing to hold the soil. And I kind of laughed in places where I'd see how nature had done her little vengeance anyway and made huge trees grow out of sheer rock sides that couldn't be accessed to be logged, so she's going to maintain.

When I took some side-road tourists through the gas and oil areas, I saw the fragile edge of nature as a mural wall trying to hide what was behind it. The seen and unseen damage to the environment is another threat to the viability of a healthy community. Fresh water is at risk, and without it, there is no room for life on a farm or in a community.

For the first three months I was here, I watched my host family consumed every night, every night by trying to do research and present -- prepare presentation to inform themselves of what the district rezoning was doing to not just their property but the properties around them, changing their viability, their stability and their conditions under which they could live.

Site C has been on the table for, I don't

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know, say, about 30 years, give or take, but long enough to have really worn down the people and how they're viewing their future. Because with something that's got such a huge impact on the community potential, their futures, it just -- it's exhausting. I just couldn't believe how much time between Site C hearing starting again and the pipelines that have been going through --

I mean, every day there was another call, conversation, e-mail, something, that was telling them we need access to your property because we need to do this to the pipeline, we're going to build another pipeline, what do you think. And then you have to watch everything that's being done because they were supposed to repair these pipeline areas to be back into some certain condition, and it didn't happen. And it wasn't something that every individual landowner should have to babysit and see that happened, but they had to do it themselves. They had to monitor themselves but not directly. They had several go-betweens in this length of information.

And I know this isn't Site C's issue, but this is a cumulative issue for the whole community. Then came the thought of coal mining as a potential

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in a very direct area that ... I'm sorry, to me as a newcomer, I still don't know all the ins and outs of things, but when I saw key locations, I saw the potential of where this is expected to be researched, if it was found to be a viable area, the people would have no say. It would happen.

It just seems like no matter what has gone on, a person buys a property, they have a deed and then every seemingly mineral-resourced or naturally-resourced company or organization can come along and take it away. Their original land use is not what they had -- are getting now. And it doesn't look like they're going to have any more control over it.

I just kind of felt like I landed here on a floating island, and as it's flowing down this river, it's falling apart. And the panic and the anger and the frustration of being so helpless against so many large entities that get to dictate your life, this is my impression of what I came to here.

It just seems like cumulatively, like, the animals are being pushed into wildlife corridors to keep them from being run over on the road. People are being pushed into these narrow little

corridors, and they're expected to survive and
thrive. Neither one does really well in that.

This isn't the city. People live here and expect
to have more freedom and access to their own
properties.

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I'm aware that many folks have left the area after having raised their families here. That surprised me too. Usually families come home. People live in an area that's this hard and hearty because they love it. They don't leave it because they want to, not usually. Something drives them from it. And I think the years of grating has done that for so many, the potential of losing their property values. Where else can you go and live and live your retirement years on the nest egg that never happened because your property wasn't worth anything? You couldn't get what you needed, and you didn't want to leave in the first place.

Again, the town, with school enrolment down and businesses are struggling to survive on a smaller customer base, how does a town build a future when it's so uncertain, and how do you entice people to come when you have such a slippery future?

I see how hard so many people are working to

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keep their town and their district and their homes, their history and their farms intact. They're struggling for the future. They want to keep it here. They know change will come. Change has a short memory too.

Now, 60 years after the Williston Lake flooding, people like me were not here when the Bennett Dam went in. They only see the changes that have happened in our time here. They realize that there is an ongoing impact in its presence.

It will take most of Site C's projected viability timeline for the last of us who are fighting the project to be dead. The attitude will soften then and people will forget what was lost until it happens again in their lifetime.

Others have spoken so eloquently about the impacts from a personal level, from a society level. And I know my words are only touching the surface. I can't speak to the statistics and the specifics of the impact of Site C. I rely on those who know such things to be accurate to be calculating the slide lines, projected power outputs and transportation costs. But I wonder what factors they've truly considered when calculating all of this. Has someone or some

1	corporation got their future profits pegged on the
2	success of building this dam? I don't mean the
3	success of the dam and its operation as a
4	productive entity, but just in getting it built
5	whether or not it ever turns a profit at any cost.
6	That my say sound incredibly cynical, but I
7	do have good reasons to be a cynic. I listened and
8	tried to decipher with my short time here why
9	Site C is so important, and I've heard in the
10	beginning it seemed to be conflicting reasons. You
11	know, depending on who you asked you got a
12	different reason, you know, from powering the LNG
13	plants at the coast, the future LNG plants at the
14	coast to residential use to selling it off. It's
15	being sold as a green project. But the use of the
16	power is not green. And BC's energy policies,
17	which is something I am only just beginning to
18	decipher, but it seems to be an oxymoron in a
19	sense.
20	Another reason why I'm cynical: when, the
21	Alberta Energy Regulator can say that Shell's
22	Jackpine oil sands mine expansion project would be
23	significant:
24	
25	" would provide

1	significant economic benefits for
2	the region, Alberta and Canada.
3	Although the Panel finds that there
4	would be significant adverse
5	project effects on certain wildlife
6	and vegetation, under its authority
7	as the AER, the Panel considers
8	these effects to be justified and
9	that the project is in the public
10	interest."
11	
12	Now, I didn't hear a single thing about human
13	equation in that. I believe it's based on a
14	corporate bottom-dollar line. When the CEO of
15	Nestle can say, when he was asked if it was not a
16	moral and public issue while taking vast quantities
17	of limited portable water in Pakistan and bottling
18	it and selling it back to those who now had no
19	water, the CEO of Nestle said:
20	
21	"Water is not a human right."
22	
23	On Remembrance Day, veterans turned their
24	backs on the Prime Minister in Ottawa at the
25	cenotaph. That may have been missed by a lot of

1	people, but I have a son who has served in
2	Afghanistan. And I know a lot of young men and
3	women who have been there and still are serving.
4	The reason for the turned backs was this, that a
5	senior treasury board analyst in the government
6	said:
7	
8	"It's in the government's
9	best interest to have soldiers
10	killed overseas rather than wounded
11	because the liability is shorter
12	term."
13	
14	Have we been reduced so sadly to being a
15	corporate bottom line of profit or that human
16	beings, their history, their futures and their
17	lives mean nothing?
18	Change is inevitable. My hope is that
19	decisions to make these changes are based on sound
20	reasoning, beyond just what makes a profit in a
21	corporate financial statement. Just because it can
22	be done doesn't mean it should.
23	Thank you.
24	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Duff.
25	Are there questions for Ms. Duff?

1	Thank you.
2	Steven Metzger.
3	
4	Presentation by Steven Metzger:
5	MR. METZGER: Thank you for the opportunity to
6	speak today. I probably won't use as much time as
7	you've allotted me. I don't know how long my voice
8	will go through this.
9	As you know from my written submission I have
10	two levels of opposition to this project, one is
11	personal. And that's been expressed by many people
12	here, many of the same ideas. So I'll just
13	summarize that quickly. And then I have a more
14	global level that I think this Site C dam
15	contributes to a real problem that we're facing,
16	and I want to spend more time on that.
17	Just to review my personal opposition, these
18	are the things that others have said that for me
19	that will be gone that it's really sad for this
20	valley and for my life in this valley. We will no
21	longer if this dam is built we will no longer
22	have a clean river providing canoeing
23	opportunities, mercury-free fishing and safe
24	camping sites. We'll lose an incredible amount of
25	class 1 agricultural land that's in a Northern

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forest zone, very rare in Canada and British

Columbia. And it's in an agricultural hardiness

zone that is one level warmer than the surrounding

areas. We're going to lose that, and we'll lose

the food production that goes with that.

And for me, the biggest part of that is this wonderful market garden that has developed over the last several years in Bear Flats. We get food from there; that won't be available to us anymore. We like to try to live the 100-mile diet as best we can. That opportunity will be taken away.

And we have unrivaled habitat in northern

Canada for its ability to support so many species

of plants and animals. That will be gone. For

those of us who live for the outdoors, that's an

incredible loss.

