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 17, 2013

Volume 9

Pages 1 to 255

Сору

Held at:

Saulteau Community Gymnasium

British Columbia

APPEARANCES

JOINT REVIEW panel:

Dr. Harry Swain - Chairman Ms. Jocelyne Beaudet Mr. Jim Mattison

Brian Wallace, Esq. (Legal Counsel)

THE SECRETARIAT:

Courtney Trevis (panel Co-Manager) Brian Murphy (panel Co-Manager)

PARTICIPANTS:

Craig Godsoe, Esq., BC Hydro (Legal Counsel) Peter Feldberg, Esq., BC Hydro (Legal Counsel) Ms. Bridget Gilbride, BC Hydro (Legal Counsel)

REALTIME COURT REPORTING:

Mainland Reporting Services, Inc.

Diane Huggins, OCR. Steve Lee, OCR. Leanne Kowalyk, OCR.

AUDIO/SOUND SYSTEM:

AVW-TELAV Audio Visual Solutions

Alex Barbour. Technical Services Representative.

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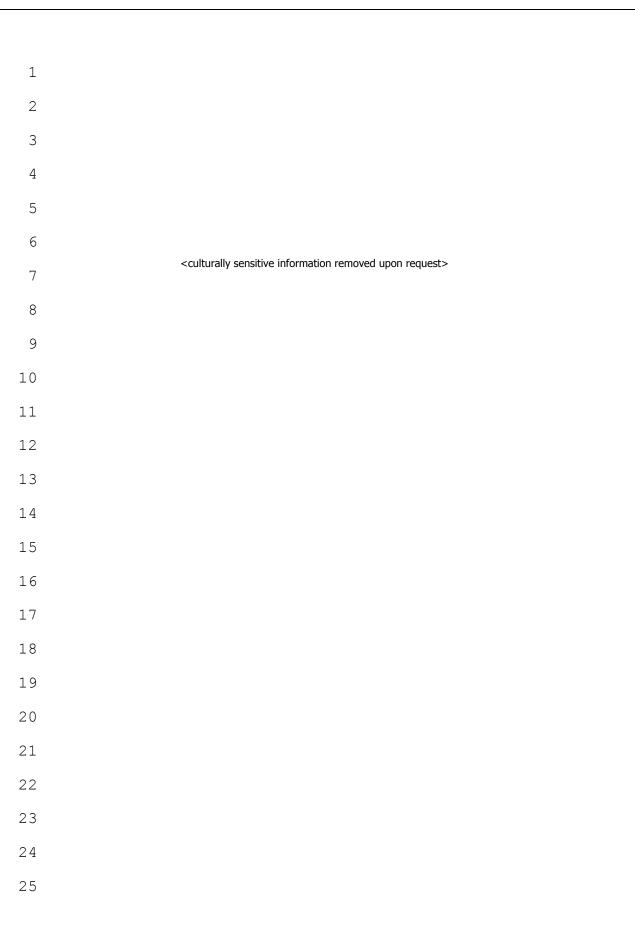
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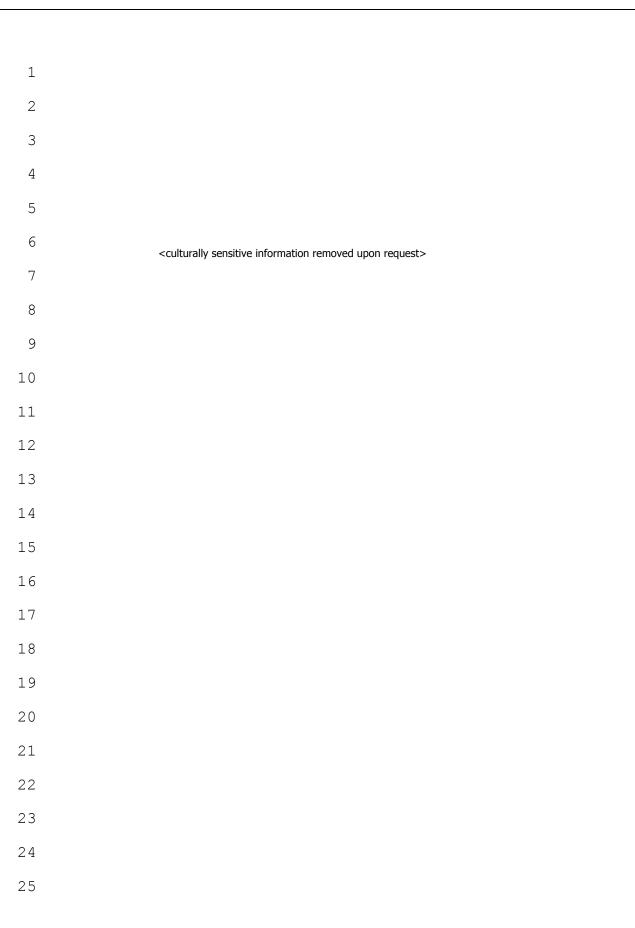
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- UNDERTAKING 34: Advise what is the 77 nature of the contract with Seattle City Light, how long they are to be supplied, and without getting too far into confidential matters, whether or not it's a profitable arrangement
- UNDERTAKING 35: Advise if, in the 84 transmission line, that some of the cabins are inhabited more on a permanent basis or for long periods

December 17, 2013 Saulteau, British Columbia (Proceedings commenced at 12:17 p.m.) Opening remarks by Chief Harley Davis, Saulteau First Nations CHIEF DAVIS: Chief Harley Davis, Saulteau First Nations. <culturally sensitive information removed upon request>





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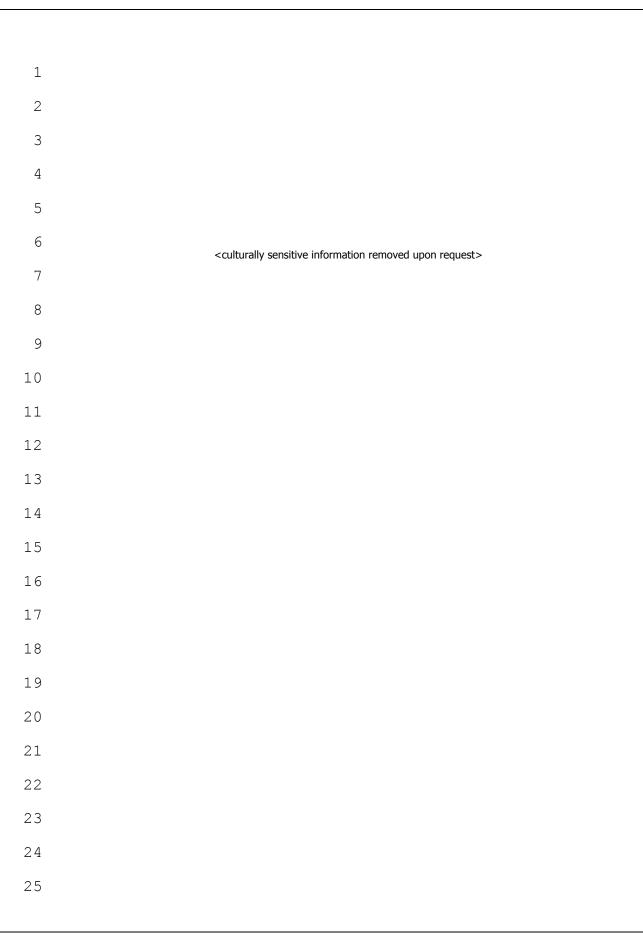
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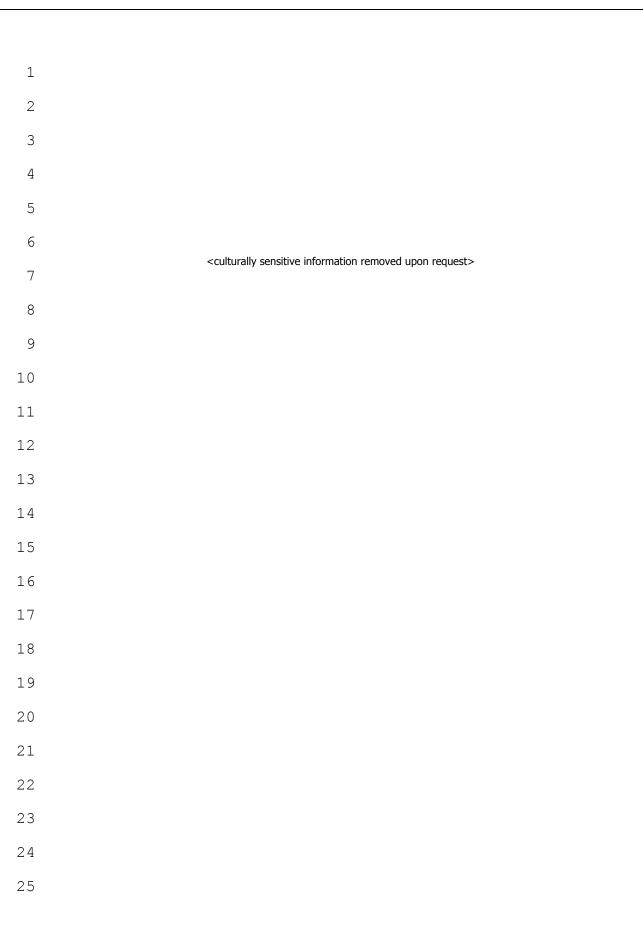
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THE CHAIRMAN:	Thank you.
(Pipe ceremony)	
THE CHAIRMAN:	Good morning, ladies and
gentlemen.	And thank you for that welcome. This
is the most	remarkable ceremony that our panel has
had the pri	vilege of participating in in these
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1 hearings. 2 3 Opening remarks by the Chairman: THE CHAIRMAN: I would like to welcome you 4 5 to the community hearing session with the Saulteau 6 First Nations regarding BC Hydro's proposed Site C 7 project. First, our great appreciation to the Treaty 8 8 9 First Nations and to the Saulteau First Nations in whose traditional territory we are holding this 10 11 hearing today and for that warm welcome you gave 12 us. 13 My name is Harry Swain, and to my right is Madam Jocelyne Beaudet, and to my left, my ugly 14 15 bearded friend James Mattison, my colleagues on the 16 panel. 17 The Secretariat staff are the people who have 18 nametags on and will be able to assist you with any 19 questions you might have. 20 We have court reporters and audio-visual 21 technicians as well. 22 And for the first time in these hearings we 23 have translation into Saulteau. If anyone would 24 like translation services, headphones are available at the back and over at the Secretariat table. 25

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1 The purpose of the community hearing is to 2 provide an opportunity for the panel to receive 3 information from the Saulteau First Nation about 4 the project. The hearing is also designed to 5 provide opportunities for BC Hydro to explain the 6 proposed project and respond to concerns and 7 questions you might have.

8 Our job as the panel is to assess and provide 9 conclusions on the environmental, economic, social, 10 health and heritage effects of the project in a 11 manner consistent with the requirements of the 12 **Canadian Environmental Assessment Act** of 2012 and 13 the **BC Environmental Assessment Act**.

We're also required to recommend mitigation measures and follow-up programs for the management of these effects should the project proceed.

And we must also include a summary of information that we receive at this hearing that may help governments determine the justifiability of the project considering any mitigation measures should it proceed.

The panel will receive information regarding the manner in which the project may adversely affect asserted or established traditional rights, Aboriginal rights and Treaty rights, as well as

information regarding the location, extent and exercise of asserted or established Aboriginal rights and Treaty rights that may be affected by the project.

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5 We can make recommendations, which if 6 implemented would avoid or mitigate potential 7 adverse effects of the project or on asserted or 8 established Aboriginal rights and Treaty rights.

9 However, the panel cannot make any 10 determination on the nature and scope of asserted 11 Aboriginal rights or the strength of those asserted 12 rights or on the scope of the Crown's duty to 13 consult or whether the Crown has met its duty to 14 consult and accommodate.

15The panel also cannot make a determination on16Treaty interpretation or whether elements of the17project infringe on Treaty number 8.

We are an independent panel. We are not BC Hydro. We are not part of the Government of Canada or the Government of BC. We are appointed by the two governments for a short time to conduct an assessment of the effects of the proposed project under the relevant laws.

24After the hearings, we will prepare our25report for the federal minister of the environment

and the executive director of the British Columbia
Environmental Assessment Office. This report will
be submitted within 90 days of the close of the
hearing and will be made available to the public by
the governments, not by us.

6 Your participation and involvement is very 7 important to us, and we trust it is helpful to both 8 BC Hydro and to other participants.

9 We recognize that the conclusions and 10 recommendations that we will provide to the federal 11 and provincial governments on this matter will have 12 an impact on the Saulteau First Nations and 13 surrounding communities.

I want to assure you that we take this responsibility very seriously. We ask everyone here to do the same. In that context, please refrain from applause, and please put away signs for the duration of the meeting. If you could put that -- put it over with the other one perhaps. Thank you.

When you speak to us, you are not required to give evidence under oath, and you are certainly not required to have a lawyer, because the pipe is much better than any lawyer. But everyone of course will speak honestly and give us good information.

1 Our duty is to remain independent and 2 impartial, and as a result we cannot engage in 3 private discussion on these matters with anyone involved in these proceedings. We do apologize if 4 5 we appear detached or unapproachable. We just need 6 to ensure that our behavior does not give anyone 7 any reason to be concerned regarding our 8 impartiality. 9 So we ask that you not try to discuss the project or any of the hearing matters with us 10 11 outside of the hearing itself. 12 If you have any questions about the project 13 or the process, please see a member of the 14 Secretariat. 15 All of the documents filed in this proceeding 16 must be placed on the public record unless 17 otherwise ordered by the panel as a result of a 18 request for confidentiality. Our strong preference 19 is to avoid accepting information that can't be 20 shared. The law sets a very high standard for 21 confidential information, and that is that it would 22 cause specific harm to a witness or to the 23 environment. 24 Confidential information must be first shared

with our legal counsel who will then advise us on

those requests. If there are requests to file
 confidential information, Mr. McCormick can help
 you with that.

4 You should also note that transcripts are 5 being produced by our court reporter. For that 6 reason, it is essential that you use the 7 microphones when speaking and speak slowly. 8 Transcripts of testimony will generally be 9 available on the website the next day. When you do come forward to speak, please identify yourself and 10 11 spell your last name for the court reporter.

I remind you to direct questions or comments to me as the panel Chair. I will then direct them to the appropriate person or group for a response. And please remember that you're presenting your material to us, to the panel. It is most important that we are able to hear you and see you clearly.

18 We will go through the presentations that 19 have been prepared by Chief Davis, and we will make 20 every effort to get through every one. The list I 21 gather grew considerably overnight.

22 We will make, as I say, every effort to get 23 through everyone, but please remember that if time 24 does run out on us, you can always submit written 25 material anytime until the close of the public

1 record which will be read and considered by the 2 panel and will be posted on the registry. Once we have heard from all participants, we 3 will provide an opportunity today for BC Hydro to 4 5 respond, and we will then ask Chief Davis to close 6 the hearing for the day. 7 I'd now like to turn to BC Hydro for their 8 opening remarks. 9 MS. YURKOVICH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 10 11 BC Hydro panel: 12 Michael Savidant 13 **Trevor Proverbs** Susan Yurkovich 14 15 John Nunn 16 Siobhan Jackson 17 Al Strang 18 Jack Weisgerber 19 20 MS. YURKOVICH: My name is Susan Yurkovich, 21 and I'm the executive vice-president responsible 22 for the Site C project at BC Hydro. And I want to 23 thank Chief Davis and the Saulteau First Nations 24 for welcoming us here today to this impressive building. We look very much forward to hearing 25

from

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from the community today.

2 I'd also just to -- before we start -- like 3 to thank you for inviting us to participate in the 4 pipe ceremony and all that that represents. We 5 feel grateful to have been invited. 6 I want to introduce my team with me today. 7 On my far right is Mr. Al Strang, who's our environment manager; John Nunn, our chief engineer; 8 9 and Mike Savidant, our commercial manager. On my left is Trevor Proverbs, our director of First 10 11 Nations; Siobhan Jackson, who leads our 12 socioeconomic; and Jack Weisgerber, who helped us 13 early on with First Nations consultation and joins 14 us today. 15 The balance of our opening remarks I'd like 16 Mr. Proverbs to provide. Thank you again for 17 welcoming us here. MR. PROVERBS: Good afternoon. My name is 18 19 Trevor Proverbs, and I'm the director of the First 20 Nations engagement for the Site C project. I would 21 like to begin by acknowledging Chief Davis and 22 council, Elders and members of the community for 23 having us here today. 24 I would also like to thank Saulteau members' 25 councillor Tammy Watson, Naomi Owens and Carmen

Marshall, who spoke at the hearings in
 Fort St. John. We also heard from Saulteau's legal
 counsel, Jesse McCormick, at these meetings.

Today I would like to provide a brief 4 high-level overview of the history of consultation 5 6 between BC Hydro and Saulteau, our understanding of 7 Saulteau's community, traditional territory and significant areas, key concerns raised by Saulteau 8 9 about the project through the consultation process, key assessments made by BC Hydro in the 10 11 environmental impact statement, mitigation measures 12 proposed by BC Hydro to address these concerns, and 13 opportunities and benefits that could flow from the 14 project to the Saulteau community.

15 It's important to note that the panel has 16 scheduled hearings on the current use of lands and 17 resources for traditional purposes and the exercise 18 of Aboriginal and Treaty rights the week of 19 January 13th, where we will have more detailed 20 discussions on these topics.

21 BC Hydro began its consultation with Saulteau 22 over six years ago in 2007. Early on, the Saulteau 23 First Nations asked that the Site C team carry out 24 consultations with Saulteau through the Treaty 8 25 Tribal Association. 1 In January of 2010, Saulteau chose to engage 2 with the Site C team directly. During this time, the Site C team has met over 45 times with 3 representatives from the Saulteau First Nations. 4 5 Saulteau first invited the Site C team to its 6 community on April the 15th of 2009, and the Site C 7 team has attended many community meetings since then. We thank you for inviting us to your 8 9 community again today.

Through consultations, the Site C team has 10 11 shared information about the project. As part of 12 this process, BC Hydro has entered into several 13 agreements with Saulteau to provide funding for 14 Saulteau to participate in ongoing consultation 15 about the project -- this took place in both stage 16 2 and stage 3 -- to conduct a culture and tradition 17 studies starting in 2010, and to carry out a 18 community baseline study in 2012.

19Through consultation with Chief and Council,20technical advisory representatives, community21meetings and the various studies, the Saulteau has22shared information about the current use of lands23and resources for traditional purposes, the24exercise of rights. You've shared information25about your community, and you've shared information

1 about your concerns respecting the project. 2 Our understanding is that the registered 3 population of Saulteau is approximately 950 members, of which half live in the community 4 we're visiting today. The Saulteau community is 5 6 approximately 12 kilometres from the current transmission corridor, that would include the 7 project's 500 kV transmission lines, and 8 9 approximately 60 kilometres from the proposed dam site. 10 11 From a historical perspective, we understand 12 that Saulteau's descendants migrated to the Moberly 13 Lake area in the mid to late 1800s. In 1914, Saulteau First Nations adhered to Treaty 8. 14 15 It's our understanding that Saulteau's 16 claimed traditional territory covers about 17 50,000-square kilometres and includes lands that 18 stretch from Saulteau's community here at Moberly 19 Lake east about 100 kilometres to the Alberta 20 border, west about 130 kilometres to the Williston 21 Reservoir, southeast about 250 kilometres to 22 Cecilia Lake, and north about 250 kilometres to the 23 Akie River. 24 We understand the importance of the 25 Peace-Moberly Tract and the area of critical

community interest to the Saulteau people. We know that many members still maintain a traditional lifestyle with hunting, trapping and fishing as major sources of sustenance and cultural significance. We understand the importance of moose harvesting for Saulteau members.

7 Through consultations, Saulteau has raised 8 many concerns about the project including the 9 impacts to the Peace-Moberly Tract and the area of 10 critical community interest including potential 11 impacts caused by the expansion of the transmission 12 line on the south side of the Peace River and the 13 use of the Del Rio pit.

14 Impacts on wildlife including loss of moose 15 calving areas, impacts on fish and fish habitats, 16 including inundation of the Moberly River and 17 mercury concentration in fish, impacts on 18 Saulteau's cultural practices and valued places, 19 impacts on Saulteau's Treaty right to hunt, to trap 20 and to fish, the level of activity around the Jack 21 Fish Lake Road and the long Saulteau trap lines, 22 access to traditional hunting areas by Saulteau 23 members and the potential for increased access by 24 hunting by non-Aboriginal people working on the 25 project, health and social issues associated with

1 the influx of workers for the project have been 2 brought to our attention at community meetings 3 we've attended. The ability of Saulteau members to 4 take advantage of the economic training and employment opportunities presented by the project 5 6 and the cumulative effects of the development -- of 7 development including oil and gas, forestry and 8 mining.

9 In terms of assessments made by BC Hydro, we 10 made the following key assessments regarding the 11 potential residual adverse effects of the project 12 after proposed mitigations on the current use of 13 lands and resources for traditional purposes.

14 First, we found after proposed mitigation, 15 the project would have a residual adverse effect on the current use of lands and resources for 16 17 traditional purposes for fishing, hunting and trapping and for other cultural and traditional 18 19 uses. In the case of the cultural and traditional 20 uses, we have acknowledged that there would be a 21 significant residual adverse effect at particular 22 places of high value to Saulteau along the Peace 23 River, most notably at Bear Flats, Farrell Creek 24 and Attachie, the reason being because these spaces will be inundated and access to them will be 25

permanently impaired.

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2 In terms of mitigation, BC Hydro has proposed 3 various measures that would in part mitigate Saulteau's concerns including considering 4 developing potential wildlife habitat compensation 5 6 projects such as the reclamation and enhancement of 7 wetland habitat and working with the Province of 8 British Columbia to designate ungulate winter range 9 habitat, consider developing potential fish habitat compensation projects such as enhancing side 10 channels in the Peace River and contouring 11 12 shoreline sites in the reservoir to provide 13 productive fish habitats.

14 We propose developing communication programs 15 to inform harvesters of any changes to harvesting 16 plan, access, hunting and fishing opportunities as 17 a result of construction activities, monitoring of mercury concentration in fish, maintaining a 18 19 database of known rare plant sites to reduce and 20 avoid impacts to rare plants during construction 21 and during operation, identification of potential 22 sites for the relocation of medicinal and food 23 plants, supporting rare plant species' recovery in 24 the regional. In order to achieve this objective, 2.5 BC Hydro is prepared to support the indigenous

plant nursery owned by the Saulteau First Nations and the West Moberly located at Moberly Lake.

Proposed to support Northern Health and partner agencies in planning for anticipated changes in population, housing plans and medical and social services, and also reducing the expansion of the transmission line footprint by removing the existing 138 kV line.

9 There are also opportunities that could flow from the Saulteau community as a result of this 10 11 project. BC Hydro is committed to providing 12 opportunities to the Saulteau community by 13 providing support for education and training 14 opportunities, providing support for contracting 15 and employment opportunities, and negotiating an 16 impact benefit agreement with Saulteau that could 17 provide cash payments, both lump sum and payment 18 streams, over time that could support education, 19 training, community infrastructure and other 20 Saulteau initiatives.

21 We've also proposed to have discussions 22 around Crown land transfers to Saulteau. The 23 implementation of land protection measures for 24 special land management designations through an 25 agreement with British Columbia, and also providing

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1 work and contract opportunities for Saulteau members and contractors. 2 3 A couple of months ago we came to the community in this gymnasium, and we met with 4 community members and had a discussion about 5 6 potential opportunities that could flow through an 7 impact benefit agreement. 8 In closing, I would like to thank the 9 Saulteau First Nations for providing me the opportunity to say a few words today. I look 10 11 forward to hearing your presentations, and if the 12 project is approved, working with Saulteau members 13 on an ongoing basis to monitor potential effects of the construction and operation of the project and 14 15 develop appropriate mitigation measures as effects 16 become fully understood. 17 And finally, Mr. Chair, I would like to thank 18 the panel for providing us the opportunity to make 19 these introductory remarks. 20 And thank you very much, Chief Davis. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 22 Does anybody wish to make any comments to 23 Hydro at this point? Or perhaps later? Any 24 questions about Mr. Proverbs's presentation? 25 Then I would turn to Chief Davis.

1 CHIEF DAVIS: Is this on now? I would like 2 to reserve my comments until a later time, probably 3 a little later on today, and I'm sure that the membership as a whole will be taking into 4 5 consideration the remarks that Mr. Proverbs brought 6 forward here this morning. So I do believe that 7 people will respond to what he had to say, but in 8 due time and in due course and as they come forward 9 going on throughout the day here.

10 All right. So with that said, if I could, 11 maybe I'd like to invite the rest of counsel to 12 appear to share a few opening remarks as we get the 13 panel hearing started here at the Saulteau First 14 Nations.