Property values in this town that have been steady and slowly increasing and consistent and you could count on it. Well, I'm retired, and I own two properties here, one is paid for and one I'm building a new house. Well, the one that is paid for was supposed to help pay for the new house, and already I'm concerned about, am I going to be able to sell this property.

Even now the market is changing so quickly

1	because of what's happening here. And the final
2	point, this was way more hard to quantify, but
3	there's a spiritual aspect to living in this valley
4	that others have made reference to. Times are
5	tough in the world, in countries, in communities,
6	institutions that are in crisis. But in this
7	valley, your spirit can be soothed when you live
8	here. And that's why many people like to live
9	here.
10	Over 200 years ago I'm sorry, I have to be
11	romantic now. Over 200 years ago, William
12	Wordsworth wrote about the Wye river in England.
13	The words he wrote at that time are just as
14	applicable to the Site C Valley today, and I just
15	want to read a short segment of his words. He said
16	of the Wye Valley:
17	
18	"For I have learned to look
19	on nature hearing oftentimes,
20	the still sad music of humanity
21	and I have felt a presence of
22	something far more deeply
23	interfused, whose dwelling is in
24	the light of setting suns the
25	living air, and the blue sky and in

1 the mind of man, a motion and a 2 spirit, that impels all thinking 3 things, all objects of thought, and rolls through all things." 4 5 6 And that's what we find here. We find a 7 connection to our lives, to our world, to our 8 habitat, to our environment, and that's important 9 for us as human beings I believe to maintain that. I want to move on now. Because what I 10 11 want to do is ask the Panel -- I want you to try to 12 take a little wider view of this Site C project. 13 It has implications as just mentioned by the previous speaker, and it has implications outside 14 15 of the this valley. And I think the -- I believe 16 the government of Alberta has a written submission 17 with their concerns about downstream effects that 18 are extending into another province. I think that 19 alone indicates that the effects aren't just local. 20 They're not just in this valley. 21 And the thing I wanted to emphasize, and I'll 22 come back to this more in a little bit, a little 23 later, is that in my opinion and from what I've 24 read and what I've learned, our world is facing an 2.5 incredible clean-water shortage worldwide over the

next 20 to 30 years, and we have to do something to

prevent that, and preventing watersheds from being

further destroyed is a big part of preventing that

problem.

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I'm not trying to deny that we need more electricity. There's more people on the planet. People want more. It's very unlikely that our needs for electricity are going to lessen or even stabilize in the foreseeable future.

So the question becomes, how do we do it.

How do we do it in the context of climate change,
global warming, calls for renewable green
electricity production? And the final analysis,
probably reduced demand is the solution. It could
happen through conservation. It could happen
through a reduced population. It could happen
through more efficient technologies or a
combination. But in the meantime, what do we do?

BC Hydro wants the answer to be Site C. But to
sacrifice class 1 agricultural land and clean water
forever for electricity production in my opinion is
a grave mistake.

I won't, and I don't want to get into the debate about whether large-scale hydroelectric projects are clean and green or not. I've been

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through this with Hydro before. For every argument that I could present that says this is not a clean way to produce energy, they'll have a counterargument that says, oh yes, well, what about this, what about this, what about this. It doesn't go anywhere. But what we know -- what we know is that dams alter river flows, they affect local climate, they destroy flora and fauna habitats, they alter migration routes, they flood valuable agricultural and forest land, they cause the forced removal of people and sometimes entire communities, they bring increased contamination of heavy metals like mercury to impounded waters that were once free flowing, and they alter entire watershed dynamics.

And the other thing we know is that once these changes happen, they're permanent. We can't go back. And the rub of this is we don't have to have Site C. We don't have to destroy more of this valley and this watershed. We have options. We have lots of options for electricity production. There's -- hydroelectric of course is one of the options. There's solar, wind, biomass, natural gas, coal, geothermal, nuclear, waste incineration. Those are a few. But we don't have any options to

recover the original stage that we'll lose if we build a large-scale hydroelectric project again.

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And despite what was, half an hour ago, spoken by the Hydro table about the cost effectiveness of looking at alternatives, well, the problem is looking at cost effectiveness and not at looking further down the road and what the implications are, because we have the perfect opportunity in Hudson's Hope for solar generation on a massive scale. Hudson's Hope, it doesn't look like it outside today much but gets more direct hours of sunlight than any other place in the province of British Columbia each year.

It's an incredible location for solar electrical generation. The argument is always, but it's inconsistent, the sun doesn't shine all the time. Well, that's true. But we have these two gigantic backup batteries just sitting here; they're named Williston and Dinosaur, sitting here waiting to take up the slack if solar production can't meet the demand. And that's just one example. Now, this world has to move towards a carbon-free method of energy production. I think the science is pretty clear about that now.

There are still some renegades who argue that

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this isn't true, but it has to happen within a hundred years, maybe 50 years, maybe only 30 years, but it has to happen. And there's other things that can help us get through this period without destroying another watershed. We can add wind farms to supplement solar generation. We can use our natural gas as has been mentioned before for cogeneration to get us through the short term until we develop the clean technologies that we can afford.

And when I say "that we can afford," it's going to be expensive. I mean, there's a cost to every form of energy production. And we can live — we can live without as much electricity as we produce now. It might not be much fun. And it might be more expensive, but we can live without it. But we can't live without clean water and food supplies. And those two go together. If we lose our clean water, we lose our food supplies. And to build a gigantic hydroelectric project when there are other alternatives, even if they're more costly, to me seems very short-sighted and very greed based.

Maude Barlow with The Council of Canadians who you may know or know of is in my mind arguably

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the most knowledgeable person on this planet when it comes to our fresh water supplies and the demands being placed on those fresh water supplies. And in her most recent book, Blue Future, which was just released a few months ago, she reports that the majority scientific opinion is now that by the year 2030, world demand for fresh water will outstrip supply by 40 percent. She reports that the US global intelligence agencies say that by 2030, 1/3rd of the world's population will face a water deficit greater than 50 percent. And she finally reports that half the world's population already lives within 50 kilometres of a water source that is impaired either by drying up or is polluted.

We're moving towards a global water crisis, and it won't spare -- it won't spare us. We look out here, and we think we have an incredible amount of water, but we won't be spared. Our water will be under demand from people who are sick and dying because they don't have enough, but also from more powerful neighbours like our buddy to the south, the United States. The United States is drying up. They're going to want our water. And one of the problems -- they're drying up because of climate

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change and drying aquifer. Well, killing our watersheds contributes to that problem. It's a really bad cycle that just supports itself on and on and on.

Like I said, and I'll conclude with this, we can drastically -- we can survive with drastically reduced availability of electricity. We cannot survive with drastically reduced access to fresh water, and any actions like building a big dam and destroying another watershed, accelerate the destruction of the world's watersheds, and we have to take that whole picture into account, and that's what I'm asking you to do is look at the wider implications of this, not just what happens in this valley.

Projects like Site C in my mind, they have to be curtailed before it's too late. So I ask you to please consider those wider implications. Every watershed that we destroy pushes us towards an extreme water shortage and a shortage that will keep us from producing adequate food on this plant eventually. I ask you to think about our children and our grandchildren and what kind of world are we going to leave them. What good will it do to arrive at a world where we have abundant clean

1	green renewable energy, which we will, we'll get
2	there, but what good will it do us if we don't have
3	any clean water. It won't do us any good at all.
4	We have to find other ways to get there than a
5	major project like this.
6	So I implore you, stop this project now.
7	It's in your hands to look at the future and see
8	where projects like this can lead. I believe it's
9	a road we don't want to go down. Thank you.
10	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Metzger.
11	Again, are there any questions that people
12	would like to ask Mr. Metzger while he's here?
13	Okay. Thank you, sir.
14	Our last scheduled presentation is from Terry
15	Webster. After that we can entertain a bit of a
16	general session.
17	Ms. Webster, excuse me.
18	
19	Presentation by Terry Webster:
20	MS. WEBSTER: I'm the speaker you've all
21	been waiting for, the last one of the day. My name
22	is Terry Webster, and I'm presenting as a private
23	resident of Hudson's Hope.
24	Over the last few years I've been involved in
25	a variety of consultations regarding energy and

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Site C. And during that time, I've come to the conclusion that some of BC Hydro's staff or consultants are data fiddlers. They manipulate the statistics to achieve their goals. Some are propagandists using language to further their ends. And some are hypocrites asking of others what they're not willing to do themselves.

Allow me to clarify. I listened this morning on the phone, and you were chastising someone fairly about the fact that they had, you know, accused Hydro of being I think nazis. And I do have proof that they are data fiddlers, et cetera, here.

I took part in the integrated resource planning process that was initiated by BC Hydro to assess the best options for developing electrical power to meet future needs. At a stakeholders' meeting in Fort St. John, we were given three portfolios to choose from, namely, a renewables mix, which would be wind, solar, biomass and whatnot, a renewables mix that included Site C and a renewables mix with Site C and limited gas fire generation.

We were asked to rate the three portfolios primarily on reliability to ensure that we would

1 have power always, the cost to the ratepayers and 2 environmental impacts. 3 Imagine our surprise when we discovered that 4 when the data was correlated, portfolio two that included Site C was rated as being more 5 6 environmentally friendly than the pure renewables 7 When Hydro representatives were quizzed, they 8 explained that wind power was the least friendly of 9 all options as in assessing the impact they had to include all the area that the wind came from. 10 11 Now, that made little sense to me. I thought 12 that wind was probably blowing whether they had a 13 turbine on top of the hill or not. But when some 14 of us said that we did not believe that wind power 15 was the worst environmental choice for energy 16 production, we were told that they had to go with 17 the matrix that they had formulated. I know myself; I had rated environment as one 18 19 of the highest in hopes of reducing the viability 20 of Site C, but actually what I had done by that, I 21 had increased Site C. 22 So what you did is you went 1 to 5, and I 23 said environment was most important to me. So then 24 I had voted against wind power. 2.5 The people who attended the workshop in Fort

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St. John were keen to be part of a process that would allow us to give our input on what we saw as the best option for ensuring a reasonably priced environmentally-friendly reliable source of energy for the province of BC. At the end of the process we were far less keen and many of us had a strong sense that we had been used to bolster the BC Hydro plan to proceed with Site C.

Part two, BC Hydro as purveyors of misinformation and propaganda. In November of 2008, as I was a member of the District of Hudson's Hope council at the time, I attended a Hydro council meeting here in Pearkes Centre. At one point, I asked the question, are you out here being neutral or are you out here to sell Site C. I was assured that this was a consultation and that they wanted input from us to allow them to decide on the best options for power development. Interesting that, as the booklet provided, the October/November 2008 discussion guide was a prime example of how language can be used to influence people's thinking.

On page 5 of the booklet, there was a section on the potential impacts/benefits of Site C. On the impact side the headings were brief and

1 conveyed no emotional links, for example: 2 environment, First Nations, social, construction, 3 land. On the benefit side however, positive 4 5 adjectives had been included: dependable energy and 6 capacity, local benefits and opportunities, clean 7 and renewable energy, long operating life, 8 optimizing existing power generation. 9 If BC Hydro were truly invested in being evenhanded, the headings on the impact side 10 11 should've read, not environment but negative 12 consequences for the environment, not First Nations 13 but further trauma for First Nations, not social but social disruptions, not construction but 14 construction disturbances, not land but land 15 16 flooding. 17 By nature I'm a curious person. 18 specialize in asking questions. So as the 19 consultation meeting proceeded I had many. 20 soon informed that there was a schedule and that we 21 were expected to get through the entire booklet 22 that day. I got the message, and I asked no more 23 questions. 24 When I read the booklets I also noted that 2.5 some of the information given in the Site C

1 consultation booklets did not give the full story. 2 For example, in December of 2007 discussion guide 3 and feedback form, it reads: 4 5 "In fact over the past six 6 years BC Hydro has been a net 7 importer of electricity." 8 9 I'm certain that this is correct. there's no explanation as to why we were a net 10 11 importer. There was no mention that much of this 12 power came from Alberta that primarily used 13 coal-fired generation. If Alberta had an option of 14 shutting down their plants, an expensive and time 15 consuming operation, or selling the excess power at 16 a substantial savings, they chose to sell us the 17 energy. It was a win/win situation. But the 18 greatest savings were being reaped by the BC Hydro 19 ratepayers. For one very brief moment in time, it 20 was reported that Alberta actually paid us to take 21 their excess power. I hope that's true. 22 great story. 23 So we see the need for telling a full story. 24 Were we net importers because we could not provide 2.5 sufficient power ourselves, or were we net

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importers because BC Hydro was not constrained by the *Clean Energy Act* and saw the benefit of providing cheap power to its ratepayers?

The round one 2008 consultation booklet states that one of the community benefits that we can look forward to would be a lasting legacy community fund. This is a contentious issue for our community. BC Hydro and the Province of BC have a history of shortchanging the District of Hudson's Hope on the issue of legacy funds and grants in lieu. We received no legacy fund for our first two dams in spite of the fact that substantial payments were given to the Kootenays region for their dams and also to First Nations bands that were heavily impacted by the Williston reservoir.

Our grants in lieu appear to be based on government whim rather than a logical formula that recognizes the contribution that our community makes to meet the power and needs of BC. The proposed legacy fund is substantial, 2.2 million annually for 70 years. Our concern is with the proposed distribution of that fund. Initially, the District of Hudson's Hope agreed to work with the PRRD to devise a fair method of sharing. However,

1 when council discovered that Hudson's Hope would 2 only be receiving 10.99 percent of the funds while 3 receiving 90 percent of the negative impacts of the Site C dam, they refused to sign the agreement. 4 Even more disturbing than the initial 10.99 percent 5 6 is the fact that in future years our percentage 7 will be controlled by our population in 8 relationship to other regional communities. 9 Dawson Creek and Fort St. John continue to boom and our permanent population continues to shrink, we 10 11 will receive an ever decreasing share of the legacy 12 The next year it will be 10 percent then 9 13 then 8 then 7 and so on. 14 At a recent Hydro/Hudson's Hope community 15 meeting, we brought up this issue and asked for a 16 separate agreement due to Site C's enormous impact. 17 Dave Conway responded that they were not willing to negotiate with the District on this issue and 18 19 funding would be regional. No negotiation, end of 20 story. This is the response that Hudson's Hope has 21 learned to expect. We would like to receive a 22 legacy fund as a host community of the GMS and 23 Peace Canyon Dams, but of course there were no

Part three, BC Hydro as hypocrites.

responses there either.

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On

1	page 1 of 2007 pre-consultation discussion guide,
2	BC Hydro states:
3	
4	"The first and best way to
5	help close BC's electricity gap is
6	conservation and energy efficiency.
7	BC Hydro is a global leader in
8	conservation, providing PowerSmart
9	programs and incentives to help
10	customers use less power. These
11	programs include new energy
12	efficient products and buildings."
13	
14	The amount of energy saved by BC Hydro's
15	PowerSmart program has been awe inspiring. Knowing
16	that this is a key foundation of the company's
17	strategy to ensure that BC has sufficient energy
18	for the future, the citizens of Hudson's Hope were
19	surprised when at a recent community meeting
20	BC Hydro revealed their plan for building new
21	housing for their workers. The plan show an
22	apartment block with 20 units and five separate
23	duplexes. So does Hydro plan to use the latest
24	passive energy building techniques that allow the
25	owner to save 90 percent of energy costs? Have

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they chosen to build a showcase to demonstrate to other northern construction companies the energy savings that are possible? No. It appears that their main consideration when building was to be cost, not energy efficiency.

A recent BC stainable webinar explained how in building a passive home, a family spent \$200 per square foot, only 4.3 percent more than a conventional build. By improving the envelope of the home, their total energy heating costs were \$20 a month. When energy savings costs were deducted from the increased mortgage costs, they were still money ahead.