15 First off, myself and as a chief, I would just like to say thank you to the Creator first and 16 17 foremost for another beautiful day and to continue 18 to give us life and have pity on us to walk this 19 earth and share our personal experiences with our 20 relatives and our families and our children. I 21 would also like to acknowledge the Elders that are 22 here with us today. Without their guidance and 23 wisdom, we would be lost down this trail that we 24 call life. They are the keepers of the knowledge, 25 the stories, the legends that keep our fabric

together as a people.

2 I would also like to say welcome to the rest 3 of the membership that are also with us here today, and I pray that the Creator shines his light on 4 5 them today so that they speak with a clear mind, 6 and that they're able to dig deep and find some of 7 the answers and some of the knowledge and wisdom 8 that they're looking for here today. 9 With that I'd also like to thank the panel. Thank you for making the trip down here today and 10 11 allowing the Saulteau community to speak their 12 words and provide their thoughts on this whole 13 proposed project. 14 And thank you to everybody else. Thank you 15 to all the reporters. Thank you to all the -- to all the individuals that aren't Saulteau members 16 17 that are participating in this process here today. 18 And thank you to my fellow council members and 19 everybody else here today. 20 21 Presentation by Teena Desjarlais Napoleon Demeulemeester: 22 MS. DEMEULEMEESTER: Am I supposed to state my 23 name first? 24 Teena Demeulemeester, T-e-e-n-a 25 D-e-m-e-u-l-e-m-e-e-s-t-e-r. (Native spoken).

1 Teena Desjarlais Napoleon Demeulemeester. I'm kind 2 of nervous up here. Anyways (Native spoken). 3 I just learned this one this morning. 4 (Native spoken). 5 Hello, my name is Teena Desjarlais Napoleon 6 Demeulemeester. I understand a little bit of Cree. 7 It is good you came. I am the great, great 8 granddaughter of Kaka Kougens [phonetic]. He 9 brought the Saulteau people from Manitoba. The reason he brought our people here is to get away 10 11 from the Louis Riel rebellion and signing the 12 Treaty there. 13 He had a vision that we were to come to Twin 14 Sisters to seek refuge when the hard times came. 15 This is one of the reasons why our community is 16 here today. 17 Today I can imagine that you have heard a lot 18 about the water, land, wildlife and the animals. I 19 want to talk about what this mega project has done 20 to our community. 21 First of all, I believe that no one wants 22 this project overall to be approved. There was an 23 article that the Treaty nations were split over 24 Site C's mega dam and Saulteau was looking at this 25 compensation package. The article made it sound

1 like SFN was signed on. This is not true. 2 Yes, SFN has been at the table to discuss 3 what the compensation would look like, which will go to the community for a final vote so that 4 5 members are fully informed of what they are saying 6 no to. 7 For leadership and members, this has been hard on all of us here at SFN. 8 9 I'm continuing on here. Okav. We have different groups of membership. 10 When 11 the WAC Bennett Dam was being constructed, our 12 Elders talked about working there because there 13 wasn't a lot of work out there at that time around 14 Moberly Lake. At that time compensation wasn't 15 discussed with the nation on the impacts to the way 16 of life. So I know some members are wanting to 17 understand what is on the table to compensate for the potential change to our livelihood and is it 18 19 worth it, and to weigh it all out. That is the 20 hard question we face. In the hearts of many of 21 the people, no amount of money will ever compensate 22 the damages. 23 We have a huge percent that say no way, no 24 damn way will we stand for this to happen. We have 25 membership that feels that this process is already

approved and that the people do not have a voice at the end of the day. This is because of many projects that have been approved even when SFN has said no.

5 The people feel when the government wants 6 something, they have and will do whatever it takes 7 to get what they want. With that, I am sure you can understand the phone calls we've been 8 9 receiving, the Facebook posts that aren't very nice due to CNC sitting at the table to talk with 10 11 BC Hydro. As leadership, it can be hard to bear 12 the weight of the membership's concerns when we 13 have so, so many here.

What I can say is that we are no sellouts either. We are a proud, strong nation doing what we can to continue our way of life, and that is what I wanted to get across to you today.

I do hope today that you hear with your 18 19 hearts what our people say to you and that you take 20 serious consideration of what this project has done 21 today to our community, and if potentially 22 approved, what our community will endure. 23 THE CHAIRMAN: For people who sometimes 24 suspect that the fix is in, I do want to reiterate 25 that this panel has an independent view of things,

1	and we'll make up our minds on the evidence that we
2	hear and we see.
3	Thank you for that.
4	
5	Presentation by Lana Garbitt:
6	MS. LANA GARBITT: Hello. Can you hear me? Is
7	that fine?
8	My name is welcome, panel. My name is
9	Lana Garbitt, G-a-r-b-i-t-t. I am a council member
10	of Saulteau First Nations.
11	Site C is a very contentious subject in our
12	nation, for our nation. Our First Nations have
13	fought many battles to stop development in our
14	territory, and this is the second time around for
15	the Site C hearings.
16	We are very concerned about the cumulative
17	effects in our area, as this is already an issue.
18	This is already an issue. And the development of
19	Site C will only bring additional stress to our
20	community.
21	More access means more people means more
22	activity, and this affects our First Nations in a
23	negative way. More people, more money brings more
24	problems, meaning drugs and alcohol and spousal
25	abuse and family dynamics.

1 So this is a negative socioeconomic impact to 2 our people, as we have seen before. The land, 3 especially the PMT and the ACCI, is very dear to This is our backyard, and Hydro's transmission 4 us. 5 line will be going right through it. We as First 6 Nations have an obligation to protect our land, our 7 animals and our way of life. Our mode of life is 8 changing on a daily basis, and we take this 9 responsibility very seriously. When we lose our land base, we lose who we are as a people. 10 We have 11 to stay true to who we are, and to do this we need 12 to have land. We have to have land to pass our 13 cultures and our ways of life to our children and 14 our grandchildren and our great grandchildren who 15 are yet to come. 16 I hope that this panel will take our plight 17 to protect our way of life and our backyard very, 18 very seriously. 19 Thank you. 20 21 Presentation by Patricia Blandin: 22 MS. PATRICIA BLANDIN: Good morning. 23 My name is Patricia Blandin, P-a-t-r-i-c-i-a 24 B-l-a-n-d-i-n. I'm a councillor for Saulteau First Nations, 25

1 and I too feel the same as the majority of the 2 people here in this room. So today is a day of 3 great importance, and the panel is here to listen 4 to our concerns and comments in regards to Site C. We have not had that kind of 5 I appreciate that. 6 opportunity before, and so it is now up to all of 7 us to have our voices heard.

8 Site C affects each and every one of us, 9 those that are here today, including those present 10 and not present, and those that are not yet born. 11 Since the time dams have been built and at no time 12 have they ever been disassembled. They will be a 13 mark on Mother Earth for a very, very long time.

This dam, if it is ever built, will cause 14 15 multiple effects, as you heard before, on the 16 animals, the water and the atmosphere. Because 17 even with the two dams that are already here now, 18 that has changed. As I recall when I was really 19 small, the snow used to be almost close to the 20 middle of the telephone poles when we used to have 21 snow, and now we get up to maybe 4 feet and maybe 22 even less. It all depends. But the changes in the 23 atmosphere will also affect the land and how we use 24 it, because not only for our nation but for our 25 neighbours as well.

As a panel, you are here to listen to what our people have to say, and please remember that we view and use the land in a different way. We have never believed in owning the land. We are only caretakers of it, and that is one way that we see the land differently.

7 I ask that you, the panel, have open minds 8 and truthful tongues when you give clear and honest 9 recommendations to the ministers. Just because comments have been made by others the benefits 10 11 outweigh the impacts, but at what costs? The 12 destruction and the devastation of the land, which 13 we consider our mother, and the infringement of our 14 Treaty rights. Those benefits for us are 15 absolutely not enough, not worth the destruction 16 and devastation of the land or the infringement of 17 our Treaty rights.

18 Thank you for the opportunity of speaking.

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20 Presentation by Tammy Watson:

21 MS. TAMMY WATSON: Good morning.

22 My name is Tammy Watson, W-a-t-s-o-n, and I 23 am a council member for Saulteau First Nations, and 24 I want to welcome you to our community, our home, 25 and I also want to thank you for participating in

the ceremony this morning. I thought about the difference from the Fort St. John hearing to being here today, and even what we had to listen to there in Fort St. John and how bringing all that culture and traditional in, it's so different. It's so different. And you grasp and you understand a little bit better, we hope. And I think you did.

8 BC Hydro, I want to commend you for your 9 That's a hard, hard task you have, and efforts. I've seen the real truth in your emotions, you 10 11 know. It's not just your job that you're doing 12 here. I see that. You know that we are people, 13 and that's real relationship building, hey, when we have this really hard thing to consider and to work 14 15 out together, and we need to continue that. I know you've gone to many, many meetings, Trevor, but we 16 17 have many, many more to do, hey?

I want to talk about the solutions you talked 18 19 about when you brought forward today, and I know 20 you listened then from that Fort St. John hearing. 21 But the important thing is what we need to do is do 22 that together, hey? You can understand the 23 solutions you need to do, but it's important that 24 we're there together, so in a steering committee 25 format or something like that, hey? Don't forget

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us in all your solution-making.

2 I really struggle with a position that you 3 have to take, and like my fellow council member said, it's really contentious. With such a large 4 5 community too, especially those who are living 6 right here -- we have a large population, the 7 largest in Treaty 8, and, man, we struggle. We 8 struggle trying to understand how can we help 9 everybody, those who are in support of Site C and those who are against it strongly on both sides. 10

11 But the important thing is, like I said in 12 Fort St. John, that we have every opportunity to 13 share information that is accurate, that is true, 14 and that we are given every opportunity in a safe 15 manner for all these people to be able to share 16 their concerns. And that's what I'm struggling 17 with too because it seems as if we've given this opportunity for those who don't support Site C, and 18 19 that's okay. But I saw in Fort St. John there were 20 special groups, I guess, in different times that 21 came, and they were out loud to say their piece, 22 and I don't see that in the communities, but maybe 23 they will have their chance too because I -- in 24 talking with other members, they're afraid to come to the hearings because, you know, when you --25

especially our Elders who are strongly -- they view their -- they share their views, and then to have somebody stand up seemingly against them, that's a hard thing.

5 So I'm trying to find a way to hear them too. 6 So the past dam projects, they brought little 7 positives to our communities, so we consider that 8 too, hey? And so we see that too, all the many 9 negatives that come. And it's hard for me, because I -- I'm the health portfolio holder for my 10 11 community, and I've worked in a position as a home 12 support worker and worked with my Elders. And I 13 just see what they believe truly, how we need to 14 live, what we need to go back to. And like I 15 mentioned, I sit on the First Nations Health 16 Council for British Columbia, and we talk about all 17 those socioeconomic factors that all the industry projects bring to our communities, and we've listed 18 19 a number of them, and we'll talk more about that 20 later today.

21 So considering all of that, the number one 22 question, does it impact us? Does it impact our 23 Treaty? Yes, it does, fully. And then I think 24 about are we able to stop this project knowing all 25 of that. Whatever the case may be, the Creator

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1 only knows that, and we move forward, and we are in 2 discussions in case it does go forward. So it's a 3 lot on us. Can you imagine what our leaders go through? Because this is not the only project that 4 5 we deal with every day. 6 So consider those things. And I know you do. 7 And I know you also listen with your hearts. I heard your comments and your questions, and I felt 8 9 really good about this whole process, so I thank 10 you. 11 CHIEF DAVIS: Also, I'd just like to add to 12 that too, and first and foremost I would like to 13 say thank you for the words from my fellow council 14 members. 15 And my personal views and my thoughts I will 16 save until my name is called up here to speak my 17 piece and do my part in this process. 18 Thank you. 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you all. That was very 20 helpful. I appreciate particularly some of the 21 difficulties that Elders may feel in presenting 22 things to people as fearsome as my companions here, 23 and I think the job of leadership of understanding 24 the community and reflecting the views of the whole 25 community is difficult. We appreciate it. Thank

1 you. 2 3 (Applause) 4 5 Good afternoon. MR. MCCORMICK: 6 My name is Jesse McCormick. I am legal 7 counsel to the Saulteau First Nations, and I would like to first of all acknowledge the territory, 8 9 thank Richard Lalonde for sharing with us his ceremony this morning, and also to thank the 10 11 drummers for helping us to start in a good way. 12 I've been asked to assist with some of the 13 proceedings today by helping to facilitate and helping to guide the discussions in order to make 14 effective use of the time and also to ensure that 15 16 the appropriate breaks and opportunities are there. 17 What I would like to do now, if it pleases 18 the panel, is we have a presentation from the 19 Treaty and Lands Department of Saulteau First 20 Nations. Anticipated it'll be between half an hour 21 and 40 minutes, followed by which there's a short 22 video of about 10 minutes that they would like to 23 share. I note the time is now about 10 to 24 2 o'clock, 10 minutes to 2 o'clock. Following 25 those presentations, we would like to go into small

1 panels for presentations. 2 If it pleases the panel, I'd suggest we do 3 the lands department presentation and perhaps the video, then a short break, and then we proceed with 4 5 the rest. 6 THE CHAIRMAN: That would be fine. 7 Thank you very much. MR. MCCORMICK: 8 Thank you, Mr. Chair. 9 With that, I would like to invite up the members of the Saulteau First Nations Treaty and 10 11 Lands Department. 12 13 Saulteau First Nations Treaty and Lands Department panel: 14 Naomi Owens 15 Carmen Marshall 16 Fernie Garbitt 17 Michael Freer 18 Donovan Cameron 19 Good afternoon, and welcome MS. NAOMI OWENS: 20 to Saulteau First Nations. So we have prepared a 21 PowerPoint presentation for you, and we'll just --22 we've kind of broken up the presentation amongst 23 our lands team. 24 So I'm Naomi Owens, O-w-e-n-s, the lands 25 manager for Saulteau.

1 MS. CARMEN MARSHALL: My name is Carmen Marshall, M-a-r-s-h-a-l-l, Saulteau lands member and 2 3 biologist. MS. FERNIE GARBITT: Good afternoon. My name is 4 5 Fernie May Garbitt, my last name G-a-r-b-i-t-t. I 6 am the lands executive assistant. 7 MR. MICHAEL FREER: Good afternoon. My name is Michael Freer, F-r-e-e-r, and I'm a resource 8 9 technician. MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: 10 Hi. My name is Donovan 11 Cameron, that's C-a-m-e-r-o-n, and I'm the 12 geographic information systems technician in the 13 lands department. 14 MS. FERNIE GARBITT: All right. So that's who we 15 are. 16 MS. NAOMI OWENS: Okay. So this is a map of our community. On the map you can see Chetwynd, 17 and Saulteau First Nations' reserve is located on 18 19 the east end of Moberly Lake, so that's where we 20 are today. 21 So Saulteau First Nations is the largest 22 community within Treaty 8 BC. Our membership is 23 around 942 members. About 50 percent are on 24 reserve; 50 percent off, roughly. 25 So some of our challenges and priorities are

the following: we have a growing population. As you've seen in the previous slide, we have a growing population. We are making a lot of babies. It's the truth.

This is an image of our band hall, so we have 5 6 a community facilities and infrastructure. So in 7 this picture, that's the band hall, that's our 8 health centre, and that's our daycare, and that's 9 Forever Green Resources. And within the administration, that houses five departments, which 10 11 is our lands department, administration and 12 education and then Chief and Council as well, and 13 then the health center has their own building, and 14 that's how that goes.

We have Elder care and youth activities.
There is always a concern for the people who fall
in the middle, but they're taken care of as well.

18We offer education and training. As you19know, through NC funding we're covered for20education through our Treaty rights. And if we21make proper agreements with proponents, we can22offer training programs for our membership.

23 So there's a picture of our newly established 24 nursery. That's on the bottom right. And then on 25 the left is photos of our nursery trainees

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preparing seeds and propagating and planting seed.
 So we also offer employment and business
 development. As I mentioned, we have the nursery,
 Twin Sisters Native Plant Nursery, and Forever
 Green Resources.

6 We try our hardest for preservation of 7 culture and traditions. That's what is the 8 backbone of our community is the moose and 9 preparing the moose, and all that is a part of 10 that. And not only -- like, moose is part of -- a 11 major component of our culture and traditional, but 12 it's also the spirituality of what that entails.

13 So with that we need protection of our 14 territory and Treaty rights so we can practice 15 these Treaty rights. We need land, as one of the 16 councillors mentioned. We need to practice --17 without that land base, there's nothing we can 18 practice.

19So our challenges and priorities are a20growing population. We have community facilities21and infrastructure. Like, I think Saulteau First22Nations has a dream to have an Elders' care home.23And then the youth activities, education and24training, employment and business development,25preservation of culture, traditions and languages,

1 protection of traditional territory and rights. 2 Fernie Garbitt will be speaking on this part. 3 MS. FERNIE GARBITT: So our Treaty 8: 4 5 "And Her Majesty the Queen hereby 6 agrees with the said Indians that 7 they shall have the right to pursue their usual vocations of hunting, 8 9 trapping and fishing, saving and 10 excepting such tracts as may be 11 required or taken up from time to 12 time for settlement, mining, 13 lumbering, trading and other 14 purposes." 15 16 Not merely a right to hunt for food. The 17 Treaty guarantees a continually -- in a traditional 18 patterns of economic activity and the respect for 19 the traditional patterns of activity and 20 occupation. The First Nations' Treaty rights are 21 not subject to or inferior to the Crown's right to 22 take up land from time to time. The Crown's right 23 to take up land must be understood in its 24 historical content and does not include large scale 25 of industrial activities.

1 This is our territory; it's also our grocery 2 store. We fish in all seasons, all year round. 3 Our food, plants that we consume, our medicinal plants, trapping and other traditional activities. 4 And not forget our spiritual sites that are 5 6 important to us. Our wildlife and habitat. 7 And lastly of course, the water, our 8 wetlands, pristine natural areas. And then our 9 traditional land-use patterns. MS. NAOMI OWENS: This is a map displaying our 10 11 ACCI, which is area of critical community interest. 12 And within that ACCI is the PMT, outlined in red, 13 the Peace-Moberly Tract. 14 MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: Donovan Cameron here again. 15 These next couple slides are going to go over some of the different industrial activities that occur 16 17 in Treaty 8 Territory around Saulteau First Nations, and at the end I'll kind of explain why 18 19 this is really relevant to Site C. 20 So in this next slide, just a quick summary 21 of some of the activities that industry does in our 22 You have lots of linear disturbances such as area. 23 2D and 3D seismic exploration, different types of 24 gas developments, roads, well site, sumps, so 25 environmental waste storage, those kind of issues.

You have pipelines. You have gas plants and also camps and other infrastructure to develop those. And of course all of this comes from different companies.

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5 So in the coal side, this is a quick 6 breakdown of the different companies such as Peace 7 River Coal, Walter Energy and several others. And 8 beneath those are the summary of the different 9 mines, whether some of them are proposed and some 10 of them exist.

Forestry, we have different forestry
operators in our local area such as Canfor, Tembec,
West Fraser, the BCTS, which is British Columbia
Timber Sales, Canfor and various woodlot holders.

15There's also different forms of electrical16power generation. One of the major ones comes from17hydro such as the WAC Bennett dam, the Peace Canyon18dam and potentially the proposed Site C dam.

19There's also alternatives that are proposed:20Wind energies such as Bear Mountain, Dokie phases 121and 2, Quality Wind, Tumbler Ridge, Taylor, Meikle,22Septimus, Sun Dance, the Moose Lake, Babcock Ridge,23Rocky Creek, Hackney Hills. And these are all24different wind farm projects. And amongst those25there's also an excess of 175 investigative-use

permits.

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2 And with all of that, it naturally goes into 3 a competition for some traditional resources, so we deal with different pressures from recreational 4 5 hunting, non-Native trappers and guide outfitters, 6 commercial back country recreation operators, 7 grazing and range lands, animal testing and 8 capturing for studies or research. 9 And these next maps are going to try and provide a visual of what all these different 10 11 overlapping activities would look like. 12 In the next slide here, we first go into 13 forestry. The black line on the map, I would probably ask BC Hydro to confirm whether that is 14 15 their local study area or the regional study area 16 in regards to the Site C project. But on this map 17 and the following two slides, what you'll notice 18 is -- it's difficult to point out on this one, but 19 there are a few green speckles on the map that 20 represent cut blocks, and this is just before the 21 year 2000, what was available in public data sets. 22 And going up to the next one, you'll see 23 increments up to about five years. So over five 24 years, we now have some more cut blocks, and then 25 finally the final slide which will show up to 2009,

and so you can see that industry happens at a very
 noticeable pace.

And finally up to the present.

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And what this slide shows is -- you'll see 4 5 the bright green patches up on this imagery here, 6 and you'll notice that some of the patches in the 7 imagery are not captured in the data as cut blocks, 8 and that could be due to data sources such as the 9 map that I'd just shown you previously only included data from the provincial government and 10 11 not from TFL operators such as Canfor, which 12 operate forestry in huge areas. So the snapshot 13 you saw was definitely conservative at best.

14 And so the same thing, the concept of our 15 industrial roads is you'll see before the year 16 2000, you can see some existing infrastructure, and 17 as we go through the slides, you'll see the roads continue to expand and cover more areas, so access 18 19 has opened up, and these access roads are used from 20 not just industry, but -- if they aren't 21 decommissioned properly, they open up access for 22 various recreational uses. And this is -- that was 23 the final present one. And talking and moving 24 forward to some linear disturbances, we look at seismic lines or 3D or 2D seismic lines. 25

1 So here we have before -- moving forward, 2 another five-year snapshot, so you can see the 3 exploratory programs for oil and gas. They expand at a noticeable pace as well. 4 5 And finally up to present date. 6 Wells, so oil and gas, they produce wells in 7 order to extract oil and gas. And you can see all 8 the little green dots on the screen. Again, before 9 the year 2000 is what the well infrastructure looked like, and going forward --10 11 MS. NAOMI OWENS: And also, this snapshot is 12 just showing Saulteau First Nations' administrative area with OGC, so we're not showing the whole 13 picture of where all the well sites are. 14 15 MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: Yeah, because you'll notice a 16 pattern in the data immediately. You'll notice all 17 these wells are all of a sudden south of the Peace River, so Naomi is mentioning that the data that 18 19 you're seeing is constrained to that area. And so 20 as we go forward, you'll see that more and more 21 wells come up, and that same pattern, you could 22 probably notice it north of the Peace River as 23 well. And so you get a good idea of the wells that 24 are throughout the territory there. And what comes 25 with the wells are pipelines, so the infrastructure

to connect all of this and get the oil and gas
 flowing.

3 So before 2000. Again, hard to kind of 4 notice what's on the map, but as we go through the 5 slides here, you'll see the different snapshots and 6 hopefully they'll come up a little bit better. And 7 you'll see them, the orange there and some red, and 8 so pipelines add another layer of infrastructure.

9 And on top of the existing pipelines, the 10 thicker dark lines you see are the proposed LNG 11 pipelines from various proponents or companies.

12 And so if you were to just put all of 13 forestry tenure on top, some of those areas that we 14 don't maybe have cut blocks for are the TFLs or the 15 green hatched marks on the map.

16And here we have some mineral tenures such as17coal and other minerals.

18 And you can look at the oil and gas tenure.
19 And tenure for wind power, whether it's
20 exploratory tenure or existing projects.

Then finally you put it all on the map -- and why this is very important is because when we look at Site C and what are the potential impacts is, we need to find a way to co-exist if that project were to go through.

One way to do that is -- we've heard it's proposed that maybe we should go and look at other places to use to exercise our existing rights. And when I look at maps like this, I find it difficult to see where BC Hydro would suggest we go.

6 Yeah, just a little bit more zoomed in, yeah. 7 MS. CARMEN MARSHALL: So I'd like to do a bit of an 8 overview of impacts that are happening on our 9 territory and actually what happens on site. Our territory goes south of Tumbler Ridge, and like 10 11 said before, into the northern parts of the 12 country. So we're just going to do some snapshots 13 and an overview of what's going on on site.

So this picture here is a photo taken of the 14 15 WAC reservoir area before it was flooded. This 16 experience -- for me as a young person to see this, 17 I've never -- I was born after 1968, so I never saw 18 the land and how beautiful it was prior to being 19 flooded. I, as a little girl, would fish there and 20 always thought it was just this huge lake. So the 21 next photo is what it looks like now.