If BC Hydro truly believes in energy conservation, they should be demonstrating their commitment in BC Hydro town rather than just saying that the PowerSmart program is what the rest of us should be integrating into our lives.

So back to my beginning statement, when I discussed my attendance at the first resource planning meeting in Fort St. John, there was one comment that struck me more than any other at this time. I know we have to protect our environment, but I'm also a pragmatist and understand that people love -- although people love this earth,

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they're not willing to spend a fortune to protect it. Therefore, I ask the question, how much more would it cost us to go with wind power than with Site C? 10 percent? 20 percent? More than that? The answer stunned me. The answer was given when a Hydro specialist who at that time said, virtually nothing. I then have to ask, why would we flood a unique beautiful productive valley if the same energy can be found through renewables.

So what's to do? We seem to have a he-said-she-said scenario. On one side of this point we have BC Hydro that appears to be totally committed to the building of Site C come hell or high water or perhaps in this case it's both. The examples that I've noted demonstrate that BC Hydro is not always completely unbiased in their presentation of the facts. On the other side we have local residents and affected communities who are very emotional about this issue.

Obviously the answer is to have an informed body that's able to review the information in a logical and unbiased manner to determine if the power is necessary and if Site C is the best economic option for meeting our energy needs. Of course, such a body already exists, the BCUC. So

we have to ask ourselves why the BC government has chosen not to avail itself of this expertise.

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I recognize that this commission does not have the right to rule on government policy, and the exclusion of the BCUC from this process is a government decision. Regardless, I hope that the commission is able to require that BC Hydro proves the need for Site C, not with its own data or that of its consultant but rather proof from an independent knowledgeable body.

Having shown that Hydro is capable of data fiddling and propagandizing, I'm unwilling to accept their data that demonstrates that Site C is our best option for further energy production.

I invested numerous hours in the Site C consultation process, but eventually I quit attending as I felt I was being used. At the end of each round of consultation nothing changed in the overall plan.

BC Hydro however had once more proved that by consulting, that they were actively listening to our community. This community does not want

Site C. BC Hydro was definitely not listening to that. I very much thank the Commission for coming here this weekend to listen to those of us who have

1	spoken. Yesterday I attended for part of the
2	morning and was favourably impressed by the
3	comments of the Chair, Dr. Swain. I hope that at
4	the end of these hearings you will not, as I did,
5	feel used by a process that constrains your final
6	decision.
7	The Site C environmental assessment joint
8	review has always been our only hope in stopping
9	what appears to be an unstoppable project.
10	Thank you for giving us one small glimmer of
11	hope.
12	
13	(Applause)
14	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Thank you,
15	Ms. Webster.
16	We are nearing the time where we could
17	either and it's Saturday afternoon, I know. We
18	could break for coffee, we could hear from other
19	individuals who want to speak but weren't on the
20	formal agenda, and we could also hear from Hydro
21	because I don't want the day to end without hearing
22	a response to what they've heard.
23	What's your pleasure? Shall we keep on going
23	What's your pleasure? Shall we keep on going for another 20, 30 minutes and do it?

1 people who haven't yet spoken and would like to be 2 on the record? 3 Gee, I thought there was overwhelming demand. Sir. 4 5 6 Ouestions from the floor: 7 MR. BLANE MEEK: Blane Meek. I'm a little 8 confused on the statement from Hydro yesterday to 9 do with fog. I talked to some old-timers before Williston had come in, and they said that they 10 11 didn't get much fog east of Fort St. John or north 12 of Fort St. John, but since the 60s and 70s they've 13 had more fog, and they figure it's definitely 14 caused by the two dams upstream. 15 Hydro says with this new one that they're 16 going to eliminate most of the fog. I don't know 17 how that happens when you've got warmer water, 18 colder atmosphere. It doesn't make sense in my 19 mind. But anyhow, they're the smart ones. 20 they can answer that. 21 Secondly ... I forget what I was going to 22 Oh, I was watching the Global News the 23 other night, Thursday night, and they're saying 24 that on there that Christy Clark has to probably 2.5 revamp her Clean Energy Act with all the proposed

1 plans coming to Kitimat, that she can't meet her 2 commitments or the government can't meet them, so 3 she's got to revamp them now. If she's got to 4 revamp them, maybe she could do a little more 5 revamping so we can do natural gas plants. 6 Thirdly, just as that was leaving, the news 7 comes to South Africa, which they're having a big funeral over there for Nelson Mandela, millions of 8 9 people are going to see him, pay their last respects for somebody that brought peace to South 10 11 Africa. Maybe with our government decision coming 12 here, they'll see the light and remain peaceful in 13 this valley and cancel this project forever. 14 Thank you. Have a Merry Christmas and have a 15 happy new year. 16 17 (Applause) 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Meek. 19 MS. VINCE: I just have a quick question 20 for the Panel. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Your name again, please. MS. VINCE: 22 Caitlin Vince. 23 I was wondering if you've had a chance to 24 tour the area at all and to see the Williston 2.5 reservoir.

1	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Yes. When we were first
2		appointed at the begin	nning of August, we toured the
3		region I guess by heli	copter, by boat down the
4		Peace, up over the Wil	lliston reservoir, and we
5		drove the highway and	stopped and looked at all the
6		good viewpoints along	the way. It wasn't an
7		extensive tour, but we	e did see something.
8	MS. V	INCE:	That's good. Okay. Thank
9		you.	
10	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Thank you.
11	MS. S	YKES: And th	nank you, Panel. It's June
12		Sykes again.	
13		I would like to	bring up the fact of housing
14		from BC Hydro in this	community. I look around and
15		I'd like to think I'm	not a senior, but my husband
16		and I have been here w	when the housing was run by
17		the company. My husba	and had the job in the 80s of
18		looking after 100 hous	ses that were owned by
19		BC Hydro.	
20		And when people	asked me what does your
21		husband do, well, he l	looks after 100 ladies. And
22		they say, really. Yea	ah.
23		Anyway, they mai	intained these houses so that
24		they could entice peop	ole to work for BC Hydro and
25		live in the community.	. So to keep this going

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better -- and I'm not sure of the exact dates or the figures. They offered Hydro -- that employee in that house approximately \$15,000 if he would stay in that house for five years. If he left before five years, that was the way it was. If he stayed five years, the house was his. A lot of people stayed, a lot of people left. I'm not sure of the exact time that Hydro decided they did not want to maintain housing. So my husband shifted to a different department. He no longer looked after housing, and they looked after their own.

That changed the value of the housing. And Mr. Bach may be able to help me a bit on this. In the last winter two of those houses went on the market between 200- and \$300,000, purchased by BC Hydro. When they offered -- when those people said, I want to sell to you, they took the money and run. They had paid like about \$20,000 for these homes. And they took the money and left. They were seniors that wanted to go somewhere else.

This has never been brought up in this Panel, and I'm not sure you knew that. And I look around for somebody to help me back some of these figures, but I just know of what happened. We were building our brand new log home at that time. We did not

1	qualify because we'd already started to build our
2	house. Anybody else that owned a home in town
3	working for Hydro, they didn't qualify either
4	because we were already here.
5	It's a situation when you start looking at
6	these housings and now they're back in the
7	housing again. They tore it all down, all that
8	buildings you drove by, tore it down, hauled it
9	down, going to build it new as Ms. Webster pointed
10	out. So they're back in the industry again of
11	supplying housing to get people to live here.
12	Don't ask me any questions because I don't
13	have any better answers.
14	THE CHAIRMAN: No, but I notice that
15	Mr. Bach behind you may know something about the
16	local housing market that we don't.
17	MS. SYKES: My husband does too, but he
18	will not talk in public, so I'm sorry.
19	MR. BACH: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I can put
20	a little light on that subject, so I'll try.
21	Before 1990 and late 80s, BC Hydro and
22	previous to that BC Hydro controlled the majority
23	of the housing in Hudson's Hope. It was a rental
24	market with subsidized rents for the employees.
25	Very, very low rents. Probably less than

50 percent of what the going rate would be,
although we really didn't have a real estate market
at that time.

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In the early 19- -- well, no, 1990, right around 1990, BC Hydro made a commitment to the District of Hudson's Hope that they would remove themselves from the housing market in Hudson's Hope. This was a great thing. It took many years to accomplish because the way they did it was they allowed only BC Hydro employees to purchase homes that they were actually living in at the time, or if the house became vacant, then a BC Hydro employee could purchase that house.

At that time those houses sold for between 25- and \$40,000. And BC Hydro had put in an employee retention plan that gave \$25,000 to any full-time Hydro employee, 5,000 a year. And the way they did it was they put a -- like a second mortgage on the title reducing it by \$5,000 a year. So if an employee bought one of the homes at the low prices, they got \$5,000 off of that every year that they lived in Hudson's Hope. So at the end of five years they would have gained 25,000, and if they paid 35,000, they would have paid \$10,000.

Those homes slowly since that time $\ensuremath{\text{--}}$ and

BC Hydro did stick to their commitment for a period
of time and did stay out of the housing market,
although they didn't completely ever remove
themselves totally.

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Those homes as Mrs. Sykes pointed out did reach a value of right around the \$300,000 mark at the peak. Since Site C's passive acquisition program started again with vigour in the last five years and has continued and ramped up, our market has suffered. And it's a big problem actually to try to run a business when you're competing with a Crown corporation with not thinking about anything like that.

And I'd also like to speak to the point that was -- that BC Hydro just tore down what we call the lower row houses. There were 15 units there. They were three-bedroom townhouses basically. They're basically rebuilding those next spring. They demolished what was there, and they're going to double the density. And they've gone right back into -- despite the promise they made to the District of Hudson's Hope, they've gone right back into subsidize rent for their employees.

The rents that they're giving to their permanent employees that would normally have come

1		in and bought a house, which they aren't anymore,
2		is roughly I would say 50 percent to 66 percent.
3		So half to 2/3rds of what the going rental market
4		is. I personally queried Hydro about this at the
5		first public meeting that we've had with BC Hydro.
6		We've been asking for some kind of collaboration
7		with BC Hydro to try to keep our community
8		together. And at that meeting they were sincere, I
9		think, in trying to go work towards that.
10		And I asked them, why did you get back into
11		the housing market after making that promise, and
12		they said, hey, we're a corporation, we're having
13		trouble retaining employees to this community and
14		so we have to go back and do that and we have to
15		give them subsidized rent and treat it as a rental
16		community again. It's just a huge monstrous step
17		backwards.
18		Does anybody have any questions about that?
19	THE C	HAIRMAN: Is it also true as the
20		earlier speaker said that these rebuilt units or
21		these new units will not be to a very high
22		energy-efficiency standard?
23	MR. BA	ACH: They keep that kind of
24		information completely to themselves. As to my
25		knowledge as a local realtor, I don't know.

1	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Okay.
2		BACH:	They showed at that public
3		meeting we had with th	nem, which was about a month
4		ago, they showed an a	rtist's rendition of what I
5		think two options or t	three options that they would
6		be building. When we	have communication with
7		BC Hydro I'm sorry,	, did I interrupt you, sir?
8	THE	CHAIRMAN:	No, go ahead.
9	MR.	BACH:	When we have communication
10		with BC Hydro in this	community, to a large extent
11		it's BC Hydro coming a	and telling us we're going to
12		do this. It's just ar	n information session
13		basically, and that's	really what the Site C
14		consultation process h	nas been up to this point.
15		I felt the say s	same way as Ms. Webster. I
16		felt like, stop going	. You know, filling out the
17		forms, you just feel u	used and part of the whole
18		process of making the	project so then they can say
19		then we've consulted w	with you.
20	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Okay. Thank you.
21		When we turn to	Hydro there are a number of
22		factual questions here	e that I hope you'll pick up
23		in your response. Tha	ank you.
24	MR.	BACH:	Thank you very much.
25	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Including the energy

1	efficiency standards of new housing.
2	MR. BACH: I think that would be an
3	excellent idea. BC Hydro has done that in the
4	other parts of the in the southern mainland and
5	then auctioned off the house I believe or something
6	or done PowerSmart incentive, and then that would
7	be great.
8	I just wanted to thank the Panel very much
9	for spending an extra day here. Really appreciate
10	it personally. Thank you.
11	
12	(Applause)
13	THE CHAIRMAN: We've got to stop that.
13 14	THE CHAIRMAN: We've got to stop that. Reverend Lavallee.
14	Reverend Lavallee.
14 15	Reverend Lavallee. REV. LAVALLEE: Fay Lavallee is my name, and
14 15 16	Reverend Lavallee. REV. LAVALLEE: Fay Lavallee is my name, and I want to put on a different hat. I want to put on
14 15 16 17	REV. LAVALLEE: Fay Lavallee is my name, and I want to put on a different hat. I want to put on the hat that I wore a few years ago when I worked
14 15 16 17	REV. LAVALLEE: Fay Lavallee is my name, and I want to put on a different hat. I want to put on the hat that I wore a few years ago when I worked for the District.
14 15 16 17 18	REV. LAVALLEE: Fay Lavallee is my name, and I want to put on a different hat. I want to put on the hat that I wore a few years ago when I worked for the District. I spoke a little bit about the impact and the
14 15 16 17 18 19	REV. LAVALLEE: Fay Lavallee is my name, and I want to put on a different hat. I want to put on the hat that I wore a few years ago when I worked for the District. I spoke a little bit about the impact and the hard work that the District has to what should I
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14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Reverend Lavallee. REV. LAVALLEE: Fay Lavallee is my name, and I want to put on a different hat. I want to put on the hat that I wore a few years ago when I worked for the District. I spoke a little bit about the impact and the hard work that the District has to what should I say combat Hydro. I don't know. But I can give you a couple of, for instances.

new houses in and everything. And the District

decided that we should have a building inspector go

and check that out.

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Well, the building inspector went there to check it out, and he was politely asked to leave. He was told and the District was told that BC Hydro had their own building inspectors and they would do the buildings and make the buildings or whatever to their code, to their own standard and it would be a good standard.

Well, years went by and BC Hydro decided then that they'd get out of the housing business and that they'd sell these houses.

Well, the District's been maintaining the water and the sewer in those houses all this time. There was trouble with some of the houses because sewer does not run uphill. And what was happening, these houses were getting flooded with sewage because they didn't put the sewage low enough.

So that was just one problem. And when they decided that they were going to sell these houses, then it was up to the District to check the water and sewer lines and make sure everything was fine. Well, low and behold, didn't BC Hydro set the houses right on top of the water and sewer lines.

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So you could imagine what the superintendent of Works had to do in Hudson's Hope to try and figure out how we're going to manage this, how can we manage this and let BC Hydro sell all those houses off privately when the houses are sitting in such a mess. And it was -- that was just one phase of impact.

But I have to tell you of another one that's very sad. When BC Hydro came in and all these 5,000 people came, and as I said there was trailers all over the place, people dug their own sewer and put their own septic tank there, and half of it was just a hole. Sometimes they had logs. Well, low and behold, when the people moved off, we didn't know where those trailers were. Everything went back and grew up and didn't a little girl fall into one of those sewers, one of those septic tanks. And that little girl drowned. And my son-in-law was one that had to go down -- or did offer to go down and bring her body out.

Now, the District was just appalled because then we realized there's all these other properties that have these little trailers stuck in that must have still septic tanks there that are unsafe. So at the District's expense we went to all of these

1 empty lots and tried to figure out where those 2 places were situated so that we could find the 3 holes that were left there so that more children wouldn't lose their lives. That was one little 4 5 girl. 6 But even beside us where we live, we bought a 7 place, and that was fine, and the property beside 8 us was all wooded. We went ahead, and we bought 9 that lot because we wanted an acre. So we're clearing that, doesn't my own son fall through, and 10 11 here he is halfway into a septic tank that we lived 12 beside from 1970 to when we bought that property 13 which was probably 20 years later. And that's just 14 one thing that I wanted to say. 15 It isn't -- like, what you see and what we 16 say, I think that people don't get it. They don't 17 realize -- Hydro doesn't realize what the impact 18 is. But when you start losing children, that's 19 another thing. 20 Thank you. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Let me see if I 22 can order this a bit in my own mind. Because there 23 is a danger that we will just turn this into a 24 Hydro-bashing session and God know it's tempting, 2.5 but we really shouldn't do that.