22 So it gives you the magnitude of the land 23 lost. There are trap lines there. There's a lot 24 of homes for animals. Our people travel through 25 there, and that's the impact. That's the

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1 magnitude. And that's just one side of the 2 reservoir; that's not the whole reservoir. So it 3 gives you a little of an overview of how huge 4 dams -- how large the impact is. 5 With the industry and the maps, you see in 6 the lines there that shows how huge these 7 transportation corridors are. You don't only have 8 just small cars. You have a large amount of 9 traffic, and it creates not only an impact to the environment, but a safety hazard for those people 10 11 that are used to travelling on the road. 12 Part of this is extensive clearing and road 13 building, impacts that are not easily mitigated 14 after the project is complete. 15 Clean power also comes with a price. There 16 is a huge amount of impacts with the sites that 17 they clear for turbines and also the access, which is shown in the next slide. This picture here is 18 19 of the Alterra project in the upper Moberly 20 watershed. This project has affected our community 21 heavily, and one of the main issues with this 22 project was the access to the site. So this 23 project's located 52 kilometres on the Moberly FSR, 24 which is just west of our community. That was a 25 place where a lot of our members, a lot of my

1 family, got to hunt and to have peace and solitude 2 out there. That no longer exists. We have now 3 increased logging due to this upgrade of the road for this Alterra project, and also an increase of 4 hunters. So there's a lot of cumulative effects 5 6 with one project. 7 This is the related facility with this wind project. It's a huge pad that's used to store 8 9 their power temporarily to go into the grid. Here is another associated issue with mining: 10 11 There's a wash plant for the Trend Mine for Peace 12 River coal. 13 Sedimentation pond for the Trend project as 14 well. 15 Here again we look at the natural state of 16 our water and how it's been affected by all these 17 activity. Water is required for most all 18 industrial activity, and that's something that we 19 have to share with industry. 20 Here's another coal processing plant. This 21 is actually the Trend Mine as well. 22 A former coal mine and some of their ponds, 23 which as you'll note there's no gated barrier to 24 wildlife here. They're free to come and drink this

water, and that's a health hazard because that's

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1 our grocery store. Those are the animals, and 2 we're concerned with their health, and also our 3 health because we're consuming them. Tons and tons of seismic lines throughout our 4 5 territory. 6 Multi-well facilities; they no longer just 7 drill one hole in that one spot. They can drill 8 quite a few. 9 MS. NAOMI OWENS: So, yeah, they can drill up 10 to 20 well pads, and this occurs all day, all 11 night, fire pits going, and this is the impact of 12 oil and gas. 13 A small pipeline that was near Dawson Creek, 14 part of TCPL's line. 15 MS. CARMEN MARSHALL: Here is a Spectra plant 16 located south of us near the Pine River. This is a 17 study that was concocted by Health Canada to look at the oil and gas activity in the Del Rio area. 18 19 The objectives of the study were to find out how 20 many sumps or flare pits were in the study area, if 21 animals were visiting the sites, ingesting the 22 water and soils, and are the sumps and flare pits 23 contaminated. Remote cameras were set up near the 24 well sites to capture any wildlife that accessed 25 these sites.

1 And here we have a mule deer, a moose close 2 up, and this was also shown in yesterday's 3 presentation, and young bull drinking out of that well site. 4 In the results, they found that 75 percent of 5 6 these sites tested were contaminated. Animals that 7 we eat such as moose, deer, elk and bear, they ingest the chemicals out of these sumps and flare 8 9 pits as we saw in this previous picture. There's a risk to wildlife from the exposure of these 10 11 contaminated sites. 12 Even uncontaminated sites pose a risk of 13 wildlife through the long-term ingestion of 14 compounds such as salts, metals and hydrocarbons. 15 This year, we were in the same area, the Del 16 Rio area, within the project footprint of Site C, 17 and one of our Elders here, Gary, shot a moose. And once they came up to the moose, this is what 18 19 the condition they were in. That moose was going 20 to provide, you know, food for us for our culture 21 camp, and we couldn't even use that. 22 So the point we're trying to bring home here 23 is that, you know, we're told to go to another 24 place or to go somewhere else, and the animals are 25 also being affected. We don't have any other place

1 to go, as well as the animals. They are in poor 2 condition, and that affects our health. 3 This chapter, we're going to look at some 4 accidents that happened within our area, and 5 focusing on the long-term -- the long-term impacts, 6 even though they happened -- the residual effects 7 will occur throughout a long time. 8 Here is the south central mine by First Coal 9 Corporation. They cleared a lot of this land without First Nations' consultation. 10 11 West Moberly challenged them and won that 12 case, and the next slide I'd like to show is 13 this -- within this project they built a huge mining trench, and a bull, caribou bull, went over 14 15 inside the mining trench and died. 16 That currently leaves the burnt pine caribou 17 herd at one, so the impacts are huge. They affect 18 our wildlife. They affect our way of life. 19 Here is a drilling sump for exploration. 20 We're often told that exploration is just minor. 21 We only want to dig a few holes in the ground; you 22 guys shouldn't worry about it. But look at what's 23 happening here. The water is flowing right into 24 the vegetation, and there's no protection at all. 25 There should be a sump pit here.

1	Are here is heavy machinery going through the
2	Pine River. Usually you would require a permit to
3	do such in-stream works, but in the gold rush that
4	we're in and all the remote work that goes on and
5	nobody watching and no compliance officers, people
6	often do as they please.
7	Here is a well blowout that blew that
8	wasn't fixed right away. I for five weeks, it
9	was an open flare.
10	The Pine River oil spill, which is still
11	they're still detecting metals in the water, and
12	also this is Chetwynd's drinking source.
13	MS. NAOMI OWENS: In 2006, I believe I was a
14	summer student, and we had to snorkel the Pine
15	River to test soils and hydrocarbons, and they were
16	still finding high areas with hydrocarbons in the
17	soils along the riparian zone and in the river.
18	MS. CARMEN MARSHALL: Fish kill estimates. 20,000
19	to 100,000 fish died through this one spill, and
20	there's still bioaccumulation, untold number of
21	animals that are affected.
22	So in summary, we deal with these impacts.
23	We deal with these referrals every day in our jobs,
24	and we are constantly overwhelmed with the amount
25	of industrial development within our territory.

1 The Province is proposing that we deal with 161 2 coal tenures this year alone. What we are trying 3 to prove in this point is that there is way too much activity. Their cumulative effects assessment 4 5 has not properly been done for the province. 6 Thresholds aren't in place. There isn't a no -there isn't a limit to the amount of industrial 7 8 impacts for our territory.

9 When we signed the Treaty in 1914, there 10 weren't any industrial impacts, and we were 11 guaranteed our way of life. Right now we're in a 12 crisis with protecting our rights and protecting 13 our health.

MS. NAOMI OWENS: Should we read through the slide for the note taker? It's okay?

16 MS. CARMEN MARSHALL: We have a large community. 17 We have a lot of traditional land users, both our youth and our Elders. We have a small council and 18 19 administration staff. We have limited budgets for 20 lands-related material. We're uncertain with 21 capacity funding -- the uncertainty with capacity 22 funding prevents planning. We have limited 23 technical expertise, but it is a growing. No 24 specialized office equipment. We have no vehicles 25 to go and check out all these people that are doing

these infractions. We have short timelines and converging deadlines. As a result, Saulteau can't keep up with all these referrals. Consultations are not meaningful, and our Treaty rights are impacted by every activity that happens on the land.

7 MR. FREER: So it's Michael Freer here
8 again.

9 I'm going to summarize it, but before I 10 summarize it, I just want to say something. I'm 11 not a member of Saulteau First Nations, but I was 12 hired by Saulteau First Nations to assist in the 13 lands department to deal with all these referrals 14 and things like that.

15 Before becoming hired by Saulteau First 16 Nations, I had no idea the impacts that the 17 Saulteau people are experiencing, and I am speaking 18 from an outsider's perspective and just as a human 19 I am completely floored by what they've being. 20 been inundated by, and I can never speak on behalf 21 of these people with regards to the struggles that 22 they've gone through or anything like that 23 historically, but I can tell you from an unbiassed 24 perspective that it's -- it is crazy, and it's --25 it's going to be impossible for them to practice

1 their Treaty rights if this continues. 2 So I'll just summarize it: So Saulteau is 3 the largest and nearest First Nation to the 4 proposed Site C dam. The Treaty that was signed by 5 Saulteau First Nations was signed to guarantee 6 their traditional way of life and to ensure that 7 the ability to practice those rights continued. They place a very high priority on culture, 8 9 traditions and resources. Like I said, Saulteau First Nations is 10 11 inundated by large-scale industrial activities, and 12 these have, as I hope we've been able to summarize 13 in these slides, significant cumulative impacts. Saulteau First Nations has very limited resources 14 15 available to engage in consultation, so Saulteau 16 isn't at an even playing field when it comes to 17 dealing with all these referrals and issues. Saulteau's Treaty rights are being impacted 18 19 and infringed upon every day through every 20 referral. It makes it difficult to resolve domestic problems and challenges because a lot of 21 22 the resources that would normally be used to deal 23 with these also have to be used to try and protect 24 what little they have left to practice their Treaty 25 rights. And we believe that together and as a

1	human race and as a province and that we are
2	heading in the wrong direction.
3	Thank you.
4	MS. CARMEN MARSHALL: Okay. So I would like to
5	share a video that we've been working on for quite
6	some time. We mentioned it earlier here. And just
7	for a little background, BC Hydro had a recent
8	or prior initiative where they were conducting an
9	education program for Grade 4 and 5 students, and
10	it was to do with kokanee in the classroom, and it
11	was an initiative to help from what I
12	understand, help create awareness of the kokanee
13	that was transplanted into the WAC reservoir and to
14	learn about the fish. Since that initiative,
15	there's been a real push to not promote that
16	because we want to focus on indigenous species.
17	We're not wanting to focus on the kokanee.
18	So the program changed, and it was called
19	"Lake Trout in the Classroom." So it's still the
20	same framework. It's for Grade 4 and 5 students.
21	We were approached by BC Hydro to help out with the
22	session 3, which was to talk about how First
23	Nations and Moberly Lake what is their value on
24	fish? What is their relationship with fish? So I
25	was asked to participate, and so we said, well,

1 okay, we'll participate, but we've got to do it our 2 way. So we hired our own videographer, a young 3 Saulteau member to do the video, and we involved 4 our members. So we asked them questions about, you 5 know, do you have a close relationship with the 6 lake? What is your relationship with fish? Those 7 type of things. And the reason why I wanted to 8 show it today is being a part of the EIS working 9 group, I asked some questions about our fish in the Moberly River, and I learned that arctic grayling 10 11 would be decimated from the lower Moberly River. 12 So I asked the question what would that do to the rest of the fish? What would that do to the 13 14 ecology of the lake? Because from what I 15 understand and what I've been taught is if you wipe 16 out one population, it affects all the other.

17 And so I want to share this video with you, 18 and I want you to keep in mind that that question 19 has not been asked -- has not been answered. 20 There's modelling in place saying the biomass of 21 the fish will remain the same, so they may be 22 replaced with other fish, but our argument is that 23 we place specific importance on certain fish such 24 as lake trout. They're very key to our culture and 25 our people and are part of our family traditions.

1 So please keep that in mind when we watch the 2 video. Thank you. 3 (Video played) 4 5 (Applause) 6 7 MR. MCCORMICK: My apologies, Mr. Chairman. 8 I forgot the no applause. 9 We would like to thank the Treaty and Lands Department, both for the presentation that they 10 11 have just provided, but also for the extraordinary 12 amount of work that has gone into preparing for 13 today. They have been instrumental in the organizational and gathering of the registration 14 15 forms and making the phone calls and helping everyone understand this process. 16 17 With the Panel's leave, we would like to 18 accommodate one Saulteau First Nation member named 19 Denise Caron who does have to depart, and she was 20 one of the people you saw here in the video, and 21 she would like to provide a brief five to seven 22 minute presentation on fish and fish impacts. 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. And then we will have 24 one or two questions from the panel too. So please come forward. 25

1 Maybe we should put the lights up too. 2 3 Presentation by Denise Caron: MS. DENISE CARON: My name is Denise Caron, 4 Hi. 5 C-a-r-o-n. 6 I have walked on Mother Earth for 50 years, 7 born and raised here at Moberly Lake, grew up hunting and fishing along the great Peace River. 8 9 My grandfather worked on the barge that carried the freight across the Peace River. Later we also 10 11 owned a trap line that ran alongside the Peace. My 12 passion in life is net fishing. I was taught at an 13 early age how to fish with nets, then I could set 14 nets with my kayak. I spent a lot of time in a 15 classroom teaching the younger generation the 16 importance of our fishing, and I've taken out 17 the -- taken the youth out to the Peace River and showed them how to net. I've worked with the 18 19 Fisheries Department out of Fort St. John on the 20 decline of our lake trout and other important fish 21 in our lakes and rivers. 22 The fish are a very big part of our diet. Ι 23 am here today to talk about the decline in the 24 arctic grayling in the Peace River. For the last 25 three years I have netted in six different areas

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1 along the Peace River and noticed a big decline in 2 the fish population, including the arctic grayling. 3 I also netted the Moberly River and noticed before the flood of 2011 I was netting 9 to 14 4 5 arctic grayling. Then after the flood I was lucky 6 to get 1. 7 I also do catch and release. I don't always take all of the fish. But I found kokanee in the 8 9 Peace River and Moberly river. The kokanee is a freshwater salmon. It's not a Native fish to this 10 11 area. Stocking the -- the fish stocking of the 12 kokanee, they have done in Dunlevy Creek, Carbon 13 Creek and Williston Lake. From 1991 to '95, for five years, they have stocked 644,000 of these 14 15 kokanee fish. They did do rainbow trout in 1991, 16 '92 and '93, but they only put 44,000 and only one 17 is the Carbon Creek. In 2012, they did the lake trout here in 18 19 Moberly Lake, which was 14,305 fish. 20 That's all I have. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. 22 Yes. MS. CARON: 23 THE CHAIRMAN: I wanted to ask a couple of 24 questions about the earlier presentations. Perhaps Ms. Owens could come forward. One was about the 25

1 mapping in the presentation that we saw and which 2 you've given to us in hard copy. Was the mapping 3 done here? Is this your own GIS work? No, no it wasn't. MS. NAOMI OWENS: 4 5 Who did it? Where did it THE CHAIRMAN: 6 come from? 7 MS. NAOMI OWENS: Blackwell & Associates, they 8 were a consultant company hired to do --9 THE CHAIRMAN: Hired by Saulteau? 10 MS. NAOMI OWENS: Yes, yes. 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. It's very impressive 12 work. It makes the picture of cumulative impact in 13 the region vivid. 14 I wanted to ask also about the funding that 15 you get for the work of the Treaty and Lands 16 Department. Does the Department of Indian Affairs 17 make an allowance for the fact that Saulteau is more heavily impacted by resource development than 18 19 most other First Nations, and provide a little 20 extra money on that behalf? Our department does not receive 21 MS. NAOMI OWENS: 22 funds from AANDC or INAC. Our department is funded 23 through agreements with proponents. There is some 24 funding available say the SARA -- the federal SARA 25 Act. We can apply for some proposals in that

1 aspect.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: I see. So a project 3 proponent in what area has to come and talk to you? Is it within the ACCI only or something broader? 4 5 MS. NAOMI OWENS: Well, each -- so in regards 6 to the Oil and Gas Commission, they have a 7 designated administrative area where we receive 8 referrals. And in regards to the Ministry of 9 Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, they basically give us all referrals south of the 10 11 Peace. 12 Basically, hey, Carmen? 13 Some extend into the northern area, but the referrals we receive are kind of not based fully on 14 15 our Treaty because that would be very overwhelming, 16 so they kind of stick to where they believe the 17 traditional territory of Saulteau would be. But --THE CHAIRMAN: Does the Treaty 8 Tribal 18 19 Association have a similar office that worries 20 about Treaty and lands issues for the other Treaty 21 8 Nations? 22 MS. NAOMI OWENS: Yes, there is in 23 Fort St. John. 24 THE CHAIRMAN: And you must have some way of collaborating or splitting the work, I suppose. 25

1 MS. NAOMI OWENS: We do to a degree. Some of 2 the First Nations within Treaty 8 BC are part of an 3 economic benefit agreement, and Saulteau did not agree to be a part of that. We're actually in 4 5 negotiations and establishing our own agreement 6 with the province. So with Treaty 8 Tribal 7 Association, a lot of their -- they represent five 8 First Nation groups. So Saulteau is a part of that 9 as well as West Moberly First Nations, Halfway River First Nations, Doig River First Nations and 10 11 Prophet River First Nations. And then Saulteau is 12 a part of that. 13 And some of those -- three of those five 14 communities are part of the EBA and two are not. 15 So there is funding for those three communities,

whereas for Saulteau and Halfway, we don't receive those same funding initiatives.

18Does that help?Does that answer your19question?

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, thank you.

MS. NAOMI OWENS: So pulled up on the map -- on
the screen is a map that -- the boundary in pink is
the OGC administrative area. So we receive all
referrals that are within that boundary.
THE CHAIRMAN: Quite a territory. Thank

1 you. 2 MR. MATTISON: My question has been partly 3 answered by your questions, Mr. Chair. But I did want to ask a question, I think, 4 Mr. Cameron, I think you mentioned part of it with 5 6 respect to the source of data for some of the map 7 showing roads, pipelines, forestry tenures and so I think you said some of it was British 8 on. 9 Columbia government data, but do you know what the data sources are? 10 11 MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: In regards to oil and gas, 12 that all comes from the British Columbia Oil and 13 Gas Commission through their public websites, so 14 that's really available for anybody to download. 15 And the forestry info again comes from the 16 provincial government. And but what we -- what I 17 mentioned was that the forestry representation was 18 very conservative because what it didn't include 19 was some of those large forestry tenured areas that 20 we showed such as the tree farm licences that proponents like Canfor and West Fraser operate in. 21 22 So we have to approach them independently and get 23 data from them in order to include that on our maps 24 to get a full picture of that kind of stuff. 25 And also, when it comes to forestry, what we

1 noticed is it was very patchy, so not all of the 2 forest cut blocks were captured, and that's based on how the -- what their standards are when it 3 4 comes to collecting data and what they retain. So they might only retain data for cut blocks up to a 5 6 certain date until they consider it grown back in, 7 and then at that point it gets removed from the data set, and we're only seeing maybe 10 to 5 years 8 9 of cut blocks. MR. MATTISON: Did pipelines come from the 10 11 OGC as well, or was that --12 MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: Yes, they do. Yeah, all 13 oil and gas infrastructure was all from the OGC. 14 MR. MATTISON: And what about the road 15 network? 16 MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: The road network comes 17 from various sources. But again, it's all from the province. But that could be sourced again from the 18 19 OGC or the forest and -- FLNRO? Forest lands natural resources -- resources 20 21 operations or something. Yeah. 22 Yeah, but again they all maintain their own 23 road data sets. And those again are very 24 conservative because sometimes you'll have roads 25 that have been decommissioned for a very long time,

1 and they're not in those data sets. 2 MR. MATTISON: Thank you. 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Comments, questions, from Hydro? No? 4 Okav. 5 I think it would be appropriate to take a 6 break for 10 to 15 minutes. 7 Thank you very much. 8 9 (Brief break) 10 11 THE CHAIRMAN: If we can reconvene, I have 12 two items of, I guess, procedure that I would like 13 to deal with before we continue with the panel. One is a question to Hydro. I have received the 14 15 response to undertaking number 6, for which, thank 16 you. 17 I would just like to confirm a couple things, 18 one, Revelstoke 6 is not part of that, of the 19 supply side at this point; is that correct? It's 20 still correct? 21 MR. SAVIDANT: I believe what that document 22 shows is the gap that we developed, so Revelstoke 6 23 as an alternative to the project to be evaluated, 24 would not be included in that initial load resource 25 balance.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good. Understood. 2 Something that is probably explained somewhere, but I don't know where, is the Seattle 3 City Light obligation. Can you tell me how long 4 5 that continues? 6 MR. SAVIDANT: I'm sorry, no, not off the 7 top of my head. 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Then I'd like just a further 9 information request on that. I'd like to know what is the nature of the contract with Seattle City 10 11 Light, how long you're obliged to supply them, and 12 without getting too far into confidential matters, 13 whether or not it's a profitable arrangement. 14 15 UNDERTAKING 34: Advise what is the nature of the 16 contract with Seattle City Light, how long they are 17 to be supplied, and without getting too far into confidential matters, whether or not it's a 18 19 profitable arrangement 20 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Third, the standing offer 22 program has some numbers attached to it in the 23 table that you gave me of expected or probable new 24 supply. Is that already contracted, or is it sufficiently visible that it's easily foreseen? 25 Or

1 how should I interpret that? 2 MR. SAVIDANT: Those numbers, there might be 3 some that are contracted for the short-term, but those are primarily expected new contracts that we 4 expect to receive under our standing offer 5 programs. So that's a program that we put out 6 7 there for small generation resources generally, either industrial based or customer based. There 8 9 is a significant First Nations' component in the bids into that standing offer program. 10 What we do 11 is we forecast how many projects are expected to be 12 bid in. There's a small component of attrition 13 that you would expect with that, and those are the 14 numbers that you would see in that table that we 15 provided in undertaking 6. 16 THE CHAIRMAN: In the current standing offer 17 program, how does it work? Do you say we're interested in bids which are less than Hydro's 18 19 alternative costs or, you know, with appropriate 20 adjustments for firmness or capacity? 21 MR. SAVIDANT: The standing offer program is 22 intended to be a simplified version of bidding in a 23 small generation product. So effectively, there is a set of criteria that someone has to meet to bid 24 25 into that process. Both -- you have to meet

1 permitting criteria, and the price that is bid in 2 has to be less than a specific price per megawatt 3 hour. We were trying to remember what that price is -- we believe it's roughly \$100 per megawatt 4 5 hour, subject to check. Thank you. And likewise on 6 THE CHAIRMAN: 7 the supply side, there is 167 gigawatt hours for 8 industrial benefit agreements. I presume that's 9 one that is now concrete rather than ones that may arise in the future. 10 11 MS. YURKOVICH: I'm sorry, Mr. Chair. Ι 12 don't have a copy of the response in front of me, but I believe those would be the load curtailment 13 14 contracts that were spoken of. 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Understood. Okay. I also 16 note that there is no change in the contribution of 17 historic Hydro, even as far forward as 2032, 11,422 megawatts and 48,500 gigawatt hours. That's still 18 19 your expectation, is it? 20 MR. SAVIDANT: That's correct. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you for that. 22 Then if at some point you could give me a 23 brief note on the Seattle City Light obligation, it 24 would be very satisfactory.

25 The issue of confidentiality of information

1 being volunteered by Saulteau, I want to let 2 everybody know what the Panel's counsel has 3 determined after exchanging e-mails with Mr. McCormick. 4 5 Mr. Wallace, our counsel, says that to be 6 accepted as confidential, the disclosure will cause direct and substantial harm to the affiants. 7 Ι believe the information in the affidavits meets 8 9 that standard, however, it is the panel who must be satisfied. I advise that the panel determined to 10 11 keep the affidavits confidential and reflect that 12 on the record, which I am now doing. The panel 13 will accept these documents as confidential in the 14 circumstances. 15 Thank you. 16 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, panel. 17 And thank you Mr. Wallace. THE CHAIRMAN: 18 And now over to you. 19 MR. MCCORMICK: Certainly. 20 How we would like to -- it's Jesse McCormick, 21 legal counsel to Saulteau First Nations. 22 We have with myself here at the table, 23 Donovan Cameron and Chief Davis. I'd first like to 24 ask Donovan to speak briefly to an affidavit 25 that -- or to an undertaking that we filed this

1 morning. Following which, we would like to invite 2 up certain Elders from the community to sit 3 together and provide information to the panel with 4 some questions from Chief Davis and myself to help 5 assist with the efficiency and direction of the 6 evidence.

7 The first point I'd like to raise is in 8 relation to an undertaking that was provided by 9 myself on December 10th at the hearings in 10 Fort St. John. It may be found at volume 2, 11 page 91, lines 4 to 6 of the transcript.

12 The undertaking was provided to 13 Madam Beaudet, and it was to determine whether 14 habitats will be affected in transmission corridors 15 referred to in figure 33.9.