1 There's a general theme running through here 2 about all the reasons why Site C shouldn't be 3 built. Okay. There's another theme about Hydro's promises 4 can't be trusted because of all the bad and 5 6 unmitigated things that have happened since the 7 last two dams. And that's an example of that. And related to that is a question of what kind of 8 9 device, scheme, structure, organization can be designed so that the undertakings that they make in 10 11 the case of Site C going forward can actually be 12 relied on. It's a point in which the Panel would 13 welcome any thoughts that people have. 14 Mr. Summer. 15 MR. SUMMER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 16 The passive acquisition policy that BC Hydro 17 has and has had in place for quite sometime on properties is a very large concern to me. And you 18 19 know, we as citizens should expect from our Crown 20 Corps. and our government open and honesty and the 21 And we have in dealings with purchases of likes. 22 properties a requirement from BC Hydro that the 23 seller do not -- does not disclose the terms of 24 their sale to Hydro. And I know it's not really a 2.5 Site C thing. But I think there's a connection.

1		And I would like to be able to ask Hydro if that		
2		really sits well with the public's vision of an		
3		open and honest corporation.		
4	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Thank you. Let me just see	
5		if there are other co	mments that people want to	
6		raise and then I will	ask Hydro to respond to	
7		everything they've he	ard.	
8	MS.	WEBSTER:	You want to know what we	
9		want. I do have that	question, can you require	
10		BC Hydro to have a re	view by the BCUC?	
11	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Sorry, whether	
12	MS.	WEBSTER:	Can you require BC Hydro, the	
13		Site C project to be	looked at by BCUC?	
14	THE	CHAIRMAN:	In a word, no.	
15	MS.	WEBSTER:	Okay. That's what I thought.	
16	THE	CHAIRMAN:	We operate within the context	
17		of established policy	, and that is a decision taken	
18		under legislation by	our democratically elected	
19		leaders.		
20	MS.	WEBSTER:	What can you do see, what	
21		I'm seeing right now	is, we hear things like that	
22		there's backroom deal	s with the government and the	
23		oil and gas companies	, that when they do put if	
24		and when they put the	natural gas through for the	
25		LNG plants, that they	will allow the companies to	

use their own natural gas to create thermal power,

which makes sense. And there was an economist from

the BC government on the radio the other day on

CBC. He said every natural gas plant in the world

is presently fired by natural gas.

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Now, I really would prefer that we don't have all this natural gas. I'm very concerned about climate change. But I also know that if our government is committing to taking all the area around here and all of the Fort Nelson Horn Basin area, and if they're saying with that we're going to develop all of this natural gas and we're going to take it and we're going to then liquefy it, which takes an enormous amount of energy, then we're going to put it in ships and take it across the ocean, which again takes enormous amount of energy, and then that is still going to be used and create GHGs in our world, then why wouldn't we take some of that power? Why would we build transmission lines?

Right now I have the fifth pipeline that I'm negotiating on. In our backyard -- we don't have natural gas ourselves. But we have a 30-inch, a 36-inch, a 42-inch pipeline. We have two 16-inch waterlines that come from Williston reservoir up to

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the gas. And next year we're already working on the next negotiations for a 48-inch pipeline. And across the road from us there's another 48-inch pipeline. If we're going to have all these impacts, why would they have to do Site C too? Why wouldn't they take a portion of that gas which is going to burned anyhow? Why be hypocritical about it and saying, we believe in green energy, when they are willing to take that same gas, liquefy it, send it to China or India or wherever and allow them use it? This is not the best option. Why do Site C to us as well as all the other impacts?

I am -- I spend my life in meetings whether they're negotiations for pipelines, for trying to convince the titles branch not to sell the subsurface rights in our wetlands in the backyard or whether I go to Site C meetings.

For the last -- since 2001 I've spent up to 30 hours a week on negotiations and meetings and research on all these things. And it's absolutely overwhelming. So I hope that you can find a way to say to the government, pause, look at this, honestly look at the various options that you have and figure out if Site C has to happen or if there is another option. So hopefully you can -- can you

1		do that somehow? Is	there a process that allows	
2		you to do that?		
3	THE	CHAIRMAN:	It is not formally within our	
4		terms of reference.	It is hard to avoid the	
5		observation that you'	ve just made.	
6	MS.	WEBSTER:	Oh okay. So you can make it	
7		as an observation. A	nd we'll all cheer from the	
8		sidelines?		
9	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Watch this face.	
10		The virtue of b	eing neutral	
11	MR.	MATTISON:	And retired.	
12	THE	CHAIRMAN:	and retired	
13	MS.	WEBSTER:	Yes.	
14	THE	CHAIRMAN:	is that we came into this	
15		process without our minds made up, and we are		
16		listening hard. We h	aven't written a report yet.	
17	MS.	WEBSTER:	Okay. Thank you.	
18	THE	CHAIRMAN:	So thanks, Ms. Webster.	
19	MS.	WEBSTER:	And I also wanted to say, you	
20		know, although I call	ed them data fiddlers and	
21		propagandists and wha	t not, I've worked with a lot	
22		of these people over	the years, and I very much	
23		have enjoyed working	with them. They're great	
24		people.		
25	THE	CHAIRMAN:	Thank you. Mayor Johansson.	

1	MAYOR	JOHANSSON: Thank you.
2		I have three things I would like BC Hydro to
3		address if they would.
4		One, it goes back to the statutory right of
5		way, and I just wanted to mention for the
6		actually, for the use of the people that are here
7		that the District of Hudson's Hope has several
8		appendices in its submission. And the submission
9		is number 1876 on the website. And there is copy
10		of right of way, statutory right of way document
11		which is an encumbrance on a title that is in the
12		Site C reservoir at the present time. And that was
13		put there some years ago. It was 1978.
14		Now, I've just heard Ms. Reynier, say, I
15		believe that there were about 10 that are on the
16		various properties within the proposed reservoir.
17		So presumably they have a more updated document. I
18		asked them for an updated statutory right of way
19		blank document about a year, maybe a bit more, ago.
20		And the response I got was that they didn't have
21		one, but and they sent me one that would that
22		was for the Arrow Lakes and said that it wasn't for
23		Site C. So it wasn't a lot of good to me except as
24		it was it was in a way because I noticed I
25		looked at the statutory rights of way on all of the

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properties up on the Williston reservoir. There's one I believe on Dinosaur which I've looked at, and then I have this one on Site C. And so I would like to see what they're planning to use on the Site C reservoir should it go ahead.

And we -- I think it's only fair that the people who have land, who would be affected by that would get access to look at what would be placed on their property before they go into some sort of negotiation so they have some time to consider it.

The second point is on the level of energy efficiency, and when it was discussed in the community meeting a couple of months ago, it was a question that was responded to by Mark Poweska, I believe. And if I remember correctly what he said was that they weren't going to the highest level of energy efficiency, it was somewhere sort of in the middle. But anyways, that was the individual I believe that responded to it. Because at that time he was the -- it was in generation, and I can't remember what his title was. But he probably could pass the information on.