16 Figure 33.9 displays First Nations habitation 17 We have provided -- and if we could use areas. 18 please scroll down to the map below -- a map that 19 was prepared by Donovan of the Treaty and Lands 20 Department, which displays habitation sites along 21 the existing corridor of the transmission line. 22 Depicted on the map you will see red dots and green 23 dots. Green dots indicating the location of 24 cabins, and red dots indicating the location of other forms of habitation. 25

1 And I'd like to ask Donovan to briefly speak to the source and limitations and of the 2 3 information that is provided on the map. MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: So Donovan Cameron here 4 5 again. 6 In compiling traditional use study 7 information for the site specific purposes, a 8 couple things need to be taken into consideration. 9 I've tried to capture those details in the fine print down in the bottom right corner because 10 11 you'll see in the legend that the features that 12 represent the traditional use studies, these 13 habitation sites are accompanied with an asterisk. And that asterisk will accompany a footnote in the 14 15 bottom right. 16 And I'll just try to maybe translate what 17 I've tried to write there. The habitation sites 18 that you see are -- they're filtered from several 19 past traditional use studies, and I've broken them 20 into two categories representing cabin and 21 temporary sites. 22 The data is temporal where the sites may or 23 may not exist. What I mean by that is the data 24 when these studies are undertaken captures data in 25 a specific time frame. It can either capture

1 current use or past use. So if someone maybe 2 reported a cabin site that their parents used that 3 might not be there currently, so that's in the 4 study. 5 At the same time, the data can also be 6 duplicated because of that. So you have two 7 individuals that report the same cabin. So you can see a cluster of cabins in an area. 8 It might 9 represent a single cabin. Why they're in different 10 locations, that depends on the scale of how the 11 data was collected and how that individual's 12 ability to read and interpret maps. 13 The data could be -- and as a result, and 14 besides duplication, the data can also be 15 incomplete because of the limited sample size and 16 representation in these interviews. 17 So with those three things -- those are the 18 three major limitations of the data. 19 Do you have any questions on interpreting 20 this stuff? 21 MS. BEAUDET: I thank you. This is 22 helpful. But what we are trying to get at is if 23 there are any -- you indicate when it's temporary. 24 But we want to know in the transmission line if some of the cabins are inhabited more on a 25

1 permanent basis or for long periods, let's say half 2 a year. 3 Advise if, in the transmission line, 4 UNDERTAKING 35: 5 that some of the cabins are inhabited more on a 6 permanent basis or for long periods 7 8 MR. DONOVAN CAMERON: Right. So in order to 9 scrutinize each and every feature, the cabin feature specifically, part of these studies, they 10 11 come in different -- there's different components 12 or deliverables. The mapping component is just one 13 of them, and you can only glean so much information from the features. If you want to really get down 14 15 to the detail of that specific feature, you'd then 16 have to pull up the transcripts, and that's an 17 exercise of going back and forth to see what was discussed in regards to that specific feature. 18 So 19 that can be pulled out further. 20 MS. BEAUDET: I was just wondering if 21 BC Hydro has an input on that and could confirm 22 from the recent interviews where are the cabins 23 that are inhabited now. 24 MR. PROVERBS: Thank you, Madam. 25 We have folks in the room who actually

1 reviewed the studies, and what I'd like to do is 2 confer with them, see what their understandings 3 are, and we could report back later in the day. MS. BEAUDET: 4 Thank you. 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Okay. 6 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, Donovan. 7 At this time, you'll note from the revised 8 agenda that was provided earlier today, Saulteau 9 First Nations would like to seat small witness panels of Elders, an Elders group, an environment 10 11 and cultural group, land users and the youth. 12 And the way we would like to proceed is Chief 13 Davis and myself, we'll seat ourselves here to the 14 right, leave the microphones here and these chairs 15 for the panel, and we will ask a few open-ended 16 questions to help direct some of their information, 17 and also offer them the opportunity to share 18 anything that they might want to share. So if we 19 could please take a moment or two to gather 20 ourselves and bring up our members and we'll 21 proceed with that. 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. 23 24 Elders from the Saulteau First Nations Community: 25 Della Owens

1 Judy Cameron 2 Victoria Davis 3 Amy Gauthier Yvonne Courtoreille 4 5 Doris Ronnenberg 6 MR. MCCORMICK: If I could please ask anyone 7 who had offered to sit here today on the Elders' panel, I see Della Owens, Judy Cameron, Victoria 8 9 Davis, Amy Gauthier, Yvonne Courtoreille, and Doris Ronnenberg. If you're in the room, could you 10 11 please come join us at the front. 12 Thank you. Thank you for your patience. We 13 have here seated at the panel table Elders from the Saulteau First Nations community. And I'd like to 14 15 first of all thank them for coming and offering to 16 share their information and their knowledge. 17 And I'd also like to ask them each to one by 18 one if you could please introduce yourself and 19 spell your last name. 20 MS. GAUTHIER: Gauthier, G-a-u-t-h-i-e-r. 21 MS. JUDY CAMERON: Judy Cameron, C-a-m-e-r-o-n. It's on? 22 MS. RONNENBERG: 23 Doris Ronnenberg, R-o-n-n-e-n-b-e-r-g. 24 MS. DELLA OWENS: Della Owens, O-w-e-n-s. 25 MS. COURTOREILLE: Hello. Yvonne Courtoreille,

1	C-o-u-r-t-o-r-e-i-l-l-e.			
2	THE C	CHAIRMAN:	Welcome and thank you for	
3		coming.		
4	MR. M	ICCORMICK:	Thank you very much. Now, I	
5		understand that some o	of you have portions that	
6		you've already prepared and would like to share		
7		with the panel, so the	ere will be an opportunity for	
8		that. What we'd like	to do is start with a few	
9		questions if we may.	And what I may do is I'll	
10		direct questions to a	particular individual, and	
11		that way we have bu	ut if anyone else would like	
12		to offer their thought	ts as well, we would welcome	
13		it.		
14		So I guess one o	question to begin, and perhaps	
15		I'll ask Della to star	rt us off, is life different	
16		now than it used to be	e in Saulteau First Nations?	
17	MS. D	DELLA OWENS:	Life within Saulteau First	
18		Nations has changed d	rastically over a number of	
19		years. There has been	n an increase of activity	
20		within our reserve, an	nd we have been encroached	
21		upon with wind farms a	and gas and oil, mining and	
22		hydro. And so life w	ithin Saulteau First Nations	
23		has really, really cha	anged quite a bit. Thank you.	
24	MR. M	ICCORMICK:	Thank you, Della.	
25		And perhaps Yvor	nne, would you be able to tell	

1 us about -- do you ever eat country foods, how you 2 might prepare them? Do you ever eat moose or elk or fish? 3 4 MS. COURTOREILLE: Yeah, I like -- I love moose 5 meat and KFC. 6 MR. MCCORMICK: And where do you get your 7 moose meat, Yvonne? MS. COURTOREILLE: In the bush. 8 9 MR. MCCORMICK: And do you hunt yourself? MS. COURTOREILLE: No, I don't. 10 11 MR. MCCORMICK: Does someone hunt for you. 12 MS. COURTOREILLE: Sometimes, yeah. 13 MR. MCCORMICK: And when you get moose meat, 14 how do you like to cook it? 15 MS. COURTOREILLE: Fried. 16 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, Yvonne. 17 Does anyone on the panel ever pick medicinal plants? Does anyone ever go picking plants for 18 19 medicine? 20 SPEAKER: We used to go down to the lake and pick rat root and all the other medicinal 21 22 plants like rose hip. And rose hip itself contains 23 21 different varieties for healing, and now there 24 is abundant of rose hips, but there is not abundant 25 of rat root and same with mint tea because the mint

1 tea grows along the wetland area. 2 CHIEF DAVIS: Thank you. 3 I'd like to direct this question to Elder 4 Doris Ronnenberg. And so the question is do you remember when they put in the WAC Bennett dam, what 5 6 were some of the impacts of the construction of 7 that dam, socioeconomic and life changing events, I 8 guess, that affected our people. 9 In my mind, when they did the MS. RONNENBERG: Bennett dam, it was not progress for us. 10 It was 11 the beginning of the end. Because there was a lot 12 of socioeconomic problems that went with it. All our young women -- there was all kinds of men from 13 14 overseas, Portugal and other countries of the world 15 because our people did not get the jobs until 16 towards the end. And these men preyed on our young 17 women, and young men taught them about drugs and alcohol. And the social fabric of our community 18 19 was pretty well destroyed. And so that was 20 progress for -- I don't know who it was progress 21 for, but it certainly was not for us. 22 CHIEF DAVIS: Thank you. 23 Judy, is there anything else that you would 24 like to add to that? Like what did you experience 25 from the Bennett dam and the Peace Canyon dam and

1 your view of those two projects? 2 MS. JUDY CAMERON: Well, our hunting area and 3 trapping areas were -- there was a lot more 4 strangers. The workers usually go out there hunting. They were in our hunting areas. 5 There 6 was a lot of disturbance out there. A lot of it 7 was -- they killed our animals for game, not for, 8 you know, to provide for their families. So 9 therefore there was a lot of that waste. You see a lot of moose carcass around with just the hides 10 11 taken or -- not even the hides taken, I mean, but 12 just the trophy taken. So there was a lot of that.

13 Environmental impact, there was a lot of 14 vehicles that went up there tearing up, you know, 15 the terrain, the forests, the fields, making a lot 16 of ruts and run offs, more run offs. Not only the 17 vehicles, but there was also beer bottles and whisky bottles thrown out there, partying. 18 So the 19 local hunters weren't able to go out there to do 20 their traditional hunting, nor camping a lot of 21 times, because it -- of the so many new people, 22 strangers going out there and ruining the area. 23 Okay. 24 CHIEF DAVIS: Is there anything else? Or

25 from anybody else that would like to add to that

question?

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2 MS. GAUTHIER: I recall -- you recall the 3 WAC Bennett dam and the effects that it had on the 4 social impacts on this community and on my family. 5 I recall being -- having to move to Hudson's Hope 6 to Beryl Prairie for that matter where my father 7 had to go to work at the WAC Bennett dam. I recall 8 many times about the alcoholism that we had to face 9 because of the dam and also the influx of people. As little girls we were not allowed -- we weren't 10 11 allowed to walk to school anymore. Every time we 12 walked to school, we would have to hide when 13 somebody came by to go to work at the dam because it wasn't safe for us anymore. 14

15 I recall all the alcoholism that we had to face as little children, that many, many times we 16 17 had to walk from Beryl Prairie to Hudson's Hope 18 just to go to a movie on a Saturday afternoon, but 19 we had to hide every time a vehicle came because 20 there was a lot of the influx of people. Like 21 somebody said there was a lot of Portuguese people, 22 and I totally believe that.

23There was a lot of alcoholism. There was a24lot of fights from the WAC Bennett dam to the Peace25dam. I experienced that. That the Native people

would basically get ousted out. The Native people, the Native guys would get punched around, pushed around, and there was absolutely no environment -or no employment that was provided to them.

5 I recall a lot of bad things and absolutely no guarantees of -- no compensation to the Native 6 7 people of this community or elsewhere when those 8 two dams were built. It had -- they brought 9 nothing but destroying our lands. My father once told me that he witnessed -- he'd seen two moose, 10 11 dead moose floating on the new dam on the Peace 12 There was a lot of alcoholism. We weren't dam. 13 even allowed to go -- to go hunting anymore because 14 we had to be very careful. We had to have somebody 15 with us because there was so much -- there was so 16 many people out there that were just force hunting 17 for pleasure and not for what we were -- for our 18 livelihood. That's what I remember about those --19 about those two dams that were built.

And, you know, I fail to see the happiness --I fail to see anything else that's going to bring to this community yet again when -- if there will be no employment from BC Hydro for our community members in this community.

25 CHIEF DAVIS: Okay. I'd like to ask

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another question. What does the Treaty mean to you Elder ladies that are sitting in front of the room here today, and how do you view the Treaty, and what you've seen and witnessed throughout the years as time has moved forward?

6 MS. RONNENBERG: My name is Doris Ronnenberg, 7 and my other name is (Native spoken). We are given an Indian name very early in childhood, but we 8 9 don't get our spiritual names until later in life. But those spiritual names we do not share in places 10 11 like this. I can only share that name in a sun 12 dance, in a pipe ceremony or other ceremonies. So 13 I have that name too. And I am 76 years old, and I'll be 77 in May of 2014, and I was raised at a 14 15 time when Treaty 8 and the concept of Treaty 8 16 meant something to us. It was our rights within 17 our nation of Canada and within our nations of Treaty 8, because we are a numbered Treaty. And 18 19 there are 11 numbered Treaties across Canada. We 20 happen to be Treaty 8.

21 And in there we have certain rights, and one 22 of them is to practice our way of life in 23 perpetuity, and what I'm going to talk about right 24 now in terms of me personally is the medicinal 25 plants and the -- and our traditional healing. I'm

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1 not going to give you any recipes for any medicines 2 so don't look at that. 3 But within the protection of our Treaty, we can live our way of life, and part of it is our 4 traditional healing, which depends on traditional 5 6 plants. 7 Now, scientists or whomever will tell you 8 that, well, these plants can be transplanted. But 9 then when you transplant a medicinal plant, I'm told by other people, other Elders that are healers 10 11 that the potency of that plant is not as strong. 12 And so therefore you're affecting our way of life. 13 And also, this province has taken over its health services as of this year. And part of that 14 15 takeover is traditional healing. 16 Now, if any of our plants are disturbed in 17 their natural setting, it's going to affect the 18 effectiveness of the traditional healing, and so 19 that is based on our Treaty. And also I must add 20 that our Treaty is collective, but it's also 21 individual. It's arrested with each of us Treaty 22 Indians in this room. So it's collective and 23 individual. And so therefore any harm to our 24 Treaty rights is a serious matter, not only 25 collectively, but individually.

But also they -- you know, they always say about until the sun sets or whatever -- you know, that saying that they have. But in this dam, aren't you kind of disturbing the waters? You know, that's kind of the thing that I have. But I'm losing my track of thought.

7 So in the -- to be able to live like we did, what do we need? We need clean land, unpolluted 8 9 land, clean water, unpolluted water and clean air. That -- in that way, we can continue to live the 10 11 way we've lived before for generations and 12 generations. And so therefore any disturbance in 13 terms of the land, the water and air quality 14 affects our Treaty rights.

Today, Treaty rights today and in the future. And the future that's going to affect our youth, that will be making a presentation today, because they're the ones that are going to be most affected.

At 76, most of my relatives lived until they were a 100, 102, 106. So I still have a little bit of time, but I'm towards the end of my lifetime. I'm almost finishing my cycle. Because only the Creator gives us life. And he's the only one that takes it away too. So we may have all kinds of

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1 plans for the next 30 years. But there's an end to 2 us too. 3 Thank you. MS. DELLA OWENS: I'd like to read something 4 5 that I wrote. 6 My origin is simple. The land is my mother, 7 and I am her child. Child of Cree, Iroquois, and 8 Dane-zaa, Beaver. 9 Saulteau First Nations have and will continue to fight against wind farms, gas and oil, mining 10 11 and BC Hydro and every year outside hunters who 12 encroach upon our land. Every working day, 13 Saulteau First Nation is being bombarded from outside resources who want to extract from our 14 15 pristine land. This is -- this has caused stress, disharmony and will continue to encroach upon our 16 resources. Every week, month, year, we are facing 17 18 depletion of surrounding landmarks from logging 19 industries and mining, wind farms and hydro. 20 From time immemorial, Saulteau First Nations 21 are the primary stakeholders to the land and to the 22 resources, and we know the environment the best. 23 Our people have connections to the land. We 24 have long-term basis to this land. We are rooted 25 in and informed by our traditional lifestyles, and

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1 we will continue to respect Mother Earth. 2 Saulteau First Nations recognized the 3 importance of historical knowledge, respect of culture and the values as we are knowledge keepers. 4 5 This indigenous knowledge is the 6 environmental knowledge. That knowledge keepers 7 pass from generation to generation. Our 8 relationship to the environment is to know about 9 edible and medicinal plants, animals and adaptation to climate change. Water has and will continue to 10 11 be a very important spiritual factor to Saulteau 12 First Nations. 13 BC Hydro in the past has raped Mother Earth 14 to her core, and displaced many First Nation people 15 who are still struggling to find the balance. 16 Because of this disharmony to Mother Earth, weather 17 patterns have off kiltered. How much more can she sustain with the people? All this disharmony to 18 19 her is because of the mighty dollar. Once raped 20 will never be restored to her original state. How 21 can the society empower the government to agree not

22 to accept this proposed project and to listen to 23 the people for once.

24Once again Mother Earth is being uprooted.25It is hard to find balance. There is a lot of

distrust within our people. Saulteau First Nations were never considered from the time this project began to where it did -- to acknowledge even though we have intelligent information to share. The one thing I have great concern is the increase of hydro bill. Are we paying the price of Site C project? The environment was another victim to this land.

8 The boreal forests are forever gone, along 9 with the edible and medicinal plants. I 10 experienced a climate change and noticed the 11 weather patterns are different from the past.

12 The erosion of embankments along the WAC 13 Bennett dam has traumatized the fish and 14 contaminated them with mercury because of decaying 15 plants and trees. There have been higher levels of 16 mercury in lakes and rivers.

The nesting sites along with smaller species:
eagles, swans, beavers, muskrats, porcupines,
groundhogs, small birds and humming birds, were
affected by this dam.

21Under water lies many burial grounds,22traditional ceremonial sites and history. Stories23are forever lost because of the dam.

24Like previous dams, WAC Bennett dam and25Kenney dam and Williston Lake reservoir caused such

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a negative impact to the people and to the environment.

In many cases, they cause the loss of plants, wildlife, biodiversity and the loss of mineral and timber rights. This displacement to the people had negative social impacts on inhabitants and the land including the loss of an autonomy.

8 These severe impacts cause isolation, 9 alienation, cost of -- loss of culture, language 10 and traditional values. The damage that this dam 11 caused was astounding, and to the wildlife were 12 deeply affected by change to the migration routes.

13 This potential Site C will have the same 14 negative impacts as the other sister dams did. 15 Site C will have a huge impact to the landslides and erosions of embankments. This will cause the 16 17 depletion of fish spawning areas as it did with the 18 other two dams. Adaptation to the climate change 19 will unfold as it happened when WAC Bennett caused 20 the weather patterns to change.

Industrial development in the past has caused
disruption to the land, and also displaced First
Nation people and Non-Natives. This disruption
will change migration routes of wildlife, nesting
areas and the ecosystem.

1 One good thing can be done when indigenous 2 people are defined by landscape and environment. 3 The identity of our people who have and will continue to practice the knowledge will continue to 4 learn from each other and from other Aboriginal 5 6 communities. How can I teach my grandchildren how 7 to make dry meat, pick berries or teach them which is edible and medicinal plants when in the future 8 9 there will be no moose, no berries, no plants to pick? We will have nothing left for our future 10 generation to learn from or the abundance of 11 12 resources.

When Site C goes through, our dreams and wishes will be under water, along with our historical stories and history. Now everything will become a memory.

How can BC Hydro examine our historical,
cultural, spiritual and environmental beliefs and
practices of Saulteau First Nation? Perhaps once
BC Hydro recognizes these components, they will
stop further development to grant the wishes of our
people. Stop the Site C.

I ask that everyone to go in health of east,
south, west and north. May the Creator guide each
of you in a brighter future and to fulfill our

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dreams and wishes.

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2 Now, I wrote a poem about Site C. 3 My ancestors whose bones have turned into 4 dirt, those bones are my blood. I ask -- I ask why 5 Site C, why here? Why disturb my bones? Don't 6 they have any compassion? Why don't they 7 understand what will happen if I should dig their 8 bones. Surely I would be punished for such a 9 hideous crime. Do I have to keep my mouth shut, even if I should say a spoken word of pray? Would 10 11 I be heard? Tell me. Tell me how can I -- how can 12 anyone get away. Come on. Come and see my bones. 13 Those bones belong to me, to my ancestors whose blood I still carry, that my children are carrying, 14 15 my grandchildren will carry my bones. 16 Thank you. 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you for 18 Thank you. 19 sharing that. And thank you for the poem. 20 I'd like to continue with some further 21 questions. And to gather some more information. 22 One of the things I've heard from people in 23 Saulteau First Nations is that eagles are important 24 to this community. Would someone from the panel be 25 able to explain why eagles are important to

1 Saulteau First Nations and why they are something 2 that should be considered in the development of 3 this project? MS. DELLA OWENS: I have to collect myself. 4 5 What was the question? Sorry. 6 MR. MCCORMICK: Certainly. The question 7 relates to eagles. And I've heard from different 8 members of Saulteau First Nations that eagles are 9 important to the Saulteau First Nations people. And I was wondering if we could share some 10 11 information with the Joint Review panel about why 12 eagles are important and what they mean to the 13 Saulteau First Nations? 14 MS. DELLA OWENS: Well, there's a prime example 15 right in front of us here. We pray with the eagle 16 feathers. We have respect for the eagles. And 17 eagles are our messengers. Whenever we pray, they take it up and they leave whatever we pray for, and 18 19 when they -- when you find an eagle feather, it's 20 an honour to find an eagle feather. And we use 21 eagle feathers for praying for anything. He's our 22 protector. 23 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. Is there anyone 24 else who wanted to discuss eagles? 25 MS. JUDY CAMERONS: Eagles are also -- it's one

of our spiritual grandfathers in the spirit world. And so therefore they -- I don't really like sharing this with -- but you've asked me the question. And they're used in all our ceremonies.

Like, when you're sun dancing, you have the eagle whistle. If you're -- I didn't bring my feather, but I do have a leadership feather, which I use when I'm addressing people, panels, whatever. And those things have to be earned.

10 Like, you earn your first eagle feather. You 11 just don't pick it off the ground and say, well, 12 I've got an eagle feather now. You earn it, and 13 it's given to you in a ceremony for -- I'll use a word "traditionalist." Because we have 14 15 Christianity and we have traditionalists. But some 16 combine the two and still, the eagle feather is 17 important in their lives too, not only in the 18 traditionalists' lives.

And in one ceremony, I remember being told that -- like, Della says, the eagle feather is the bird that flies the highest and closest to the Creator. And this is why they're used in our ceremonies to take our prayers to the Creator, who is God.

25 CHIEF DAVIS: Okay. I've got another

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1 question, or else did we have anyone else that 2 wanted to speak on that one? 3 I'd like to ask the panel here now. Do any of the places around -- within our traditional 4 5 territory that you know of that have got Cree or 6 Dane-zaa names, Cree, Saulteau or Dane-zaa names 7 that you know of? 8 MS. DELLA OWENS: Moberly Lake is supposed to 9 be a Cree -- a Dane-zaa a (Native spoken). That's 10 the original name. And then when Mr. Moberly came, 11 he said he was the founder of this place. He was 12 never a founder. We were here before, and so it 13 should -- it was always a Mississaugan and Beaver 14 Lake. 15 CHIEF DAVIS: Do you know if there was a 16 name for the Peace River? 17 MS. DELLA OWENS: Offhand I can't think of it 18 right now. 19 Okay. Okay. I've got one CHIEF DAVIS: 20 more question that I'd like to ask. How important 21 do you feel that it is that our youths learn about 22 their culture and language? 23 I think it's detrimental. MS. GAUTHIER: 24 Our culture first and foremost, our language, 25 taking our kids to -- my grandkids to the sweat

lodge, learning the traditional way of life, going out there and hunting and fishing, camping and all the traditional values that were taught to us have got to be handed down. And if that doesn't happen, then it's not us as an Indian, as Native people, First Nations people.

7 I have a hard time ever believing that my 8 grandkids can ever be traditional people or 9 cultural kids because that's the way we were taught and that's the way we teach our own kids is the 10 11 cultural values that are so important to this 12 nation and to families. And I think that's got to 13 be number one. If we don't look after our kids 14 then we don't teach them their cultural values, 15 then we're going to lose and be stuck and lost in the white-man system. And that's something that 16 17 can never happen.

As far as my heart goes, my grandkids will always have the cultural values that they're entitled to, and they have to be taught what I was taught. For sure.

22 When you talk about cultural values, you 23 know, how could we mention our cultural values when 24 there is an enhancement -- enhancing fishing 25 habitat within the Peace River that is going to

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1 be -- that's going to be provided by BC Hydro once 2 the Site C goes through. How could we say we have 3 our culture when, in fact, BC Hydro can be monitoring the fish in the wildlife -- the fish 4 with mercury. There is already a problem with 5 6 relation to the site -- the other dam, the Peace 7 dam, where you can only take one fish out of that 8 river, one fish per month. And now you've got --9 you've got -- now you're saying that you're going to monitor the mercury. 10

Well, I really have a hard time believing that, and -- well, you know, and supporting the mercury plant. I think that's going to be -that's going to be a real -- an eye opener if that can ever go through because I cannot see two rivers meeting like that and no mercury being involved.

17 Reducing the line imprint. Again, that's 18 going to be -- that's going to be a great --19 there's going to be so much land base taken out. 20 Our values are going to be taken out. Our 21 traditional way of life is going to be depleted 22 because of all the destruction that is going to be 23 happening in years to come.

24When we talk about generations within the25First Nations people, we talk about seven

1 generations yet to come. Those that have yet --2 that are yet unborn. We have to be very, very 3 careful when we plan and when we're going to be culturally and traditionally people of the land 4 base. And we use a lot of land. We're land users 5 6 in this community. And we don't -- we used to be 7 so very proud to go here and there and camping everywhere without any destruction. But that's 8 9 being put a stop to. Our Treaties were signed in 1899. And with those Treaties there were a lot of 10 11 promises there. And we see those promises being 12 depleted little by little, by a long shot, by 13 people that don't know anything about our Treaties and that don't have no respect for our Treaties. 14

15 Our Treaties are our great grandfathers speaking to us that signed the Treaties in 1899 in 16 17 order to protect us. And those Treaties get pretty 18 depleted when we see one more project happening in 19 our Treaty 8 territory and our values and our 20 traditional way of life being handed down and being 21 lost because of the destructions that are taking 22 place in our communities.

MR. RONNENBERG: Chief Harley, you and I share
the same blood, and we also have heard the same
prophecies. And in those prophecies, we're told

the young people have got to return to their ways.
And that's the way we're going to survive. And
that may sound too small, too minute to other
people, but when we're talking about that, we're
not only talking about us, we're talking about
humanity because all of us share this world. All
the systems are all interrelated.