And the third item that I wanted was ... oh, yes. These non-disclosure clauses in the sales agreements, there's contradictory information as to

1	what can be disclosed and what can't be disclosed,
2	I believe. I know one more than one landowner
3	who has signed one of those agreements has said
4	that they are not allowed to discuss the terms of
5	their sales. So that's entirely up to them. But I
6	believe at that community meeting and I could be
7	wrong, but Ms. Reynier could correct me I
8	understood her to say that it wasn't Hydro that was
9	concerned about disclosing the price, it was they
10	were trying to protect the landowner. And the
11	landowner in some cases would like to be able to
12	discuss it but feels that they legally can't. So
13	I'd like some clarification on the confidentiality
14	of these agreements.
15	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.
16	Mr. Beam.
17	MR. BEAM: Thanks.
18	And I'm glad that you requested some feedback
19	from us with regards to some support.
20	So I do have one quick question. I'm just
21	curious. I'm not being facetious. What exactly
22	when your report is filed, say, for example, you
23	recommend I'm assuming there will be a
24	recommendation whether this goes forward or not.
25	So if the Panel recommended that Site C did not go

1		forward, what kind of	weight does that hold? In
2		other words, is that	the final say?
3	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Our recommendations go to the
4		two governments, fede	ral and provincial.
5	MR. B	EAM:	Right.
6	THE C	HAIRMAN:	They will make up their minds
7		whether to accept or	reject or accept in part what
8		we recommend. Their	internal processes are opaque
9		to us as they are to	you. But at least at the end
10		of the process you wi	ll have a pretty clear
11		statement of what the	y decided and why and against
12		the report that they'	ve got.
13	MR. B	EAM:	Okay. And following up on
14		that, given that it's	going to the federal and the
15		provincial government	, do you know, for example, if
16		the federal governmen	t felt that Site C based on
17		your report should no	t go forward, but the
18		provincial government	still felt that it should
19	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Sorry, I'm having a little
20		trouble hearing you.	Could you
21		Yeah.	
22	MR. B	EAM:	Basically I'm wondering if
23		the two governments d	idn't agree whether or not
24		Site C should move for	rward, do you happen to know
25		what that might mean?	

1 THE CHAIRMAN: There are occasions when the 2 federal and provincial governments have taken 3 opposite views on a report of a Joint Review Panel. 4 They've been in the newspapers. Effectively each 5 government has a key. If one of them says no, each 6 of them has -- to put it this way, each of them has 7 sufficient statutory authority to stop the project. 8 MR. BEAM: Okay. Thank you. 9 So some other comments just for myself in regards to your request for feedback, and this is 10 11 all in the event that Site C is approved and we're 12 in mitigation mode. 13 So I'd like to see specific language and 14 requirements in place requiring property appraisals 15 to include similar locations. So rather than the 16 local market that we have, I would like to see some 17 language in place that requires them to look at similar geographic locations to the property that 18 19 exists here, specific language and requirements in 20 place to mitigate for the destruction of heritage, 21 for First Nations and property owners within this 22 area, recommend BC Hydro recognize the impacts 23 rather than population on our community to find a 24 fair legacy fund and require a review of the 2.5 consultation process as well as a definition of

1	,	what consultation	n means. I still have not received
2		a definition of	"consultation" from BC Hydro.
3		Thanks.	
4	THE CH	AIRMAN:	Thank you.
5		Mr. Hadlan	d.
6	MR. HA	DLAND:	Mr. Chairman.
7	THE CH	AIRMAN:	Do you have any more
8		correspondence f	or us?
9	MR. HA	DLAND:	No, not today. I'm actually
10		sorry I had to e	ven present that. I'm
11		uncomfortable wi	th those situations.
12		What I'd l	ike to do is just bring this to
13		your attention.	This is as a landowner, not as a
14		director of area	C. I have transmission lines that
15		go across my	Hydro transmission lines that
16		affect six of th	e properties that I farm. Industry
17		says and in t	his instance is Hydro that it's
18		really not a big	deal, we shouldn't have to pay
19		anything. I hav	e asked for annual rent. It's just
20		like the consult	ation process. It's an insult to
21	1	my intelligence	and my being the way that I'm dealt
22	,	with.	
23		The Crown	corporation does have the power of
24		expropriation as	do many other parts of industry.
25		If you haven't b	een gored, you don't know how bad

that is. And this is a bit of an emotional topic, and I heard it today; I think it is abused, exceptionally badly abused. And that threat is always there. It's used. It always comes out in that initial conversation as does with oil and gas industry or the likes of Hydro, that's what happens. And there's an arrogance that goes with that, with the people that are awarded that power whether it's public or private.

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I don't know if in your role you can address that. I have an example, and it's right today.

And I wasn't going to belabour the afternoon, but I thought nobody else is going to hear it because I just get nothing back. So I'll leave this with you. Imagine a Hydro line that needs to be serviced, and I recognize it needs to be serviced.

This line needs to accessed to cross my fields. I don't mind. I have conditions; I put them in.

They need that because it's for the public good.

I'm reminded of that every time.

I say, well, that's fine, public good, but my private good is maybe there should be a small fee for accessing these lines. No, sir, we can't do that, we're under instruction. This has been going on for 30 years. Right now it's in my backyard

today. And I was asking a small fee, \$300. It's just a gift today.

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But the -- let's see, how am I going to finish this here ... This leaves a landowner totally vulnerable. It's just like a deer in headlights. And of course, if proposed C, for all the wrong reasons, is given the go-ahead -- and you've heard it all today. And I think they're all valid reasons. I'm sorry that you're constrained by what I see is the active hypocrisy, that Clean Energy Act. But this will impact me further. I am absolutely sure. I'm in the transportation corridor, and there will probably be another one of these crazy things that happens, and I'll have another one of these very perfect people come along with the power of expropriation.

And I do understand expropriation because I was a accredited appraiser at the AIC of Canada, and this has got to be modified. Somehow the individual -- and most people don't have the background in this room. And when these people show up in their backyard, they are totally flummoxed. They don't know what to do. They feel diminished, whether they tell me, you only own the top 6 inches, which I've proven that you own the

1	centre of the earth except for the mineral
2	resources. It took me 30 years to get that
3	definition of a Minister.
4	So anyhow, I'm just going to leave that with
5	you. I don't have any bright ideas here, but I
6	think that has to be diminished. I'd appreciate
7	some comment in your deliberation or your final
8	conclusions that addresses that and gives the
9	individual some stature in these situations where
10	they find them forced to be in. I did address how
11	I consider the expropriation is an ugly vehicle
12	that's passed on. It's in all that documentation.
13	Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your time.
14	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Hadland.
15	MS. ACKROYD: I just have a question, and
16	there's a lot of rumours in all the communities
17	about what
18	THE CHAIRMAN: This is Ms. Ackroyd?
19	MS. ACKROYD: Ms. Ackroyd, yeah.
20	what Hydro is doing. There's rocks
21	stockpiled. There's engineers and people who live
22	here who go to Fort St. John to work. If Site C is
23	being consulted now. Why is Hydro already prepping
24	when the decision has not been made? And I'd like
25	them to respond to that, please.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 2 I think it may be the moment to turn to Hydro 3 and ask for their responses to specific points that have been made and also a more general conclusion 4 5 about what you've learned in the last 24 hours. 6 7 Responses and conclusion by BC Hydro: 8 MS. JACKSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 9 We certainly have heard a lot today. appreciate the opportunity to provide some 10 11 response. I guess I would start by saying 12 discussion today has definitely been wide ranging 13 from both long-time -- we've heard from both 14 long-time residents as well as newcomers. Various 15 perspectives which we have appreciated. While I 16 will not be able to respond to everything that was 17 raised today in this brief time, I will try and 18 touch on a few points. And I trust you'll ask me 19 if I miss anything in particular that you were 20 hoping to hear. 21 I also wanted just to identify that our team 22 is listening, writing, remembering and listening 23 intently to everything even if I don't address it 24 in my closing remarks. 2.5 Today earlier we heard from the historical

1 society who we've met with before represented by 2 Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Peck. And as they've 3 identified earlier in our meetings, their interest in working with BC Hydro is heard and understood. 4 And we appreciate the opportunity to work with them 5 6 on matters related to heritage and history of the 7 Valley going forward. We look forward to 8 partnering with them and potentially other interested museum or other parties on these matters 9 going forward including providing financial support 10 11 to help them play a role in the heritage 12 interpretation within the Valley. 13 Several people today expressed concern about local traffic issues during construction in the 14 15

Several people today expressed concern about local traffic issues during construction in the town site. I will just briefly refer participants and the Panel to section 31 on transportation and the extensive accompanying appendix called volume 4, appendix B, project traffic analysis where these local concerns that are raised today are discussed and analyzed from a number of areas.