8 And our forefathers, our great grandfathers 9 going -- I've been able to trace it to the 1700s. 10 But I know it goes way beyond that. And there's so 11 much, the -- like, we have -- you talk about -- we 12 talk about Aboriginal science, okay? But to those that have university degrees and are trained in 13 western education, they kind of, oh, yeah, yeah. 14 15 But we talk about natural law. What is natural 16 law? It's quantum physics. And that's what we're 17 talking about when we're talking about Aboriginal science. And some time in the future, that concept 18 19 and discipline is going to be taught in the 20 universities when both sides come together and 21 learn to respect each other and learn to trust each 22 other. But right now there's voices in the 23 wilderness saying natural law. But nobody is 24 really hearing that. And what this dam is really 25 looking at or is going to erupt is natural laws.

Because in one of our prophecies, it says --I'll say it in English. I could say it in Cree, but you wouldn't understand me: the arrogance of the white man will be his demise. And that relates to natural law, which is quantum physics.

6 And so therefore it's very important that our 7 young people learn their history, they learn their 8 spirituality, so that they in turn could be part of 9 the world. And there's not only us, there's other people in the world that are very, very concerned 10 11 about Mother Earth and all the things -- like, we 12 have all kinds of weather things that are 13 happening, earthquakes, tornados, torrential rains, 14 all those things across the world. And this is 15 what our ancestors were talking about in our 16 prophecies. So, yes, it's important that our young 17 people learn where they come from and what they're 18 here for because we're not just a waste of 19 protoplasm. We're here on earth to do something in 20 each of our very lives. And for those of us that 21 believe in a certain way, we're here to help. 22 We're here to try to make people understand what's 23 at stake. 24 Thank you.

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1 (Applause) 2 3 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. Those are the questions I have. And I would like to ask the 4 5 panel if there was anyone else that had anything 6 else that they'd like to add or share with the 7 Joint Review panel before we finish up with this 8 panel. 9 10 Presentation by Judy Cameron: 11 MS. JUDY CAMERON: I would like to share a 12 story. 13 My name is Judy Cameron of the Saulteau Cree -- I'm from the Saulteau Cree Nation and a 14 15 member of the Saulteau First Nations. 16 Today I would like to share one of the many 17 legends and stories and teachings my grandmother 18 used to tell us when we were children and growing 19 I also might ask, how is this relevant to what up. 20 is happening today? Well, as Native people, we 21 come from an oral narrative tradition. Story 22 telling was a sacred process that provided us with 23 cultural, social and historical context. 24 The oral narrative was and still is a 25 powerful tool for uniting an entire family,

community, a nation, and constituted our cultural grounding, and this has been thousands of years.

My grandmother used to speak about when we were children, about an evil, being with an evil spirit that could possess anyone or anything. The characteristics of this being were greed, gluttony, excess and even cannibalism. So Windigo as he was called was never satisfied. Even after killing, he would look around for new territory, new victims.

10 Today, Windigo, that my grandmother spoke of, 11 is in our midst. There's more fears. He's more 12 fearful, forceful and more powerful than ever 13 before.

14 If this dam project goes ahead, our way of 15 life, our connection to the land, our food source, 16 doing ceremonies, good times, medicines and berries 17 and hard times. There will be hard times because 18 they will be destroying a lot. Our culture and our 19 traditions as a people will be destroyed.

20 We must help those that cannot defend 21 themselves. Young people, grandchildren, Elders 22 who will suffer as our food source. Our plant 23 medicines will be destroyed. More and more, and 24 they will diminish. All animal life, plant life, 25 birds, fish in the waters will be gone eventually.

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1 The destruction of Mother Earth must stop. No more 2 dams to be built in our Treaty 8 territory. 3 All sectors of government, industry, dominant society, individuals in the position of power, are 4 5 destroying at a fast pace. What I will be saying 6 is not something giving potshots personally at 7 individuals, but rather as a symbolic ... 8 The psychological condition in today's modern 9 terms, in the dominant society would be called the "Windigo psychosis." That must be recognized as a 10 11 sickness of a society. Let there be no more dams. 12 Let there be no more destruction. (Native spoken). 13 14 Presentation by Mr. Gauthier: 15 MS. GAUTHIER: Okay. I quess as a person, 16 as an Elder of this community, I must say that I've 17 learned from the grassroots level regarding my culture, my traditional way of life. And I learned 18 19 by my parents and my grandparents how to survive in 20 the land because that was our life base. Because 21 my grandfather and my father and my entire family 22 were able to hunt and fish, and that was our 23 grocery store out there. 24 My father has told me time and time again

that times would be getting harder and harder

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because of the construction just like this, destroying our way of life and that one of these days, the safest place to go, to live, for our community, for our members would be going to the mountains because that's how much land is going to be destroyed by the white people.

7 Sometimes we -- you know, we're being asked if we have a relationship to the land. 8 We have 9 every -- I was born in the bush. I survived in the bush. When I went to school, I was 6 years old, I 10 11 didn't even know how to say hello in English 12 because I knew my own Cree language. That was my 13 That's my tradition. And I'm very proud culture. 14 of that.

15 How do I exercise my Treaty rights is by 16 believing in my Treaties wholeheartedly. And I 17 train that to my own kids because Treaty is very, 18 very important. And I think had this destruction 19 of -- like, for example, the dams that never had 20 any use for First Nations people, that didn't 21 benefit the First Nations people. It's going to be 22 affecting us in generations to come.

23 So the Treaty is very, very important, and 24 I'll live my Treaty and believe in my Treaty way of 25 life until I die because that's the only way that

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we can survive is believing totally in our Treaties.

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3 I'm an Elder. I have my culture. I have my traditional way of life, but I've also gone to 4 5 university, and I've also sat on panels just like 6 you have. But believe me, I've always come back 7 because I believe in my own people and trying to 8 protect our way of life from days on and days on. 9 And it seems like it seems harder and harder for us to protect our life because of the massive 10 11 destructions in every way of life that is facing us 12 each and every day. So I would really appreciate 13 it if there would be some time considered as -- if 14 there would be some thought considered regarding 15 some of the things that were said by the panel this 16 morning. Like enhancing the fishing habitat, for 17 example, is -- you know, it's a joke. Some of the things that were said today about the mercury is a 18 19 joke. Because 10 years and 20 years down the line, 20 it's going to be my great grandchildren that are 21 going to be affected by that mercury, that are 22 going to be affected because they're no longer 23 going to be able to fish and hunt like we always 24 have been. And so I -- you know, in my last -- and 2.5 I guess, when you say you support training, when

1 you support the Native contractors for work and you 2 support the cash settlement, you know, there's got 3 to be a lot more -- there's got to be a lot more communications with the community members in order 4 5 for that to happen. And, you know, let's not have 6 employment be -- let's not be bought out because of 7 employment, because of your greedy need for hydro, because we don't need it here. 8 We're very happy 9 the way things are. But things are getting very hard to contend with because of the destruction 10 11 that we're being faced -- that is going to be 12 destroying our community and our families in 13 generations yet to come that are yet unborn. 14 Thank you. 15 MS. DELLA OWENS: I have a question for 16 BC Hydro. Why does the increase keeps going up 17 every month for our hydro bill? Is this to offset the cost of this Site C project that you ... 18 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Would you care to respond to 20 that right now? 21 MS. YURKOVICH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 22 Rates are going up right now, and the funds 23 that are -- the revenue that is required to 24 actually reinvest in the existing facilities to 25 make sure that they continue to be able to operate

1 to provide electricity to the province. So the 2 largest chunk of the increase is really around 3 reinvestment in the existing facilities, which are aging because they were built many years ago. 4 5 Excuse me, Site C is not included in this 6 ten-year -- the government has just put out a ten-year rate plan. And it is -- this project 7 would come into service after that time period, so 8 9 it is not reflected in these increases. 10 MS. DELLA OWENS: It's so sad to see that in 11 our community we are poor financially, but we are 12 so filthy rich at heart. And I wish that BC Hydro 13 can see that we are people that have great concerns, and we have our future generation to 14 15 think about, and the increase keeps going up. And it's sad to see that we are paying for the price. 16 17 Because this -- there's another Site C going up, and when we have the other dams already in place. 18 19 THE CHAIRMAN: That was a question of fact, 20 and I appreciate the response. 21 I will ask Hydro to respond at the end of the 22 day to everything that they've heard except for 23 specific questions like that.

24Before we move on though, Jocelyne Beaudet25has a question she wants to ask you.

1 MS. BEAUDET: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. 2 We heard when we were with the West Moberly 3 Nation regarding medicinal plants, they were very worried that the project would potentially have the 4 5 wild sage disappearing. You have some plants that 6 are in different areas that you can collect, but 7 there's certain things that are very specific and 8 you can't find anywhere else. And I was wondering 9 if you are aware of any medicinal plant that you would for sure lose and not be able to gather any 10 11 other places than where the flooding is going to 12 happen? 13 MS. DELLA OWENS: What we were discussing is 14 that there is going to be a lot of plants that are 15 going to be lost forever. Like -- I can't remember 16 the name of the cactus, and it rarely grows in 17 different areas. And there is just a few amount of them that are left within this area. And once that 18 19 dam is in place, they're going to be underneath the 20 water, and we're going to lose them forever, and 21 they're medicinal. 22 And there is sage. There is three different 23 types of sage. And the one is buffalo sage, and 24 that's medicinal, and that's going to be gone.

25 MS. BEAUDET: Thank you.

1 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. We really 2 appreciate hearing from you today, (Native spoken), for coming and sharing your thoughts, and I hope it 3 was as comfortable as it could be. 4 5 MS. DELLA OWENS: I'm going to say something 6 in Cree. (Native spoken). 7 I ask that you have pity on us that guide us and protect us in ways that we need so that Site C 8 9 will not go through. Listen to our voices. 10 (Native spoken). 11 MR. MCCORMICK: We'd like to make a small 12 change in the revised agenda that's been circulated 13 today, and what we'd like to do if they're available is to invite up the youth at this time. 14 So if Mari Davis, Ashley Watson -- if there are any 15 16 other youth today that would like to share their 17 views with the panel, we would appreciate you 18 coming to the front. 19 20 Saulteau First Nation Youth panel: 21 Willow Davis 22 Ashley Watson 23 Mari Davis 24 Adrianna Glover 25 Janell Jackson

1 2 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Could you start by giving us your names, please. 4 5 MS. WILLOW DAVIS: My name's Willow. My name is 6 Willow Davis, and I am 20, and I'm from here. 7 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: My name is Ashley Watson. Ι 8 am from Saulteau First Nations, and I am 22 years 9 old. MS. MARI DAVIS: My name's Mari, and I'm from 10 11 Saulteau First Nations, and I'm 16. 12 MS. ADRIANNA GLOVER: My name is Adrianna, and I'm 13 from Saulteau First Nations, and I'm also 16. 14 MS. JANELL JACKSON: My name is Janell Jackson. 15 I'm from Saulteau First Nations, and I'm 22. 16 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you all for having the 17 courage to come up and share your thoughts. My name is Jesse McCormick. I'm the lawyer 18 19 for Saulteau First Nations, and I believe you all 20 know Chief Davis. 21 The way we would like to proceed is we have a 22 few questions that we'd like to ask just to start 23 things off, and I understand a couple of you at 24 least have given some prep time and have some 25 things that you'd like to say in addition.

1	So to begin, how do you think the Site C
2	project would affect the youth from Saulteau First
3	Nations?
4	MS. ASHLEY WATSON: So the question was how it
5	directly affects the youth?
6	CHIEF DAVIS: How do you think the Site C
7	project would affect
8	MS. ASHLEY WATSON: The youth?
9	CHIEF DAVIS: The youth, yeah.
10	MS. ASHLEY WATSON: Good question. So as you all
11	know from all of our guest speakers, youth are a
12	really big part of our communities. And we play a
13	big role because we're the ones that are going to
14	carry forth our traditions. And it puts a big
15	burden on us as the youth because we have so many
16	different things coming at us from all sides. We
17	have kind of the western living, where there's a
18	lot of the electronics and a lot of different
19	pastimes and stuff that can distract us from what
20	tradition means to us as a whole.
21	Tradition means a lot to me. I know growing
22	up I really enjoyed going berry picking with my
23	mother and my grandma and doing all that awesome
24	traditional stuff, going to sweats and everything
25	with Richard and learning those traditional songs.

1 And it's really difficult for my generation because 2 of all the colonization and the suppression that 3 happened in the past and getting our Elders to want to speak about that stuff with us, it's really 4 5 difficult for us to try to put away all of their 6 pastimes, the school, the sports, and want to go 7 hang out with our Elders and learn those songs and 8 learn our language. That is really hard for us. 9 Really vital also. So it's a lot of work for us to have to pick that up for our parents. A lot of our 10 11 parents don't even know how to speak their own 12 language, so it's really hard to fill that 13 generation gap. So for Site C to come along, it's 14 like putting all that on a rush for us. Like, all 15 of our land is so vital to be able to learn that 16 stuff. It's like -- it's like putting a time limit 17 on when you're supposed to be learning that. It's 18 like you can't force people to want to learn it, 19 but you have to or else it will be lost. And it's 20 a scary thing. Are we all ready to just put work 21 and everything aside and school and sports to just 22 have to learn it so quickly? And it takes a 23 lifetime. It's a lifetime of learning. And for 24 Site C to just put a time limit on it, it's really 25 scary.

1 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. 2 Would anyone else on the panel be able to 3 offer a few thoughts on how this project, Site C, might impact the youth in the Saulteau First 4 5 Nations community. 6 MS. JANELL JACKSON: I can definitely side with 7 Ashley in what they said. There is a lot of 8 pressure on us young generation. I know I am a 9 young mom to two children, and I go out. I don't know how to teach them. So aside from working, 10 11 from school, we have to make time to learn this and 12 fight the Site C because many people don't see the 13 dangers that it's putting in front of our 14 community. They don't see the harm it's putting in 15 place for our generation.

16 One of the Elders sat up here, and she said 17 her time is almost over. Ours is just beginning, 18 and this is -- we are going to have to suffer the 19 consequences of the mercury, the loss of animals, 20 the loss of land. And I don't just think of the 21 Natives. I don't think of just the Aboriginal 22 people that will be affected. I also consider the 23 farmers, the harvesting hand. What's going to 24 happen to them? I had a woman today come up to me, 25 and she was Caucasian, and she said we don't no

1 longer have a voice, we can't fight Site C, it is 2 up to you Natives to stand up and say, no more, no 3 more, because it is damaging our land, it is 4 damaging our future. You look at it as though it 5 is a small portion that you're taking away, and you 6 look at it as you are utilizing. You're taking a 7 way a lot more. You're taking away roots. You're 8 going up and you're hashing up our ancestor's 9 bones, our ashes, our history.

I fear that my children won't be able to go 10 11 out and hunt the moose that we have sitting in our 12 cupboards. There's a farm right along where the 13 floodplain is where we can go and we can buy fresh produce. I fear there will be no more of that. 14 15 And I fear for the mercury in the water. We see 16 the damages that mercury can do, and how many fish 17 are going to be affected by this; right?

18 So we're losing -- and we're losing our 19 waterways. We're losing -- we're losing so much. 20 We're losing water. We're losing food. We're 21 losing land. I think us youth have a huge job in 22 front of us to speak up and to say no, because it's 23 scary. It's scary to know that there will be a dam 24 in place taking away those resources that we can't -- we will not be able to use. 25

1 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. Is there anyone 2 else who would like to share on that point. 3 MS. MARI DAVIS: I totally agree with these 4 two girls, because that land is part of us. It's 5 our culture. And our children -- like, we're still 6 learning. How are we supposed to learn when she 7 said it's rushed. And with our children, if this -- if this dam goes through, we'll be teaching 8 9 them by pictures because we won't be able to take them on to the land and teach them how we're being 10 11 taught and how we're still being taught. And I 12 think that's important because it's part of our 13 spirituality and, like I said, who we have, because our church is like -- it's the forest. 14 It's the 15 rivers. It's the field. It's what we believe in, 16 and it helps us, I don't know, learn. 17 Thank you. MR. MCCORMICK: Willow or Adrianna, do you 18 19 have any thought on how the project might affect 20 the youth in the community? 21 Okay. We'd like to ask the ladies a few 22 other things. Like, obviously our 23 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: 24 traditional rights are what is most important at 25 this time. But even with the recent developments

1 with Monsanto and all of the genetically modified 2 food that we are intaking, going to the grocery 3 store is like buying a bunch of -- a box of Like, I want my children to be able to 4 chemicals. eat an organic meal and not be worried about what 5 6 all they're intaking. It's scary to even just look 7 at a box of crackers. You don't even want to eat 8 crackers these days. And for them to want to come 9 in and put in all the mercury and stuff, that's really scary. That's what's scary also for me. 10 11 Especially also I'm part of the Northern Alberta 12 Aboriginal -- I'm a youth rep for the Northern 13 Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Coalition. I've been doing 14 education awareness workshops with them since I was 15 17, so that's five years or so. And I just think 16 about with the influx of people coming in, how 17 detrimental that will be to my community with the HIV/AIDS rates rising and also the alcohol and drug 18 19 abuse. With all the new people coming in, they 20 don't really care about my community, they don't 21 care about my community's livelihoods, and they 22 don't care about protecting my hometown, Moberly. 23 So that's another thing that I'm scared about as a 24 youth, and how it will affect me as a youth. 25 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. And I think

1 you've touched on a really important point, which 2 is sometimes the impacts of alcohol and drug abuse 3 on First Nations communities. Have you, the people here on the panel, observed drug and alcohol abuse 4 5 here in Saulteau First Nations? 6 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: Yes, I have. Sorry. I have 7 witnessed it, and I have been an advocate for it. 8 And I really -- I promote not using. And I feel 9 that with the programs that we have right now, they are a help. We do have youth facilities. We do do 10 11 a lot of sports-based activities here in Saulteau 12 First Nations, and I feel that from all my 13 different travelling to different reservations that Saulteau First Nations is one of the better 14 15 reservations, and we do have a lot of youth that 16 are really empowered and they have strong mentors. 17 But I don't think that -- that said, that the influx of workers, that they will be able to kind 18 19 of veer away from all that negativeness.

I think with new people it always brings in new problems, gangs related things. For example, Fort Mac, I wouldn't even begin with their problems. So I just think of their community and what happened to them with all of their workers. And that is -- there's definite potential for that here.

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2 If we look back to even a MS. JANELL JACKSON: 3 couple years ago when the mines were booming, you look at the amount of crime that was brought into 4 5 Chetwynd and Moberly Lake, and that was just a mine 6 in Chetwynd. This is a dam where we would be 7 surrounded by thousands of people coming to be employed with the hydro dam, looking for resources 8 9 around Fort St. John, Chetwynd, Moberly Lake. Drugs and alcohol I think would definitely 10 11 increase, skyrocket. I think there would be a lot 12 more crime, absolutely.

13 And my question to the panel or whoever is 14 involved, are there going to be more programs 15 implemented to kind of sideswipe this? Like, is 16 there going to be more funds given back to the 17 community to help build more programs for the youth 18 that are affected directly by drugs and alcohol 19 abuse, gangs-related violence, things like that, 20 that will obviously come with all of this new 21 population? MS. MARI DAVIS: 22 And I think another thing 23 that ties in with all the people coming is all the

people -- there's more traffic and more people, you

garbage and stuff that gets left around, and more

1 know, walking all over the land, and you know, 2 that's a big deal, I think, because there will also 3 be more damage as in crimes. And it just won't be as safe as it is. 4 5 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. We've heard some 6 of the people from the Elders' panel talk about 7 Treaty. What does the Treaty mean to the youth and 8 how do you see that Treaty playing a role in your 9 lives? MS. MARI DAVIS: I think the Treaty ties in --10 11 a big effect with our lives because -- I'm sorry. 12 Because we're the future. And like they said, 13 that -- I'm sorry, I'm losing my train of thought. 14 Can you repeat the question? 15 MR. MCCORMICK: Certainly. We know Saulteau 16 First Nations is a Treaty community. There are the 17 Treaty rights and people hunt, and they fish, and they trap, and they use the land. How do you see 18 19 people, the youth in the community continuing in 20 those lifestyles and continuing to exercise their 21 Treaty rights? 22 MS. MARI DAVIS: Thank you. I see us 23 continuing those Treaty rights because we want to 24 be given a chance to use those rights and keep them 25 strong and make sure that our children do too, and

1 our grandchildren and the generations to come 2 because I feel that we deserve that, and what gives 3 them a right to take that away from us? Because that's how we've been living for a long time. 4 5 MS. JANELL JACKSON: Treaty, I couldn't give you a 6 full paragraph description of what I think Treaty 7 is or what I've been taught or what I know, but I 8 do know as a young Native woman at 13, my father 9 had taken me out to the trap line to shoot my first moose in which I did succeed at, at 13, a young 10 11 Native woman. We went through the traditional 12 process of how you care for the meat, how you give 13 thanks, what you take. I plan to teach that to my 14 two children, 6 and 5, young boys. So Treaty --15 Treaty I think is strong. It carries our 16 tradition. It will not give you an exact insight 17 of who we are as people or as a nation. But I think there are a lot of responsibilities that come 18 19 with Treaty. And see, this is where we can go back 20 and we can look at each other and go, this is how 21 much we don't know. This is how much we still have 22 to learn. This is a prime example. There is no 23 way that we can sit here and give you the answer 24 that those elderly women gave you. We're still 25 learning. We need time to learn. Where do we go

1	to learn; right? So I mean it carries tradition,
2	and yeah.
3	Thanks.
4	MS. ASHLEY WATSON: From my standpoint, I
5	believe the Treaty was a document that was signed a
6	bunch of years ago saying that, yes, we'll let you
7	practice your Treaty rights now, we won't suppress
8	you any longer, we're going to let you be a
9	traditional peoples on your own land, and that was
10	all great. And then they said that we were going
11	to be able to get blankets every year, and we were
12	going to get a cow every year. I'm 22 years old.
13	I would have 22 herd of cows if that was true.
14	Like, if that was true, sure, we would have a lot
15	of things. But that's not true. We get \$5 a year.
16	Whoop-dee-doo. I go buy a taco at Pemmican Days
17	every year, and it's great. I love it. Thank you
18	government for my taco. It's like so Treaty, we
19	all talk about Treaty like it's this hard document
20	that we read the day we were born. That's not
21	true. And the same goes with the government. It's
22	not true what they say all the time. but the only
23	thing that we really care about is being able to go
24	out in our backyard and smell the fresh clean air
25	and be able to go fish in our local river. That's

all we're asking. We don't care about the pail of nails we were supposed to get every year. We don't care about that anymore. It's just all we want is something to be able to leave behind for our children, be able to share that with our children. That's all we care about.

7 MR. MCCORMICK: That was very well said. I'd 8 like to open it up if there was any comments that 9 anyone would like to share with the Joint Review panel before we move on to the next panel. 10 11 MS. JANELL JACKSON: On my -- I had to leave to 12 pick up my two children from school, and I haven't 13 given myself enough time to learn about exactly what is going on here, but I get the big picture. 14 15 So on our way here, I gave my big picture to my 16 children. And if I can ask my son to come up and 17 share with you what he shared with me. Emerald and 18 Nolan. He's got his sock on.

19Can you tell these people what you told me?20MR. EMERALD STEVENS:You guys were going to take21away the animals.22MS. JANELL JACKSON:And what did you think about23it?24MR. EMERALD STEVENS:I'm going to miss the

25 rabbits.

1 MS. JANELL JACKSON: And how did you feel about 2 it? Bad for the animals. 3 MR. EMERALD STEVENS: I felt bad. 4 5 MS. JANELL JACKSON: This is a 5- and a 6-year-old 6 stating that they are fearful for our animals, and 7 I think if that doesn't give you an insight of how 8 serious this is, then you need to go home and 9 rethink your thoughts. THE CHAIRMAN: For a bit of history here, 10 11 could you give us your name? 12 MR. EMERALD STEVENS: I'm Emerald, Emerald Stevens. 13 I'm Nolan, Nolan Stevens. MR. NOLAN STEVENS: 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 15 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: At this point, I feel that I 16 am on the fence about where this is going with the 17 Site C. I feel that the loss right now is really outweighing the gain for my community, especially 18 19 from a school standpoint. I love going to school, 20 but I like going to school for, like, different 21 things. I'm not interested in trades. I don't 22 want to go to school to become a doctor, but it's 23 hard for me to just want to pick something that I'm 24 interested in, like, for -- say, I went to school 25 for adventure tourism because I was really

1 interested in the economic development side of the 2 tourism industry, and it was really, really hard 3 for me because I wasn't able to take a year off school or else I would be put on the wait list and 4 all this stuff, so I had to just go right into it 5 6 or I had to take university transfers and all this 7 stuff. But it's just like the criteria for youth 8 to have to access funds is just really difficult. 9 And I think that to be successful, it's hard for youth, like Janell, who have kids and who want to 10 11 go to school but aren't able to do it right away 12 and have to wait on a waiting list or there isn't 13 enough funds when we're involved with so many 14 different companies that there should be an 15 unlimited amount of funds for us to go to school if 16 we so wish it. So I'd just like to say that if it 17 was to change, that I'd be willing to sit on a board that helps make decisions like that as a 18 19 youth that is involved in my community, yes. 20 MS. MARI DAVIS: I agree with that. I quess 21 you could say it's like we live two different 22 worlds, like two different sides because we have to 23 go to a school and do all that kind of stuff, but 24 then at the same time, we have to come -- we come 25 back, and we have, you know, homework and stuff.

1 But then we try to fit in our traditional 2 lifestyles, like our hunting and our trapping, 3 especially in the winter with trapping where you have to come home from school and go check your 4 5 traps before it gets dark. 6 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: And you're still doing your 7 books --MS. MARI DAVIS: And you're still --8 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: 9 You still have to do your 10 exams. 11 MS. MARI DAVIS: You still have to do your --12 study for the test the night before, and it's hard 13 already. And this dam will just make it worse. It's a lot to take it. 14 MS. WILLOW DAVIS: 15 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: M'mm-hmm. It's a lot to take 16 in. 17 I agree when she talks about this. There's a 18 lot going on, and there still is racism that lives 19 today, and it's like, oh, you probably just want 20 Site C to go through so you could have a big pay 21 out or something, and it's totally not like that. 22 I don't want any sort of money unless it goes to 23 bettering my community with different programs 24 because we need it because we are still living in 25 the suppression and stuff that's relaying from all

the colonization, and it's really difficult to live the red road and still be trying to integrate yourself into a western community. So I think that that's really difficult, and I think Site C is like only going to make it even harder for us to be able to practice those traditional rights and keep them alive.

8 MS. JANELL JACKSON: If you were to take a drive 9 on the back roads of our country, you can see the 10 devastation of industry already. You can see roads 11 that we used to go hunting on and camping on are 12 now used as highways to pull logs out or to pull 13 coal out or for exploration.

I know I tried to take my children to an old campsite that I used to go to when I was little, and there were so many logging trucks.

My point to this is there is already so much industry work surrounding us, that it's just -everybody just keep saying, we'll just take a little bit from here, we'll take a little bit from here, you guys aren't going to feel the effects here. But we are feeling the effects. We are seeing it in our animals.

24 When I was younger there was moose and there 25 was fish, and it was plentiful. There was so many.

1 And now you go out, and you're lucky to see a 2 moose, you're lucky to come home and put food on --3 in your -- you know, on the dry meat rack and preserve that. And the berries, they're not as 4 5 many as they used to be, and ... 6 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: People are sharing moose. 7 MS. JANELL JACKSON: We don't -- people are -- our 8 communities are having to share their moose with 9 families. You know, that is the way we live, and it's definitely having its impact on us. 10 And to 11 see another dam go in and to know that this dam is 12 going to be much larger than the one that already 13 is in is scary. It is so unbelievably scary.

I really hope for these ladies' children, for my children, for the children of our community that this doesn't go through, and that we do -- are given the time to go out on our land and learn and utilize and preserve and to not send our goods out anymore.

20 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: Yeah. Stop the outsourcing. 21 I agree with her because I MS. MARI DAVIS: 22 remember even when I was younger, and I'm only 16, 23 so it's not --24 MS. JANELL JACKSON: It doesn't take very long. 25 MS. MARI DAVIS: I remember one time we went

1 out hunting, and we saw 16 moose in one night's 2 hunt down at Del Rio. And now we see 16 different 3 industry types of either gas wells or --MS. JANELL JACKSON: 4 And no moose. 5 MS. MARI DAVIS: No moose. We're lucky if we 6 see the tail end of a moose. 7 But BC Hydro talks the -- they talk about 8 like conserving the hydro energy, and -- like, 9 that's what we should be learning how to conserve our resources because if we just keep moving on to 10 11 a new dam or a new, you know, well or -- what 12 happens when it's all gone? What are we going to do then? 13 14 MS. JANELL JACKSON: What happens when we utilize 15 and drain our resources? 16 MS. MARI DAVIS: Exactly. 17 MS. JANELL JACKSON: What happens when they're gone? Who is left with the mess? Is it BC Hydro, 18 19 or is it the communities left in this area that 20 have to face the devastation of what was put in 21 place? Suffer the consequences, basically. 22 MS. ASHLEY WATSON: We're lucky at this age that 23 now we have a voice in politics, and we're able to 24 voice our opinions on what is done around us. So 25 I'm happy to be able to talk to you today and take

1 that and be able to say what we want because it's 2 true. 3 MS. JANELL JACKSON: Thank you for this 4 opportunity. 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you all very much. 6 When I heard we were going to have a youth 7 panel, I didn't realize just how far we were going to take the idea. But it has been very pleasant to 8 9 hear from you. Thank you. 10 MS. MARI DAVIS: I also found this quote that 11 I kind of liked, and I would like to share it with 12 you: 13 "We do not inherit the land from 14 our ancestors. We borrow it from 15 our children." 16 17 Thank you. 18 CHIEF DAVIS: With that -- so as your Chief 19 here today, I am thanking you from the bottom of my 20 heart for your thought, the wisdom that you carry 21 already. You know, you're already beyond your 22 years already. Like you said, you know, 16 years 23 isn't very long. Like you said, it's so guick. 24 One of these mornings you're going to wake up 25 and you'll say, oh, I was just 16 last week and now

1	I'm 66 because that's how fast it goes, but with
2	that, thank you very much. Thank you.
3	
4	(Applause)
5	
6	MR. MCCORMICK: If it pleases the panel, we'd
7	like to continue with another panel of individuals
8	from Saulteau First Nations. And I'd like to
9	invite up at this time the land users, those people
10	who have identified themselves as land users in
11	some of the earlier discussions.
12	I believe Bev Rohel is with us today. I'd
13	like to invite up Penny Berg, Garrett Napoleon,
14	Janell Jackson, Tyrell Goulet. I don't know if
15	Gary Paquette is with us today. Is Blaine Jobin
16	out here? And if Penny would
17	CHIEF DAVIS: Art, would you like to come
18	up? Yes, Art and Alvin and whoever else would like
19	to come up as a land user.
20	
21	Panel of individuals from Saulteau First Nations:
22	Bev Rohel
23	Penny Berg
24	Melvin Davis
25	Blaine Jobin

1 Art Walker 2 Mary Doyle 3 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you for coming up. 4 5 What we'd like to do is just to start, if we 6 could each have each of you please introduce 7 yourself and then spell your last name. MS. BERG: 8 Hello. I am Penny Berg, 9 B-e-r-q. MR. MELVIN DAVIS: My name is Melvin, Elder, 10 11 Saulteau First Nations, D-a-v-i-s. MR. ART WALKER: 12 My name is Art Walker from 13 Saulteau First Nations, W-a-l-k-e-r. I'm Bev Rohel, Elder from 14 MS. BEV ROHEL: 15 Saulteau First Nations R-o-h-e-l. 16 MR. JOBIN: Blaine Jobin, J-o-b-i-n, SFN 17 band member. MS. DOYLE: Mary Doyle, D-o-y-l-e. 18 19 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. And I'll also if 20 I could ask the Secretariat to please call up on 21 the screen the BC Hydro response to undertaking 22 number 7. This is a map that BC Hydro prepared in 23 response to a request from the Joint Review panel 24 to display the Peace-Moberly Tract in the area of 25 critical community interest over some information

1	about the project and the project impacts.
2	So if you're to the panels today if anyone
3	would like to point anything out on the map, I do
4	have with us a laser pointer, so I'll put that on
5	the table with you.
6	And as with the other panels, I'd like to ask
7	a few questions and we can direct some of the
8	information that way and then also if anyone has
9	anything they'd like to add, we'll open it up at
10	the end, and there'll be a chance to share whatever
11	your thoughts might be with Hydro and with the
12	Joint Review panel.
13	So to begin, when we see here on the map, we
14	see indicated the Peace-Moberly Tract. And from my
15	discussions with people from Saulteau First Nations
16	I understand that's an important area. Can you
17	tell me some of the wildlife species that you've
18	hunted or killed or harvested in that area?
19	MR. MELVIN DAVIS: All along from West Moberly
20	river here, all the way to the mouth of Peace River
21	I've hunted and half of that I've trapped marten
22	and, well, everything I guess. And I'm still doing
23	it, and I'm 65 years old. And ever since industry
24	started coming in, the game seems to be fading off.
25	Along the Peace River, me and my family used

1 to stay all along Peace there harvesting moose, 2 making dry meat and stuff. Now it's all oil fields 3 and stuff. And we'd like to see if that can be done something about it, but -- because we like to 4 5 save our game and whatever we use. 6 MR. MCCORMICK: Does anyone else hunt or fish 7 or trap in that area? 8 MR. ART WALKER: Yeah, I grew up -- just like, 9 I grew up between the two reserves here, and I 10 pretty much hunted all this area here. And that's 11 where we harvested moose, and we trapped marten, 12 fisher. And believe it or not, on the Boucher Lake 13 Road towards the -- we used to call it the oil rig 14 there, that's right by the Peace River -- there was 15 a family of skunks there. Me and my oldest brother 16 got chased by one. But yeah, I never ever hardly 17 ever see like skunks anywhere else. But there was a family of them right in there. And right by 18 19 Boucher Lake creek there, just above is where we 20 got chased. So anyway, there is a lot of wolves 21 and everything like that in there. 22 That's Bev Rohel's trap line. 23 But, you know, we harvested moose there all 24 the time and deer, elk, whatever else. Like, I'd

seen bears in there and all that stuff. So that

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Mainland Reporting Services Inc. courtreporters@shawbiz.ca was where I -- like, I -- most critical thing of -like, if it ever gets -- well, you know, if it ever goes through, that's going to -- all that stuff is going to diminish. So it's going to really hurt and affect all of us. I know it sounds like a broken record here, like everybody else is saying it, but that is true.

8 Like, that's where I grew up, and that's --9 like, everywhere else is already damaged, everywhere you go. So that's the only place I 10 11 really like. Like, you know, like our backyard, 12 our kitchen. And as far as the mercury and stuff 13 goes, I worked at the dam. I worked at the WAC 14 Bennett dam, and you're told not to eat the fish. 15 Like, you're not allowed to eat the fish because 16 there's so much mercury. And so if Site C went 17 through, there will be absolutely nothing you can 18 eat out of that river. And it will -- sure, 19 they're saying it's not going to back up very far, 20 but I guarantee you it's going to back up double of 21 what they say. 22 MS. BEV ROHEL: I'm Bev Rohel, trap line 23 holder for the PMT area of the Peace River. And

24 that's where I do my trapping, hunting and do my 25 culture camps and teaching youth people and my

1 grandchildren. And also I go spend time with our 2 families over there. And we've got a cabin out there. And when this Peace River -- this dam for 3 4 Site C that's going to happen, proposed to happen, 5 is going to be a very big devastation for all the 6 trappers and the whole community because our 7 hunting area is going to be a big impact. And also 8 our fish is something that we used to catch over 9 there, but now I don't even fish there anymore 10 because -- sorry.

11 All this area along the Peace River, seven 12 year ago along that Peace River, right from the 13 Peace Glen Hotel, we went down on a 14-foot boat. 14 We went shooting beaver, camped every night 15 along -- right to Taylor Flat, saw 150 beaver in 16 one week. And we couldn't take the carcasses, so 17 we took all the pelts, what we skinned. My oldest 18 sister come picked us up in Taylor. And that was 19 the best trip I ever had.

20 And now we're going to see this devastation 21 in this Peace River. All that is going to be taken 22 away from us First Nations.

Also all our wildlife. Where are they going to go? It's like the Williston Lake there. The migration of the caribou, we have lost that.

They're declining so bad now. The lake is just too
 wide for them to be swimming across that for
 migration through there.

4 And also, I'm trapping. The last three years 5 I've been trapping. And when they're going to do a 6 100 metre buffer on the transmission line if Site C 7 goes through -- and I'm saying no to all this 8 because this is going to destroy my grocery store, 9 my food on my table, and this is how I pay my This is what I use to pay for my hydro 10 bills. 11 bill. I work hard for this, I'm freezing out there 12 on Ski-Doo, Ski-Dooing around, going on my 13 snowshoes.

Hunting is another thing. That's our source of food on our table. And it's something that's going to devastate everybody. My grandchildren, I'm worried about them. I'm teaching them as much as I can, what knowledge I have. We had very good teachers from my grandfather and my parents.

I'm the holder of the trap line for the Napoleon family line. And I try, really try hard to keep industries out of that territory, the trap line area. I blockaded 2002 to keep oil and gas out of there. Went to court in Victoria. We had Supreme Court. It went on for months and months.

1 It was -- we took Elders with us. We took youth 2 people with us to see why we are fighting for our 3 cultural ways, why we're protecting this land, why we're protecting our animals, because this is so 4 5 important to us, because this is what we are taught 6 from younger generation up to an Elder as me. I'm 7 still teaching. And that's something I'll never 8 quit until they bury me down in the ground. And I 9 get very devastated for what I see -- what industries do nowadays. Too many dollar signs. 10 11 That's all they're worried about. Sure, we might 12 get compensated for some money or whatever. Ιt 13 only lasts for so long. Our land will be here 14 forever, and that's something we're trying to 15 protect. 16 Thanks. 17 MR. MCCORMICK: Before we move along, Bev, I 18 see that you have in your hand some marten, I 19 believe. Could you please explain to us what you 20 have there and where you got it, and maybe if you 21 have a moment, maybe if you could approach the 22 Joint Review panel and perhaps show them a little

24 MS. BEV ROHEL: This is marten. Last year I 25 got 47 marten, and I sent them out as for an

more closely what you have.

23

1 auctioneer, like for an auction. It was good 2 money. But still, I thought I should have got 3 better money for what I got. But still, it put food on the table and paid my bills. And also the 4 area where I trapped is Boucher Lake area. 5 That's 6 our trap line up there by the Peace-Moberly Tract. 7 And this is why I didn't want to see this dam going 8 through over there, because it is going to 9 devastate that area.

When I have to snowshoe, go set traps out in the bush, and to see a big impact to happen, I'm going to be walking farther away, farther more in the bush to go get my fur, what I need to get in order to put food on the table for my family and my grandkids.

16 And this is what really hurts me in my heart 17 is what BC Hydro, if it does happen, there is nothing going to be left there for us, for our 18 19 community, my people, my children, my grandkids. 20 And this is very devastating. And I'm going to 21 keep trapping until I start using a cane, maybe 22 then I'll slow down a little bit. 23 MS. MARY DOYLE: Good afternoon, chairman, 24 members of the Review panel and BC Hydro. 25 My name is Mary Doyle, as mentioned earlier.

1 And I'm a member of the Saulteau First Nations and 2 welcome you to our community. My stance today and that of my immediate 3 family is saying no to Site C. Bev is my aunt, so 4 5 I also speak on behalf of the Napoleon family. 6 I have no stats to refuse, only the emotional 7 pleas of the memories and oral history of my family who resided within the region for over 150 years. 8 9 My great, great grandfather was Napoleon Thomas, a 10 trapper, a hunter, tracker, guide, farmer and 11 cattleman. 12 My great, great grand mother was Matzella 13 [phonetic] Napoleon, highly respected for skills and Native crafts and as a medicine woman and 14 15 midwife. An insert from "Lure of the South Peace" 16 17 written by Dorthea Calverley spoke of my great, 18 great grandparents. It reads as follows: 19 20 "Every pioneer community has a 21 'first settler.' Recognition of 22 Dawson Creek's own notable earliest 23 comer appears in an unexpected 24 place -- the 1897 report of 25 Inspector J.D. Moodie of the

Northwest Mountain Police. It is 1 2 not, as you might surmise, because of a crime, but to commemorate an 3 honour ascribed to the head of the 4 5 family, Napoleon Tomas, (pronounced "toh-mah"). The record stands 6 7 under the anglicized name Thomas as he was known to later settlers and 8 9 Napoleon Thomas is still a 10 respected name in the area. 11 Napoleon was Iroquois-Métis 12 headman of a large family who 13 resided in what is now Pouce Coupe. 14 He had been settled there since 15 1891, seven or eight years before 16 the first white settler, Hector 17 Tremblay, located in the Peace River Pouce Coupe vicinity --" 18 19 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Can I slow you down just a 21 little bit for the transcribers. 22 MS. DOYLE: Yes. 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Thanks. 24 MS. DOYLE: Sorry. 25

1	"Some surviving members of the
2	family are known as Napoleons,
3	according to old Indian custom.
4	Natives had no hereditary surnames
5	until they were assigned them by
6	missionaries or Treaty-makers who
7	often used the father's personal
8	name to designate members of a
9	family group on Treaty or church
10	records.
11	In 1897 Napoleon Thomas 'held
12	up' the Northwest Mountain Police
13	in a sense. Inspector Moodie had
14	been ordered to lay out a route for
15	a cart road through the unsurveyed
16	territory from Edmonton to the
17	Yukon goldfields.
18	On November 1, 1897, Moodie
19	reached Fort St. John from
20	Lac Ste. Ann led by guide Francois
21	Thomas whom he hired near Spirit
22	River. Moodie could not hire a
23	hunter at Fort St. John from among
24	the Beaver Indians there. After
25	three days, his diary records, 'I

1	am sending out for Napoleon Thomas,
2	reputed to be the best hunter
3	around' On November 8, he
4	turned up. Four hours of
5	bargaining followed. Moodie
6	offered Thomas \$75 a month,
7	although others received wages of
8	only 45 to 60. Thomas refused
9	because his children were sick. He
10	returned to his camp. Another
11	bargaining session and the offer
12	was raised to 90 a princely sum
13	in those days if he got back by
14	April. Another stall because of
15	children, and then more
16	sophisticated bargaining. Moodie,
17	now was to return by way of Alaska
18	to Vancouver by boat and to
19	Edmonton by rail. The Indians
20	demanded to do the same. The
21	bargain was made. Meanwhile, the
22	women of the band had been
23	commissioned to supply mitts, caps
24	and moccasins at least 100
25	pairs as well as specially

1	designed sleighs, snowshoes,
2	harnesses and clothing.
3	•••
4	After his notable exploit
5	with the police, Napoleon was in
6	great demand as a guide. He led
7	groups west to the mountains, north
8	up the Halfway River, south to
9	Prince George, and according to his
10	son Jack, even to Vancouver. He
11	trained his boys in the old arts as
12	well as modern trail and trapping
1 0	1
13	lore.
14	lore.
	Iore. Mrs. Napoleon was highly
14	
14 15	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly
14 15 16	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly respected for her skills in Native
14 15 16 17	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly respected for her skills in Native crafts, and as a medicine woman and
14 15 16 17 18	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly respected for her skills in Native crafts, and as a medicine woman and midwife. A kindly soul, she is
14 15 16 17 18 19	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly respected for her skills in Native crafts, and as a medicine woman and midwife. A kindly soul, she is still remembered by senior members
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly respected for her skills in Native crafts, and as a medicine woman and midwife. A kindly soul, she is still remembered by senior members of the Tremblay family who tell how
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly respected for her skills in Native crafts, and as a medicine woman and midwife. A kindly soul, she is still remembered by senior members of the Tremblay family who tell how she came riding 10 miles or more
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	 Mrs. Napoleon was highly respected for her skills in Native crafts, and as a medicine woman and midwife. A kindly soul, she is still remembered by senior members of the Tremblay family who tell how she came riding 10 miles or more when she heard that Mrs. Tremblay

1 the medicine unappealing, but not 2 to the ministrations of the kindly neighbour." 3 4 5 I think about their legacy, their knowledge, 6 their gift to their lineage and how after 7 generation to generation, we have all maintained a 8 similar path. My grandpa Frank Napoleon also 9 followed his grandfather's and father's path as a 10 trapper and turned guide. His sons are well-known 11 quides as well as daughters who are cooks in 12 several hunting areas and who are now involved with 13 archaeological work for our community. Several grandchildren have also followed in their 14 15 footsteps. 16 Our testimony to the utilization of the land, 17 fishing, trapping, guiding, hunting and gathering 18 and utilizing our Native plants has always and will 19 always be a part of who we are and where we come 20 from. 21 My earliest memories as a child, 40 years 22 ago, were of trips to the family trap line at 23 Boucher Lake. Full family events, uncles, aunts, 24 cousins, grandparents, parents, all squeezed into our cabin. So memorable. 25

1 But it wasn't just the trap line. There were 2 trips to summer camps, up and down the Moberly 3 River, south to Tumbler Ridge area, along the Peace River at Halfway River, the Del Rio, Carbon Lake, 4 I remember my grandparents would take 5 everywhere. 6 us kids hunting and berry picking. And we would 7 set off walking for miles. I remember one time 8 grandpa shot a porcupine along the road. He made a 9 fire right there, threw the porcupine on the flames to burn the quills, and we ate right there and set 10 11 up day camp.

12 The wild tea grew everywhere in abundance. 13 My grandma would just reach over, pick it, and we would drink tea and relax with a full belly. 14 In mv 15 lifetime alone there have been so many changes to 16 the land, the number of wildlife, all due to the 17 development of industry of all sectors, the encroachment of all Treaty 8 lands, not only to our 18 19 family trap line, but all encroachments is of great 20 concern. It affects all levels of our Treaty 21 rights and day-to-day practices. The opening of 22 areas brings more hunters from all areas, affecting 23 our grocery store and the ability to provide for 24 our families. Logging has affected the medicinal 25 plants found in only these specific areas. The

1 dams have changed the fish habitat in spawning 2 areas. Now there's a concern of too much mercury 3 found in the fish and recommendations of eating 4 5 only one fish per week. It's hard to do if you are 6 usually used to a fish fry. 7 My dad logged the present Williston Lake site. He recalls a number of trees fell that were 8 9 just left there, and a large number of trees that weren't logged that now act as torpedos, shooting 10 11 out from the bottom of the lake at unsuspecting 12 boaters. 13 He recalls the slides and sloughing of the hillsides as the water started to rise. He 14 15 recalled being evacuated from working because of 16 the safety hazard of the hillside sliding. 17 I also recall my mother Lorraine telling us of the hillside at the Halfway River years ago 18 19 killing motorists and campers. This area at the 20 time hadn't been affected by the dam, but surely 21 will with the new project. 22 I imagine how the majestic landscape will be 23 I think of the calving grounds along the changed. 24 Hudson's Hope highway just below the Bear Flats 25 campground, a spot that you can always be sure to

see moose.

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My son at such a small age, would always wait for this spot. He knew he'd see a number of moose, and his moose count on that particular trip would be higher. The number of animals you will see along that stretch is countless bears, elk, grizzly, deer, eagles, geese, ducks.

8 I remember one time my son and I were driving 9 home from Fort St. John one evening, it was at the Watson Bird Sanctuary that we see -- that we'd seen 10 11 a river rat. Unfortunately we'd seen it too late 12 and ended up driving over it. We were driving a 13 car, which was really low to the ground, and we 14 both lifted our feet. We had quite the laugh 15 afterwards. It wasn't as though he could reach us 16 in the car.

17 So unless people run over the river rat 18 frequently, there should be still numerous rats in 19 the area as well. I have this story shared by my 20 grandparent, aunts, uncles and parents. The 21 memories of numerous camping trips, fishing trips, 22 canoeing, hiking and hunting, the countless road 23 trips and still never ceases to amaze me, the 24 beauty and breathtaking views of God's country. 25 It saddens me to think that should this

1 project go through, all of these areas that are 2 still -- that we still enjoy to this day will all 3 be lost under water. The legacy I would like to pass on to my family, my children, my nieces and 4 5 nephews and future grandchildren is to stand up 6 against that in which you don't agree, to voice 7 your opinion and your beliefs and to never back down against something you strongly disagree. 8

9 I want them to know that I honour our Native customs, our traditional beliefs and that our 10 11 animals and our land are sacred. All of our 12 stories will never be the same without showing our 13 future generation these areas and giving them the 14 opportunity of experiencing and sharing it with 15 them. And for them to enjoy it with their children. 16

17 Thank you, Chairman and Review panel. 18 I ask that you take my stories, my family's 19 history, our current and future use of the area 20 into careful consideration, and thank you for your 21 time. 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. 23 MR. JOBIN: Good day, everyone. Okay. 24 I've hunted beaver in the Del Rio area, fished in 25 the Moberly, kayak -- kayak -- canoed and kayaked

down the Moberly. My uncle had a trap line up
 here, and he used to go beaver trapping, and we'd
 be hunting up there as well.

You know, his -- our people has given you 4 5 insight of what they see through their eyes and of 6 the devastating -- well, I'm going to tell you what 7 the animals -- what's happening, and what they're 8 going to end up. Because of the gas and oil in the 9 Del Rio coming from the south, moving to the north, west, that one area, all along the river up to the 10 11 dam, on this side of the river is like a corner lot 12 for what's remaining of the animals.

13They're all moving that way. That's their14home. They're all moving because there's too much15activity.

16 Now, when I go in the bush -- I don't have no 17 problems when I go in the bush. When I walk 18 through there, that's nothing. That's beautiful. 19 It's spirit in there, no matter where I walk. But 20 if you ever corner a grizzly, you don't want to be 21 there. And for the industrials of this country, 22 Treaty 8, and then Canada, the animals are getting 23 cornered.