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A number of proposed mitigation measures are included in there for the community of Hudson's Hope in consideration of the proposed construction activities as well as for Highway 29. These do include as was one of the suggestions today,

installation of a brake check on Canyon Drive, for example.

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Mr. Desjarlais shared with us his experience with the Valley and also some concerns about the methods employed during our archeological study program. The methods used were not restricted to grid testing, although grid testing was used in accordance with our Heritage Conservation Act permit, but also included walking and judgmental methods as suggested or as I've heard somebody say once, intuitive wandering, if you like. We will be prepared to discuss this in further detail during the heritage assessment topic session.

Chief Willson raised historic grievances with respect to the Williston reservoir and Aboriginal groups in the area. As described in section 11 of the EIS, BC Hydro has established a review process to address historic grievances, and Mr. Proverbs spoke to that briefly today. This is a separate process from that of Site C consultations. Through this process BC Hydro has successfully negotiated final agreements that do resolve the issues associated with Williston, with the Tsay Keh Dene First Nations and the Kwadacha First Nations in the -- above the Williston reservoir.

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Ms. Burseth described for us all the qualities of the Valley for visitors and residents alike. As the Chair mentioned, before and after images or photomontages are provided in the EIS in section 27 and as well as additional images requested by the Panel this fall to try and -- to try and show the appearance of the Valley with the reservoir in place as I'm sure it's hard to imagine.

We have proposed in the EIS several measures that would support visitors and residents alike in continuing to enjoy the Valley as well as the new reservoir once in place. And we look forward to working with the community on these measures should the project proceed.

In response to concerns with the use of the Williston reservoir, which was used today somewhat as a comparison or an example, I would like to highlight that the Site C reservoir would be a much smaller body of water at approximately 5 percent of the surface area, and that fluctuations would be within 1.8 metres as was discussed yesterday or within a 6-foot operating range, whereas the annual fluctuation of Williston as was described earlier today as a storage reservoir is on an annual range

of approximately 50 feet.

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Yesterday there was a mention of sirens in the town site. Because we're not the operational staff here, we weren't able to answer those questions immediately, but I can provide a little bit more context now. BC Hydro does maintain two sirens at the dam site, one on the facility itself and another immediately downstream. Those are maintained in operating order.

It is my understanding that following the 1996 sinkhole experience, the town site installed sirens in the town site itself as part of their emergency response program and notification to their residents. And BC Hydro provided capital funding to that.

I understand that there's some concerns about how that system is operated and maintained and whose responsibility it is. The discussion around emergency response programming is also discussed in our dam safety technical memo with respect to Site C. We do understand that there's a shared responsibility between BC Hydro and the local municipality with respect to appropriately preparing for and responding to any potential emergency events including notification of

2.5

residents in particular. We discussed that in the dam safety technical memo, and we do anticipate further discussion of that with respect to the legislation and guiding principles within the province of British Columbia with respect to those responsibilities during the dam safety technical session later.

Of course, here a number of people have raised private property concerns. And we do encourage them as did the Chair earlier to follow up directly with Ms. Reynier and her team if they would like specific information that they haven't yet received or have continuing questions about potential effects on their properties.

I'd also add to this that the passive land acquisition program that's been discussed extensively today was in fact put in place based on the recommendation of the BC Utilities Commission following some similar discussions in the 1980s, I believe to ensure that people felt that there was an opportunity to have a buyer for their property when they were concerned there may not be.

The housing replacement, there were some discussion of the energy efficiency measures.

Again, we are not the project managers of that

particular project, but we did seek some information through our BlackBerrys here to see what we could find out for everyone today.

2.5

As was described here today also, we have over the years sought to strike a balance between the needs and the competing interests of the District, BC Hydro, our employees and their residents regarding the level and nature of our involvement in the housing market in this community. I think some of the stories here today share better than I can that there's -- it has been changing, but perhaps it's been responsive to the ideas of what people felt was the best approach in each time as we transitioned in particular from being a construction town during the development of the large projects towards an operating environment as we have today.

Regarding the energy efficiency design, the information I've been provided at this stage of the design of those facilities is that they're planned to between -- with an EnerGuide Rating of between 79 and 83. Similar -- or the same standard that BC Housing applies in its development through the province. And it's my understanding that this exceeds the BC Building Code.

1 If you would like further information we do 2 encourage you to contact our community relations 3 team with regards to the project there as it unfolds. 4 5 Finally, earlier, and I think again just now 6 at the end, we've been asked to provide reference to our consultation -- our information about our 7 8 approach or objectives at consultation. 9 find an earlier reference to this in response to the same question that's already on the project 10 11 record or the CEAA record. It would be registry 12 CEAR50, and it was provided in response in the 13 minutes from the BC Environmental Assessment Office 14 and Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency 15 meeting minutes of October 5, 2011, at the outset 16 of this environmental assessment process. 17 So I just wanted to provide that reference in response to the earlier comments with respect to 18 19 BC Hydro's response regarding consultation. 20 I just want to thank you all for sharing the 21 stories with us and the concerns, and we have been 22 listening, and we do thank the Panel for the 23 opportunity to provide the closing remarks. 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Just one 2.5 footnote, do you have non-disclosure agreements on

1		purchases?
2	MS. R	EYNIER: Yes, we do. First and
3		foremost, BC Hydro doesn't disclose a settlement
4		with one property owner from one property owner
5		to another.
6		Secondly, we do require owners to keep
7		settlements confidential, and that is standard
8		practice. The settlements were all-inclusive.
9		They include a number of elements of compensation,
10		not only the real estate but also things like
11		moving costs and well, business loss perhaps in
12		some cases. So some of the information in the
13		settlements can be commercially sensitive from one
14		property owner to the other. The real estate
15		component of the settlement however is available
16		through the BC assessment. Like, it is we
17		report that to the assessment authority, so it's
18		publicly available information. It's only the
19		other bits and pieces that get added to the
20		settlement that are confidential.
21	THE C	HAIRMAN: Thank you.
22		Well, I would like to thank everybody present
23		for all the time that they've put into this in the
24		last 48 hours, but I think I will defer to Mayor
25		Johansson.

1	MAYOR	JOHANSSON:	Just on behalf of the
2		district of Hudson's F	Hope, I would like to thank
3		you and the Panel for	coming to Hudson's Hope. We
4		really appreciate it.	
5		It's probably th	ne first opportunity that
6		people here have had t	to express their opinions to a
7		neutral body, and we a	appreciate the listening. We
8		tend to get a lot of i	information, but we don't get
9		a lot of opportunity t	to give meaningful opinion
10		back. And I think that	at has been really appreciated
11		today, so I would like	e for the last two days.
12		So I would very much 1	like to say, thank you.
13	THE C	HAIRMAN:	Thank you very much.
14	(Appla	ause)	
15	THE C	HAIRMAN:	It's been if I can say
16		it a pleasure liste	ening to the views of this
17		community even if thos	se views are sometimes
18		difficult to express.	
19		I also thank Hyd	dro for their patience in
20		listening carefully ar	nd being willing to respond.
21		Thank you again.	•
22			
23		(Proceedings ad	journed at 4:24 p.m.)
24			
25			

1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION
2	
3	I, Steve Lee, OCR, Official Court Reporter in
4	the Province of British Columbia, Canada, do hereby
5	certify:
6	
7	That the proceedings were taken down by me in
8	shorthand at the time and place herein set forth and
9	thereafter transcribed, and the same is a true and
10	correct and complete transcript of said proceedings to
11	the best of my skill and ability.
12	
13	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed
14	my name this 5th day of January, 2014.
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	Steve Lee, OCR
20	Official Court Reporter
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

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