24I could see it up north in Alaska, there are25bear -- bears are getting cornered, and they

1 retaliate, but they get shot. The wolves, they 2 retaliate, and they must survive, and they too get shot. This one little area is a habitat and a 3 The next thing, it's across the river and retreat. 5 a lot of them ain't going to cross it. That's 6 about as far as they're going to go. Put Site C in 7 there, well, you're cornering and killing those animals that are cornered in that one section. 8

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9 Everybody here and my people have spoken of the traditions, the medicines, but I'm going to 10 11 step out of that little box because they've covered 12 What I want to talk to you about is the it. 13 grounds they're going to build or the thought of 14 building Site C. Those grounds, geophysically are 15 totally unstable for any such actions.

16 If the geophysical research -- like we had 17 the one meeting there, and I put in my bit on 18 requesting information prior and then part of that 19 research about Site C. Now, I've never heard 20 nothing back on that, what I requested. But the 21 grounds right from the Rocky Trench, right past 22 Site C, is unstable grounds, literally unstable. 23 Since 2012 and '13, there's been earthquakes 24 on this side of the river connecting up with the 25 major fracture which they built the Prince George

highway on up to the Rocky Trench for those of you that are familiar with the Rocky Trench. Okay?

3 By building a dam or any structure like that 4 or any other structure, you are totally endangering the people down river as well as us. 5 The water 6 level of Site C brings that running plain for the 7 waters of Williston to be that much higher. And 8 the way I look at it, I've been researching 9 earthquake activity for -- since the late '70s, and in addition, to A, B -- WAC Bennett dam and Site C, 10 11 the level of the water of Site C if it is 12 established, raises -- I don't want to say this too 13 loud, but I'm going to have to -- it puts another 14 nail in the coffin. The only thing is this nail is 15 like, whatever, a nail gun; right? It's not a good 16 deal because now it totally threatens everybody in 17 Saulteau, literally, by raising that water level of Site C, which gives it a running plain of Williston 18 19 Lake, and the dam is at 2,205; right? And the 20 water level is in there somewhere at 2,200 above 21 sea level.

The evidence through the Canadian geological services of Canada and the data they're submitting proves that that ground is unstable ground, literally unstable. There's a three-way fracture

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1 in the vicinity of that zone, and that was part of 2 my request when some questionnaires came out 3 through about Site C and some of the research that they should do and could do, and I don't think 4 5 they've done it because I never got my little 6 report. Do you know what I mean? They never got 7 back to me on that or my people. But you can't 8 build that thing up there because you're just 9 signing a whole bunch of death certificates, 10 literally.

11 WAC Bennett dam is at the end of its 12 life-span, and with my research -- if you attempt 13 to build Site C, you will be lucky to finish it. The geophysical evidence will exceed any manmade 14 15 process or attitude. It will exceed it, which 16 means the Site C zone is unstable. It will not 17 stand. And WAC Bennett dam will not survive 18 either. And by permitting, liking I say, once 19 again, true to my words, twice, if this to happen, 20 you are totally endangering all the people there through the Peace as well as the people of 21 22 Saulteau.

It's -- I'm just leaving that with you guys, and there's no way around that. There's no way to look at it.

1 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. 2 MR. JOBIN: Good. 3 MR. MCCORMICK: I'd like to -- and perhaps 4 you can show us here on the map, Blaine. Do you 5 know where the -- do you see the red line that 6 shows the transmission line? MR. JOBIN: 7 Yeah. 8 MR. MCCORMICK: Could you just point that out 9 with the red pointer there? MR. JOBIN: This one right here. 10 Is that 11 the one you're talking about? 12 MR. MCCORMICK: That's the one. Thank you, Blaine. 13 So there's been some discussion about some of 14 15 the plans from Hydro and if they construct the 16 project, and I believe Bev was mentioning that it 17 would result in an expansion of the cleared area of that transmission line. So it's a certain amount 18 19 of space now. And if they want to put in the big 20 towers that they need to to transport the 21 electricity from the dam site, they're going to 22 have to clear more space, extending up to I believe 23 130-something metres across, cutting through the 24 forest. In your experience in that area, how has 25 having that transmission corridor there impacted

1 the wildlife and the hunting? And how do you think 2 expanding or making bigger that clearing will 3 impact the wildlife and the hunting in the area? MR. JOBIN: Back to the animals, 4 Okav. 5 it's like a -- if you place a wire on the ground 6 here, like you've got wires here right? And a 7 mouse comes along, guess what he's going to do? He's going to be locked inside that wire, because 8 9 he ain't going to go over it. He's going to follow it all the way along. And he might not even have 10 11 enough time if something was to occur to get even 12 go over it because he's following that wire. He 13 won't go over it.

14 By placing electromagnetic system as a line 15 anywhere in the animal kingdom, it gives mental 16 effects to that animal, right, because you've 17 got -- electromagnetic does wonders. No, it 18 doesn't do wonders. It's a bad thing to the 19 animals as well as us; right? By extending it, you 20 now have another highway for other predators to 21 just basically look down the line, oh, yeah, 22 there's supper, way there, five miles down there, 23 right, when he should actually be working for his 24 supper and not given that opportunity to see 5, 10 miles down the line. 25

1 Now, back to the geophysical entity of the 2 placement of that line, that crosses a few 3 fractures running off the Rocky Trench. They run to the east, to the northeast up there, the 4 fractures, and that line as I see it runs across 5 6 one, two and hooks up to a major there. So two majors and a minor fracture that line crosses; 7 8 okay? Like I said, both ways, it works on both 9 sides of the line. Once it's in there, you lock some animals in and they won't cross that because 10 11 of the electromagnetic interference and all stuff, 12 right, and the sound and the humming. Because there's humming in power lines, the power is going 13 through; right? And all that plays an effect on an 14 15 animal's natural instinct. Because unlike the 16 human now, they need a telephone or something to 17 hook up to something, but an animal, they don't need that. He's still, if you will, pure. And 18 19 their sense are way up there, not like human 20 beings. They're way up there, and they can feel --21 and that electromagnetic stuff can interfere with 22 their every day functions of how to get from A to B 23 basically; right? 24 MR. MCCORMICK: Maybe I could also -- sorry, 2.5 I was going to also see if we could get Bev to

1 weigh in on the transmission line question because 2 I understand, Bev, that the transmission line where 3 it currently is, does that cross through your trap 4 line? 5 MS. BEV ROHEL: Yes, it is. When the first 6 time when a BC Hydro line came through, when the --7 I think it was -- no, Dinosaur Lake maybe when the 8 dam was built. And there was quite a devastation. 9 My dad was still alive then, those days when they'd come and had a meeting with him and uncle Bill 10 11 Napoleon. They even came right out to the trap 12 line cabin to come and talk to them about the hydro 13 line going through the trap line. And dad was 14 pretty old school, same with Uncle Bill. So they 15 told the BC Hydro guy that they needed to have 16 their own time to think about it before any 17 decisions were made. And I thought, well, that was a good call for both of them, for old school 18 19 people.

20 So they sat down after BC Hydro people left, 21 and then they talked about what should they do. So 22 anyway, dad got old Gillis Parker to phone for him 23 to get BC Hydro people to come to Moberly where 24 their homestead was at Moberly, and they came for 25 the meeting. Two guys were there. They had a little recorder; I remember that. And Dad had a hard time understanding because he was old school. So my mom, she was a very smart woman. She used to do a lot of paperwork for First Nations people, so mom understood a lot of the stuff they were talking about because she used to go to school a lot when she was young. So she understood the white man ways, what they talked about and his high language.

9 So anyway, they decided that for the hydro line to go through. So that first thing the guy 10 11 said to -- he said, Frank -- he said, what do you 12 guys want. So they didn't really want it to go 13 through. So now all of a sudden this guy starts 14 saying, he said, Frank, we'll give you 1,600 a 15 piece, you and Bill, Ski-Doo each. You know, 16 before they could even say no, already they were 17 doing paperwork. They wanted my dad and them to sign the papers right away. And I said what a 18 19 dirty thing to do to people that don't even 20 understand what they're really talking about.

So anyway, that went through. So two new
Ski-Doos were delivered there. Uncle Bill got one,
my dad got one, and also they got \$1,600 each.
You know, those days, they had to feed their
families. They went to the trap line all winter to

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1 make money. \$1,600 wasn't a lot of money then 2 because they had big families. Also they had to 3 buy the food to travel, and they stayed out there all winter. So I thought -- I think it was pretty 4 5 dirty for what they've done to the old people 6 because they didn't understand a lot of the stuff that they were talking about. And to me, I don't 7 even want the extension of this transmission line. 8 9 No new cuts, nothing. Because it's going to interfere with my trapping. I've got fish in 10 11 Boucher Lake area, right, that's where the BC Hydro 12 line is right now. And it's going to impact the 13 fish that's in there also at the Moberly river and 14 all the drainages. They're going to interfere in 15 all that.

16 I've worked long enough as an environmental 17 person and a traditional person for oil and gas, 18 forestry. And I've seen what they've done out 19 there. With a lot of stuff, what they did is such 20 a big impact. I wish this would have happened 30, 21 40 years ago, to have monitors, traditional 22 monitors, to understand what these industries are 23 doing, how they're destroying our land, how they're 24 pushing our wildlife away, our moose, our elk, our deer. That's our food on our table. 25

And even with the hydro lines now, it's such easy access for hunters nowadays. They go quadding down there. It's so open now. And also all these seismics that went through there. I wouldn't let them go through on mine, but the other areas on each side, there's trappers that own those lines. And there's a devastation there too. Because they'll sit in an open cut line, and they'll -- as soon as the moose comes out, they're shooting them.

We're losing a lot of wildlife because these 10 11 resident hunters come from down south. Americans 12 come up here and hunt. They're only there for the 13 trophy hunting. A lot of times we find meat out 14 there, the whole moose. They take the head and 15 horns. They don't care about the meat, they leave 16 it out there. How come they don't phone First 17 Nations people? Give it to the people that's in need. Why let anything spoil and leave it behind? 18 19 With us, we were taught how to keep every piece of the moose. We use it. We make hides -- hides are 20 21 We make moccasins, clothing, jackets. made. We 22 eat everything -- even velvet off moose horns. We 23 eat what they -- some of the intestines of a moose. 24 But sometimes I'm scared to eat it now because of 25 so much chemical spraying out there too that's

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1 destroying our animals. And they slowly die from 2 that. So it's pretty scary nowadays to even -- you 3 know, to go shoot a moose and trying to cook the intestines of what we lived off of from child to an 4 adult. And I don't even want to see this extension 5 6 of this transmission line because there's going to 7 be such an impact. And I don't even want to see 8 Site C happening.

9 The way our weather has been changing so much, it's been changed three, five years. 10 We're 11 getting more or less like spring weather now. Ιt 12 used to be cold, 30, 40 below, sometimes 50, years 13 ago.

Now we're just like it's -- we're getting 14 15 spring weather and it's December right now. Ιt 16 rained yesterday, snowed this morning, and it's 17 going to be worse than that when the Site C goes 18 through because the weather patterns are going to 19 change a lot. And same with our wildlife is going 20 to change a lot, and they already have. I even 21 noticed with all the fur bearing and whatever I 22 catch, last year they were good. This year, not 23 very good fur because it's been warm weather. And 24 I think that it's going to get worse. 25

Years ago when my grandmother had predicted

1 that things are going to change in our lifetime, 2 and here is what we're seeing now. 3 Our animals come into our yard because of so many industries coming in, and they're surrounded. 4 5 Also with what fish there is, like, we talked about 6 it so much. That was our food on our table. I'm 7 scared to even eat a fish now. The only place 8 where I go fish is right in our trap line, there's 9 a nice little lake there, we catch fish in there. But that's why I'm trying to keep the industries 10 11 out of there because that's a protected area. Also 12 I'm trying to keep all the industries out of there. 13 And if I have to fight tooth and nail to do it, blockade. As long as I have my people behind me, 14 15 I'm willing to do it. Thanks. 16 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, Bev. 17 I think one of the things that sometimes gets talked about in relation to industrial development 18 19 is the impact it has on moose populations. From 20 your experience as land users, have you seen moose 21 populations increasing, decreasing? Are they 22 staying the same? What's your experience in terms 23 of how many moose are out there and whether it's 24 easier or harder to be successful when you're

25 hunting?

1 MR. ART WALKER: Well, as everybody here knows 2 that everything's declined by a long shot. Like, 3 just like what Bev mentioned there, there's a lot of openings now, and a lot of -- you know, a lot of 4 5 moose licks are gone, stuff like that. So the 6 moose are -- you know, they're trying to find other 7 places to go calving and stuff like. All their 8 calving areas are gone. So they're going --9 they're showing up anywhere. So when the hunters do come down, like they're standing right in the 10 11 fields and all that. So it's easy kill for them, 12 probably easier for the wolves and all that as 13 well. So, yeah, it -- it has a big impact on that, 14 yeah. 15 MR. MCCORMICK: What do you think needs to be 16 done to try and protect the moose population. 17 MR. ART WALKER: No Site C. MR. MCCORMICK: And in the event that Site C 18 19 is built, is there any measures that should be put 20 in place. 21 MR. ART WALKER: Well, I don't really see how 22 it can be helped, really. Like, everything is 23 going to be gone. You can't relocate a moose. 24 You're not going to grab him and throw him in the 25 backyard of someone's place and fence him off like

1 they do with some of the elk; right? So it's not 2 going to happen. It's just devastating, that's 3 all. MR. MCCORMICK: One question, so I expect 4 5 that the land users here and other land users from 6 Saulteau First Nations have certain places they 7 like to go to to hunt, to fish, to trap, to gather 8 berries, to gather medicines. Would it be easy for 9 those land users just to go to a new place if those place were impacted by the project? 10 11 MR. MELVIN DAVIS: I'll make a comment on our 12 animals and our Mother Earth and how we respect it 13 because I still follow that tradition. Every time 14 I kill something, I put tobacco in the ground, and 15 I hang the bell of a moose on the tree. And every 16 marten or fur I kill, I put tobacco in the ground 17 and so as herbs and plants like that. MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, Melvin. 18 19 So one of the things in the analysis as I 20 understand it, and Hydro can correct me if I'm 21 wrong, is they've examined the impacts of this 22 project on land users. And one of the things 23 they've said is where there are impacts, except for 24 very specific locations, land users will be able to 25 practice their Treaty rights in other locations.

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1 And I want to understand from this panel is that an 2 easy thing to do, what are the costs associated, 3 what would be the impact on you and your families if you weren't able to go to your preferred 4 5 locations and you had to go somewhere else? 6 Penny? MS. BERG: 7 I wouldn't want to go 8 anywhere else. I would rather remain on our family 9 trap line, the same place that my grandfather and his brothers and my aunts all trapped. 10 I think 11 that's important not to be displaced by industry. 12 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you. Does anyone else 13 have any thoughts on whether they should just 14 expect that you can move somewhere else? 15 MS. BEV ROHEL: Well, I really disagree with 16 it because from my point of view, and my community, 17 my people here, how would you feel if you're taken out of your home and said you've got to move and 18 19 living there from childhood to now. Because I know 20 for the fact I'd fight, and I'd say, no, nobody is 21 moving me, that's my traditional area, that's where 22 I utilize the land. People are just infringing on 23 our traditional land and stuff. And it's -- it 24 just really devastates me. It just really hurts me

because this is where I spent time with my

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1 grandparents, my parents. Why should I get kicked out of there? We all work together. 2 We hunt 3 together. We have culture camps together. And why should we move out of there? If you can do that to 4 5 animals, and I'm not an animal. I'm human yet. 6 And I'm not going to stand for that. I'll stand 7 for my rights. If I'm born and raised in that 8 area, the traditional area, we've always traveled 9 everywhere to hunt. My dad used to have a team of horses. We used to go hunt way up the Moberly with 10 11 a team of horses, Boucher Lake, up towards Del Rio. 12 All those are our hunting areas. And they are very 13 precious to me. And why should I lose my 14 traditional ways because of the dam? As far I'm 15 concerned, I don't want to see no dam. And if it does happen, well, you know what, you guys, I'm --16 17 it really upsets me. I mean, there's trouble then because I'm not going to stand -- I'll stand my 18 19 ground.

20 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, Bev.

21 So I think we've reached a point where we've 22 got limited amount of time, and we want to make 23 sure there's some opportunities for those people 24 who have been waiting all day. What I'd ask is if 25 you have any last comments, and if you could please

1 keep them short. 2 MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, just before we get to 3 that, Madam Beaudet has a question she wanted to 4 ask. 5 MR. MCCORMICK: Certainly. 6 MS. BEAUDET: Actually, it's in relation to 7 trap lines, but a few questions I wanted to ask of 8 BC Hydro. 9 One thing I'd like to clarify, first of all, is about yesterday talking about in West Moberly, 10 11 there was a map, W10 where there were erosion 12 instability lines indicated, and you said that 13 because the map was done in 2011, it was -- my question was, is that preliminary, and you said 14 15 yes. But then when we look in the EIS, and correct 16 me if I'm wrong, in volume 2, you always talk of 17 preliminary lines. So I feel that until you get a 18 permit and do further studies, you probably are 19 talking always of preliminary lines; am I correct? 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Nunn? 21 MR. NUNN: As we discussed the other 22 day, there's been a lot of work done around the 23 reservoir shoreline to predict the erosion impact 24 line, for example, and the stability line. I think 25 we've done the work that can be done to come up

1 with the best prediction we can at the moment, and 2 if the project's completed, we'll be monitoring to see how good our predictions are and might be 3 updating after, say, five years. 4 5 You've done the studies in MS. BEAUDET: 6 what year? Because this map shows 2011. Were 7 there any progress after that, or new data that 8 would modify the lines that were used by West 9 Moberly or Treaty 8 Tribal Association? 10 MR. NUNN: Since the question was raised 11 yesterday, we wanted to go back to our GIS 12 department and just check the shape files and see 13 how it lines -- of the lines on the drawing you're referring to and the ones in section 11. And we'll 14 15 get back to you with an undertaking just to confirm 16 what differences there are, if any. 17 MS. BEAUDET: Thank you. I would 18 appreciate that. 19 Now, why it triggered this clarification 20 question is I was looking at table 24.19, and I'd 21 like that table to be put up, please. This is in 22 the chapter harvest of fish and wildlife resources. 23 And as I was looking at it, I suddenly realized 24 that some of the numbers there are numbers of 25 Saulteau people trap lines, two of them, in

1 particular that are going to be affected by the construction of the dams and the other one of the 2 3 transmission line. One is by 10.1 percent and the other one by 7.2 percent. And if we put the figure 4 5 24.2 --6 MR. MELVIN DAVIS: Can I just ask a question 7 there? MS. BEAUDET: 8 Yes, please, go ahead. MR. MELVIN DAVIS: 9 Are they going to be putting that road from Chetwynd to the dam if it goes 10 11 through the highway? 12 MS. BEAUDET: Yes, I believe one is by the 13 road and also by the transmission line. But that's not the one that is indicated that is most 14 15 affected. Maybe if I give the numbers, you would 16 be able to say, this is my trap line. Do you go by 17 a number? Yes? So the one by the dam is TR0732T004. 18 19 MS. BERG: Bingo. 20 MR. MELVIN DAVIS: About --21 MS. BEAUDET: The other one is TR0732T05. 22 About T73200T07. MR. MELVIN DAVIS: 23 MS. BEAUDET: Yes, it is there also. And 24 the other one is TR -- and that's the road and the 25 transmission line. The other one that is affected

1 is TR0732T006. 2 And that is your line? I'm glad to be able 3 to put faces now on numbers. Good looking faces at that. 4 CHIEF DAVIS: 5 MS. BEAUDET: So I have two questions: the 6 first one -- there was in the amendment -- I mean, 7 at first in the EIS it said that BC Hydro would try 8 to seek to put input in how they could mitigate the 9 effects on these trap lines. And then in the amendments, they say develop mitigation measures 10 11 intended to decrease the impact on First Nation 12 trap lines. And also there's a proposal of giving 13 compensation. So my question to BC Hydro is are 14 you able to mitigate, all the effects will be 15 reduced in a way by what this lady was telling before only by compensation of the monies possibly 16 17 lost or the revenues? MS. JACKSON: Thank you. I will answer the 18 19 first part and then ask Mr. Proverbs to continue. 20 The trap lines are as described today, of 21 course, a traditional use for these owners. And 22 they're also a commercial right under the 23 provincial system. And so a commercial -- a 24 commercial compensation for any losses would be 25 included and offered to all trap line holders

1 including Non-Aboriginal trap line holders. And 2 then I'll ask Mr. Proverbs to speak to further measures for Aboriginal trap line holders 3 4 specifically. 5 Thanks, Siobhan. MR. PROVERBS: Okay. 6 I want to make two points respecting the trap 7 lines, the first has to do with a meeting that took place here in Saulteau in August of 2012 when I met 8 9 with, I think, the majority of the Saulteau trap 10 line holders. 11 I know Bev was at that meeting, and Penny I 12 spoke to you before that meeting. 13 At that meeting I made a commitment that on an ongoing basis we would work with the Saulteau 14 15 trap line holders to really play a monitoring role 16 as we go through time, both at this point in time, 17 but also if this project is approved throughout the 18 construction of the project to determine on an 19 ongoing basis what the impacts would be on the 20 ground within each of the specific trap lines. 21 In addition, I'd like to point to table 19-15 22 in section 19 on page 19-107 where we set out a 23 number of mitigation measures, proposed mitigation 24 measures. And in that we proposed to work with the 25 trap line holders through ground truthing on the

1 ground in terms of the effects it may have on their 2 cabins and camps, that type of thing so that we can 3 deal with those. We actually learned the specific locations of the cabins, where they're located, if 4 5 any construction activities could impact with them, 6 impact them and then deal with them at that time on 7 an ongoing basis. MS. BEAUDET: Would that include also 8 9 restorative measures like this lady was talking

10 about drainage being changed and things like that?
11 Would you also have some activities that you
12 envision to do, to try to repair if there's damage
13 by construction?

14 MS. JACKSON: In all areas in our 15 environmental management plan site -- well, site 16 protection including specifically maintenance and 17 if needed restoration of drainage areas in adjacent to construction would be included. Certainly local 18 19 knowledge of important features of the drainage 20 would be helpful in identifying the site specific 21 management that would be needed during 22 construction.

23There are actually two or three of our24environmental management plans that speak25specifically to reclamation and re-vegetation

1	activities in areas that would be reclaimed after
2	construction activities.
3	MS. BEAUDET: One thing I'd like to know is
4	when you have a trap line, do you share it with
5	other people, or is it just the family that
6	inherited it?
7	MS. BEV ROHEL: It's all shared now with all
8	community members. Before it was only the
9	individual families. But now we feel that we all
10	work together as a community, that we can go trap
11	on somebody else's trap line as long as we ask out
12	of respect that we could any member can go trap
13	on my line or on somebody else's line, but that's
14	the only respect, if you go ask them and talk to
15	them about it.
16	MS. BEAUDET: Thank you. My last question
17	is, it refers to other activities that are done on
18	the trap line other than trapping, such as
19	harvesting or gathering. And there is some
20	information in appendix 23, part 3 of volume 5
21	actually page 28 if anybody is interested to go and
22	see; it's quite fascinating about this
23	additional information to other users. And if to
24	the extent that these trap lines are affected for
25	ten years during the construction period, I was

1 just wondering what mitigation measures BC Hydro 2 has thought about in terms of any fund that you can 3 propose as a cultural continuity fund or -- we were talking in Fort St. John for instance about the 4 5 sustainable reporting and using indicators that are 6 now used by big corporations across the world, and 7 there are indicators where you have programs, 8 specific programs to compensate for loss of 9 activities, cultural activities in particular in certain areas, and I was wondering if you did 10 11 discuss this or you are thinking of putting aside 12 some funds for this type of element that people are 13 not going to be able to use for many years? 14 MR. PROVERBS: Yes, thank you. I think what 15 you're referring to is an element of what we're 16 having discussions about in the impact benefit 17 agreement negotiations, the idea of a cultural continuity fund. And we are having discussions 18 19 around that. The talks are ongoing at this time, 20 and we haven't yet concluded anything. But in 21 terms of the idea, we are having those discussions. 22 MS. BEAUDET: That would be part of a 23 program to address impacts and operations on 24 communities. I mean, it can be ongoing, also 2.5 during operation of the dam. If you look at some

1 of the Saulteau First Nations, there is one plot 2 here -- I mean, one trap line that is on the river, 3 and there will be two things. There, a part of it will be flooded, and then there is also potential 4 loss by erosion. So for me when I look at it, it's 5 6 not just compensation during construction, but it's 7 also compensation to some extent during operations with trapping and also with cultural activities 8 9 done on the trap line. MR. MELVIN DAVIS: I got a question again. 10 Not 11 only the erosions, but there are a lot of islands 12 there with timber on it. What are they going to do 13 with them islands with the timber on it? Are they going to log it off, the islands on the river? 14 15 MS. BEAUDET: We'll first get the answer with the trap lines and then we can ask that 16 17 question. MR. MELVIN DAVIS: That's part of the trap line. 18 19 MS. BEAUDET: Oh, okay. Thank you. 20 MR. PROVERBS: Yes, the erosion that you're 21 referring to does fall within the effects 22 assessment. 23 Now, in terms of if there was a continuity 24 fund, that obviously could apply beyond the 25 construction stage and into the operation stage.

1 MS. BEAUDET: Thank you. 2 CHIEF DAVIS: Chief Harley Davis. I chose 3 not to sit on the land uses panel because I didn't want to interfere with any notes or words that they 4 wanted to share. I didn't want my members to feel 5 6 uncomfortable in any way. But when we talk about 7 trapping and cultural activities, my relative Bev here touched a little bit on how we as First 8 9 Nations people have always shared and continue to share. Because when the day comes and we quit 10 11 sharing, we're probably all going to go hungry. 12 One at a time people are going to go down. But 13 going back to the question that you had, we have close to a thousand members, and each one of these 14 15 members carries a status card which identifies them 16 as Saulteau First Nations band members. With that 17 comes a Treaty right which will allow them to hunt, trap and fish and gather for as long as the sun 18 19 will shine, the grass grows and the river flows.

So when we talk about compensation, whatever else, you know, we've got to keep that broad. And to the panel and to your question, when you go back to direct a question to BC Hydro, sometimes it's best not to maybe try to have a group over here because we all have that right. You know, so when

1 you talk about compensation and we've got to look 2 across the whole room, we've got to look for the members and the children that aren't here. 3 We've 4 got to incorporate and ensure that that question is 5 applied to the children who have not been taught 6 yet. We've gotta apply that question to the 7 children that aren't born yet. And to the end, I 8 don't think there's enough money that could be 9 raised anywhere on this planet that could compensate or bring back something that is going to 10 11 be taken away or lost forever. You can't bring 12 back a life. If something dies inside of you, you 13 can't bring it back. Someone might stand up beside 14 you and coach you, talk to you, mentor you, pray 15 for you, but that's gone. How do we put a dollar 16 figure on the loss of life, the loss of a language? 17 Take away the -- take away the English language. Just imagine if we took the language away today. 18 19 How would you communicate and how much would it 20 cost? What would you be willing to pay? What 21 would you be willing to take in order to get that 22 voice back? There is no price tag attached to that 23 because there is no price. There is no monetary 24 figure that will ever bring back what is taken 25 away. You can't bring it back. It's gone forever.

1 So when those animals are gone, when that 2 ability -- when the ability and the know how to go and harvest these animals and provide for yourself 3 and your family, not only as sustenance, but also 4 in a spiritual realm for your culture, it's gone. 5 6 So I was just going to say, you know, with 7 that, I don't think we can put a price tag on it because if it dies, it dies. And if it dies, so 8 9 does the culture, and so does a language, and there's no price tag that you can put on a 10 11 language. 12 Thank you. 13 Thank you, Chief Davis. THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. McCormick, I'm looking at the time and 14 15 how -- and knowing that we do want to give Hydro a 16 chance to respond to some of what they heard this 17 I'm in your hands. afternoon. MR. MCCORMICK: Certainly, Mr. Chairman. 18 Ι 19 note that it is now 6:03, and we're scheduled to 20 finish at 7 o'clock. There will be food available, 21 but I'd suggest we wait until the end of the 22 session for that to be opened up. 23 Perhaps I could ask the Hydro panel to give 24 us an idea of how long you anticipate you will 25 require to respond.

1 MS. YURKOVICH: We will be brief. Five 2 minutes, perhaps. 3 MR. MCCORMICK: Certainly. If that works. 4 MS. YURKOVICH: 5 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, Ms. Yurkovich. 6 Then what I would suggest we do, we did 7 intend to seat another panel. However, I know 8 there are many Saulteau First Nation members who 9 have been sitting very patiently here today in hopes that they will have an opportunity to speak 10 with the panel and share some of their insights 11 12 into this project. 13 I think we have time for maybe seven -- six 14 or seven individuals to speak for approximately 15 five minutes each. And if it pleases the panel, I 16 would like to thank the land users for taking the 17 time to present and participate this afternoon. 18 And I'd like to open up the -- we'll replace the 19 microphone, and I have a list of individuals that I 20 can call. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, thank you very much. 22 MR. MCCORMICK: So we'll just take a moment 23 and rearrange the microphone setup. 24 25 Saulteau First Nation members panel:

1 Stan Napoleon 2 Lorisha Desjarlais 3 MR. MCCORMICK: 4 5 And the first person that we would like to invite up to speak would be Stan Napoleon, if Stan 6 7 is available. MR. STAN NAPOLEON: 8 Hello. My name is Stan 9 Napoleon. I'd like to go on the record in saying that I 10 11 am of Cree and Dane-zaa descent. I didn't migrate. 12 I didn't immigrate. My people come from this area 13 since time immemorial. Well, with that being said, most of my 14 15 presentation will be directed basically to the 16 Hydro people. 17 When you first start the original dam, we 18 didn't have no participation, none whatsoever. In 19 other words, you stole that land from us underneath 20 us. We didn't have any kind of participation, none 21 whatsoever in the development of that. And that 22 goes with the second dam that you built, and now 23 you're -- you're looking at the third dam here. 24 Your greed, your insatiable greed for energy, 25 is so enormous that I don't know what you're going

1 to do with it. Is it exported? Or is this energy 2 designed for LNG or such people as them? I see 3 these big oil companies who have power lines go 4 into their systems. I don't see anywhere in your 5 reports where it substantiates your need for this 6 energy. You said we have a growing population in 7 British Columbia. Maybe that is correct, but how 8 do we know? How can you verify that? I am going 9 to go back here -- I am going to go back and forth here. 10

You do know we are -- this band is not 11 12 budgeted to participate on equal basis, on equal 13 terms, like you do. We're not budgeted for that. 14 Our monies come from the federal government. Since 15 we are under the fiduciary responsibility of the federal government, I don't see any of them 16 17 representing us here, neither the money that's designed for us to specifically fight for our 18 19 Treaty rights.

20 When we talk about Treaty rights, before the 21 Treaty was signed, we had hereditary rights to this 22 land, inherited rights, and then when we signed the 23 Treaty, it was supplemented by what we call the 24 Royal Proclamation of 1665. If that's not strong 25 enough for you to comprehend that, why would you 1

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want to challenge our people in initiating this third dam.

3 With that being said, we know this Peace 4 River. Somebody said earlier what did you call it 5 before? It was (Native spoken), the Great River. 6 But that was changed to Peace River, probably 7 because we signed a peace treaty with you people so 8 as to live in peace. We managed to do that with 9 the ranchers, with the farmers. We helped them. 10 They helped us. We lived together in peace. And 11 now, yes, there was once Peace River up those dams; 12 now it's a lake, for Pete's sake. Now, there's 13 another dam. There's another little lake.

14Where is our Peace River? What are you going15to do with our Peace River? That's our hereditary16factor right there. Peace River means a lot to us,17and when you talk about water, water is sacred to18our people.

19I am a catholic, you bet you. I was baptized20by holy water, and we -- with that, our people21regard water as a sacred, because it's part of the22element in one of the languages here.

Again, let's go back to the original dam.
There was some talk about compensation plan here.
Before we even come up to that, any kind of

compensation talk, why don't you pay for what you've stolen for those two dams that you already have. We never benefit one bit out of that.

I also have a big concern about this, you
raising the increase of power rates. What happens
to the fixed-income people? When you're on fixed
income -- you're gouging these fixed-income people
by virtue of dipping into their fixed income.
Where is your apathy for those things, for the
raising of that? Certainly you don't have ...

11 Okay. Let's go back to it. There was some 12 talk about climate change. Yes, there has been. 13 Since the building of the dam, there was a drastic 14 change of weather. We no longer experience the 15 crisp 30 below zero that we were so accustomed to. 16 And now it's damp, it's muggy. It's windy. 17 Because of this drastic change of the weather, perhaps that's why we're experiencing changes in 18 19 our lifestyle. I mean, our health. We're 20 experiencing respiratory problems, arthritis, 21 diabetes, cancer. I'm not going to be a 22 professional here and attribute that to the dams, 23 but there has never been a study. 24 Again, let's go back to the studies. If you

want an equal playing field, if you want an

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1 equation, why don't you put up -- why don't we 2 draft up a budget so we can have a fair fight with 3 you people, because we don't have no professionals 4 to help us here. Yes, we have some, and that's 5 what we -- what little we have. Look at you people 6 up there, over half a dozen of you people. What do we have here? Basically nothing. 7 We have one or 8 two professionals here that could verify, but what 9 I want to getting at is I want the verification of your studies so we can compare with what people we 10 11 might have to hire to say our piece. I want an 12 I want a fair fight here, not one-sided. equation.

13This is my second time with you people, and14in the 1980s, I won against you people in Vancouver15when we had that National Energy Board hearing. I16wasn't scared of you then. I'm not scared of you17now. I'm old, but I'm still running against the18wind.

Here is your document at that time. I still have it, and I still got some at home, but at that time when we went to there, we were equipped with professionals [indiscernible] union BC Indian Chiefs with AFN, the Equestrian (phonetic) National Brotherhood at that time. Yes, we put up a fight, and we won; again, because of the equation, because we were on equal grounds. We had professionals, just like you do, and that's what I want. If you want a -- if you want to ask for something, you're not going to get it for free.

5 And I guarantee you -- my people have already 6 told you that they don't want this dam. They have 7 nothing they're going to benefit from. You're 8 closely associated with the wind power here, which 9 supplements your need for the energy, but that doesn't seem to be enough, yet those windmills are 10 11 in our Treaty area. The very home of what we --12 the very fabric of life of what we go through. Ι 13 can speak on behalf of all the biodiversity, so to 14 speak, the ungulates. They can't speak. Because 15 we utilize, and because we're so closely tied in 16 with these animals, yes, I'll speak on their 17 behalf, and they're not happy with you.

18 You talk about the -- the -- you're going to 19 build a dam, but you never talk about so much as to 20 how much land you're going to open by virtue of 21 accesses, the roads. How are you going to police 22 the traffic with these multitude of traffic that's 23 going to go through these areas? You are going to 24 have to have a transmission line coming out from 25 there, and you're going to have to have borrow pits

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and these accesses and these roads that you're going to build. There's going to be a lot of road kill. Who is going to police those things?

There is no viable study that's done or any kind of mitigated measures that's going to be undertaken that's going to solidify our fear. I mean, not solidify, but will ease the ...

8 You say you have 8 billion bucks that you're 9 going to throw into this dam. What do we get out 10 of it? Diddly-squat. You say you have 8 billion. 11 How much of that 8 billion is spent to take 12 alternative measures? What kind of alternatives do 13 you have?

14 I am sure you can harness energy from the 15 solar system, and I'm sure you can get it from the windmills, so long as it's not on Treaty 8 land. 16 17 Peace River country, our hometown, has it done enough for the Province of British Columbia? You 18 19 have -- we have done our share. We gave you dams. 20 We give you coal. We give you gas and oil, but 21 what do we get in return? Nothing. We're still 22 scrounging around for government hand outs when we 23 could be self-sufficient. That's why I was 24 instrumental in creating Treaty 8, so we could be 25 self-sufficient, so we could be -- we can create

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1 our own autonomy, but that wasn't the case. 2 We're still begging for hand outs through 3 budget purposes. There is no money available for 4 us for this kind of a -- it's not budgeted for this 5 kind -- why do you still keep coming in here? We 6 already have -- our lands department are 7 overwhelmed by the referrals.

8 At some point as we went along, when I went 9 to -- you said something about in Fort St. John earlier. You said something about the polls 10 11 suggest that everybody is in favour, that most of 12 the British Columbians are in favour of this dam. 13 I don't know where you get those polls from, 14 because if you get it from the -- from each band 15 that you might have went, I'm pretty sure that it's 16 going to be a lot less than what you made out to 17 When you conduct these polls to -- how do you be. sugar coat it? Did you tell them about the 18 19 negative impacts? And how are you going to address 20 those mitigated measures when there is going to be 21 negativity in this creation of this dam?

I think that was given five minutes, but hopefully that I could meet you again somewhere along the line. At this time I -- because I'm not a nice person, because I am mad at a lot of things,

1 because what's transpired through our hometown and 2 how much destruction you're going to be faced, I'd 3 like to have my daughter come and read my summation. 4 5 MS. DESJARLAIS: Hello. My name is 6 Lorisha [phonetic] Desjarlais, D-e-s-j-a-r-l-a-i-s. 7 My dad has asked me to read his last comments for him because he's very emotional about this process. 8 9 10 "Since the arrival of people 11 of European descent, we have welcomed them, helped them, and we 12 13 fought them. That's the Treaty. 14 This treaty has been challenged in 15 court and has stood yet to be 16 valid. It's not recognized by BC 17 government. It's okay, we're under 18 federal jurisdiction, which 19 supercedes all provincial and 20 territorial laws. Through all of 21 this, our people have been 22 ostracized by the majority, yet we 23 live to fight another day. I don't 24 want to have this dubious 25 distinction of having my

1	grandchildren and saying that their
2	grandpa didn't fight for them when
3	they flood the mighty Peace River.
4	Our Treaty is not for rent and it
5	is not for sale.
6	
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Napoleon,
8	ma'am.
9	MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you.
10	If we may have the leave of the panel, we
11	face a difficult situation in that there won't be
12	enough time to hear from everyone who would like to
13	speak. We would like to take a brief five-minute
14	break to convene those individuals who are left so
15	that we make a collective decision as to who could
16	speak, so if we would have five minutes, I'd like
17	to ask anyone who is left to speak to please meet
18	just in the lobby here outside the gym, and we'll
19	have a brief discussion and figure out who is the
20	last few people who will speak, and we'll be right
21	back.
22	THE CHAIRMAN: Good. We'll reconvene at
23	6:30. Thanks.
24	
25	(Brief adjournment)

1 2 CHIEF DAVIS: Before we get started, I 3 would like to take a second to thank the panel for fulfilling our request to add a little bit more 4 5 time, and they've added another 8 hours on to 6 the -- no, I'm just kidding. Trevor had his thumb 7 up. All the rest are putting their heads down. 8 No, but thank you so much for the extra half hour, 9 because I feel that it's important, and it's vital that everybody that has taken the time or feel that 10 11 they've got something to share that, you know, we 12 find a place for them here, because as I said 13 earlier, each and every member of the Saulteau First Nations has a right, and they're all 14 15 individual rights, so thank you with that, and I 16 will pass the mic back on to my colleague. 17 MR. MCCORMICK: Thank you, panel, for the 18 flexibility. 19 What we'd like to do for the closing here is 20 we'd like to seat one more panel for brief 21 comments, and we will bring them up as a group, and 22 they will speak individually without prompting or 23 questions, and then we'll close with some final 24 remarks from Chief Davis, and of course an 25 opportunity for Hydro to share.

1 So if we could please have Bud join us up at 2 the front, Geraldine, Stewart Cameron, Sandra Fuchs, Bev Walker, Randy Gauthier, Myron and 3 Pauline Walker. 4 5 6 Saulteau First Nation members panel: 7 Bud Napoleon Geraldine Gauthier 8 9 Stewart Cameron 10 Sandra Fuchs 11 Bev Walker 12 Randy Gauthier 13 Myron Gauthier 14 Pauline Walker 15 Yvonne Tupper 16 17 MR. MCCORMICK: And perhaps we can start with 18 Bud. 19 Bud, if you could introduce yourself or would 20 you like to go later? We'll start with Stewart. 21 MR. STEWART CAMERON: My name is Stewart Cameron,

23 MR. MYRON GAUTHIER: Myron Gauthier, Saulteau

24 First Nations.

C-a-m-e-r-o-n.

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25 MS. GERALDINE GAUTHIER: Geraldine Gauthier,

1 G-a-u-t-h-i-e-r. 2 MS. WALKER: Pauline Walker, W-a-l-k-e-r. 3 MR. FUCHS: My name is Sandra Fuchs, F-u-c-h-s. Don't swear at me. 4 5 MS. YVONNE TUPPER: Yvonne Tupper, T-u-p-p-e-r. 6 MR. BUD NAPOLEON: Bud Napoleon, N-a-p-o-l-e-o-n 7 as in Bonaparte. 8 MR. RANDY GAUTHIER: Randy Gauthier, 9 G-a-u-t-h-i-e-r. MR. BUD NAPOLEON: Well, I'd like to welcome the 10 11 panel for coming here, and I'd like to say thank 12 you for being here. 13 My name is Bud Napoleon, and I've been chief twice for this reserve here. I was one of the main 14 15 founders of the Treaty 8 Tribal Association, and as 16 such, I was elected their first Tribal Chief, and, 17 yes, we went toe to toe with you guys in 1980, and here we are again, round four, and round five I'll 18 19 still be standing. 20 I had a submission made out, but because of 21 lack of time, I'm going to read something. I will 22 read something to you guys, and I hope it sinks 23 into your heart, because this thing, speech, is 24 from Chief Seattle that he read in 1854, and as I 25 read it, take note that our Treaties -- you can see

1	our Treaties within his speech.
2	
3	"The President of Washington
4	sends word that he wishes to buy
5	our land, but how can you buy or
6	sell the sky? The land? The idea
7	is strange to us. If we do not own
8	the freshness of the air and the
9	sparkle of the water, how can you
10	buy them? Every part of the earth
11	is sacred to my people. Every
12	shining pine needle, every sandy
13	shore, every mist in the dark
14	woods, every meadow, every humming
15	insect all are holy in the memory
16	and experience of my people. We
17	know this happened, which runs
18	course through the trees as we know
19	the blood that courses through our
20	veins. We are a part of the earth,
21	and it is a part of us. The
22	perfumed flowers are our sisters.
23	The bear, the deer, the great
24	eagle, these are our brothers. The
25	rocky crest of the dew in the

1	meadow, the body heat of the pony,
2	and man all belong to the same
3	family. The shining water that
4	moves in the streams and rivers is
5	not just water, but the blood of
6	our ancestors. If we sell you our
7	land, you must remember that it is
8	sacred. Every glossy reflection in
9	the clear waters and the lakes
10	tells of events and memories of the
11	life of my people. The waters'
12	murmur is the voice of my father's
13	father. The rivers are our
14	brothers. They quench our thirst.
15	They carry our canoes and feed our
16	children, so you must give the
17	rivers the kindness that you would
18	give any brother. If we sell you
19	our land, remember that the air is
20	precious to us, that the air shares
21	a spirit with all the life that it
22	supports. The wind that gave the
23	grandfather his first breath also
24	gave his last sigh, the wind that
25	gives our children the spirit of

1	life. So if we sell our land, you
2	must keep it apart and sacred as a
3	place where man can go and taste
4	the wind that is sweetened by the
5	meadow flowers. Will you teach
6	your children what we have taught
7	our children? The earth is our
8	mother. What befalls the earth,
9	befalls the sons of earth. This we
10	know. The earth does not belong to
11	man. Man belongs to the earth.
12	All things are connected like blood
13	that unites us all. Man did not
14	weave the web of life. He is a
15	merely strand in it. Whatever he
16	does to the web, he does to
17	himself. One thing we know, our
18	god is also your god. The earth is
19	precious to him, and to harm the
20	earth is to keep content to its
21	Creator. Your destiny is a mystery
22	to us. What will happen when the
23	buffalo are slaughtered, the wild
24	horses tamed? What will happen
25	when the secret corners of the

1 forest are heavy with the scent of 2 many men and the view of [indiscernible] and blotted with 3 talk and wires. What will the 4 5 thicket be? Gone. Where will the 6 eagle be? Gone. And what is to 7 say good-bye to the swift pony and then hunt? They end up living in 8 9 the beginning of survival. When 10 the last red man has vanished in 11 this wilderness, and his memory is 12 only the shadow of a cloud moving 13 across the prairie, will these 14 shores and forests still be here? 15 Will there be any spirit of my 16 people left? 17 We love this earth as a 18 newborn loves its mother, mother's 19 heartbeat. So if you sell our 20 land, love it as we have loved it, 21 care for it as we have cared for 22 it, hold it in your mind, the

memory of the land as it is when

for your children and love it as

you received it. Preserve the land

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1 God loves us, and as we are a part 2 of the land, you too are a part of 3 the land. This earth is precious to us, and it's precious to you. 4 5 One thing we know: That there is 6 only one god. No man, be he red or 7 white, we are all brothers and sisters." 8

10 That to me is only a significant, a small 11 speck of what a Treaty is. The moose that are out 12 there right now, the elk, the deer, the rabbits, 13 they cannot speak for themselves, so I as an Elder, 14 as a big game guide, as a hunter, as a trapper, and 15 as a concerned citizen of this reserve am totally, 16 totally against Site C.

17 Years ago my father, when we had a hearing,18 he said:

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20 "I am old. I cannot speak
21 for myself, but I want to speak for
22 my children, my great
23 grandchildren, and my great great
24 grandchildren I have yet to see."

1 And I know what he meant then, and I am 2 saying the same words too. It's hard for me right now, because I'm going 3 such -- so much emotion right now, but I will tell 4 5 you one thing: I have fought with you guys before 6 at your field with your court system, and I'm doing 7 that again now, and if I have to take up a gun and 8 fight with it in order to defend my land, well so 9 be it. 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Chief, please do not make 11 that kind of threat. 12 MR. BUD NAPOLEON: Sorry. Sorry about that, but 13 that's how I feel. I'm do not -- I'm not trying to start an uprising or -- I'm just letting out my 14 15 frustrations. I apologize for that. 16 In close, and I would like to say that years 17 ago Lorrie Morgan wrote a song. It was called "What Part of No Don't You Understand." Now I am 18 19 going to ask you what part of no don't you 20 understand when we say no Site C? 21 In closing, I would like to wish each and 22 every one of you guys a merry Christmas and a happy 23 new year, and many blessings to each and every one 24 of you. 25 Thank you.

1 SPEAKER: Yeah, I'll just keep it simple. Т 2 understand we have to evolve and move forward in 3 BC. What really concerns me though is that it seems BC is just selling out all of our resources. 4 5 There's more hunting permits now more than ever. 6 All the resources are going to big corporations 7 which overrun the law basically. The more the resources are worth to British Columbia, the 8 9 government or whom ever, the less it's worth to us. Somebody has mentioned earlier that can we 10 11 find another place to hunt. Well, damn, you put us 12 here 100 years ago, where do up want to force us to 13 next? Are you kidding me? When all the water is 14 polluted in BC, and it seems like it's going to get 15 polluted eventually -- you control the water, you 16 control the people. I get it. Once the Site C dam 17 goes up, there is no going back. I've got 18 children. I've got pride. 19 And that's all I've got to say. I won't be 20 sold out. I say no. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Could I remind 22 the panel to address this panel rather than --23 thank you. 24 MS. TUPPER: (Native spoken) My name is 25 Yvonne Tupper. I live off reserve. I've been a

1 band member all my life. I received my Treaty card 2 when I was 10 years old, and it was such an honour 3 to have -- to belong to east side Moberly Lake nee 4 Saulteau First Nations. My mother is originally 5 from this land. We were born and -- she was born 6 and raised beside Moberly Lake. We were taught to 7 fish with my grandmother who is now passed, and those memories are very fond for me, because she's 8 9 not here to teach me more.

I was born in a time when WAC Bennett dam was being built. I was one of the Bennett dam babies. My father worked there, and what I'm sitting here struggling with is when I see a bully, I call a bully out, and I feel that this dam is going to make my people weaker. We're already weak, but it's going to make us weaker.

17 I am glad for this forum, because back in the 18 1960s, there wasn't a forum, and my relatives that 19 sit beside me and behind me, they were oppressed. 20 They were oppressed with anger, fear, emotions that 21 they couldn't express then, so I'm very grateful 22 that you're able to see our emotions. I am very 23 upset when somebody bullies my relatives. I'm very 24 upset when they bully me. I'm not putting up with 25 this, and I'm strongly saying no to Site C.

1 The mighty Peace River has already been 2 She's always been abused, and one of our touched. 3 Elders brought that up. She's been raped. I want to say enough of that. Three dams is too much, and 4 5 not even just to think about the predators that are 6 going to come into our community with that dam 7 blocking the water ways, the predators like grizzly bears and animals and -- are going to come back the 8 9 this way, and what are we going to do to protect that? Yeah, you're thinking about relocating the 10 11 moose, but what about the predators that's already 12 in our neighbourhood. 13 Then what about the criminal record checks of 14 those workers? 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Tupper, can I slow you 16 down a little bit? 17 MS. TUPPER: Okay. Very emotion. I'm sorry. Like I said earlier --18 19 THE CHAIRMAN: I know, but we are trying to capture each of your words. 20 21 MS. TUPPER: Okay. So I'm thinking about 22 the workers of the dam. I am hearing all sorts of 23 numbers of how many thousands of workers are going 24 to be here in our community, and they're not going 25 to have criminal record checks, and I'm thinking

1 about those kind of predators in our neighborhood, 2 and what kind of policing we're already experiencing. Hard times within this reserve with 3 4 policing and the lack of thereof. And also the 5 lack of health, and I'm thinking about the health 6 of my community, the psycho-social side of our 7 There's mental health issues. members. There's 8 addiction issues. And that's only going to 9 increase, so I want to say ditto, the same as everybody that before me spoke and the ones that 10 11 are going to come, because this is very dear to our 12 hearts, and we say no to Site C. 13 Thank you. 14 MS. FUCHS: Well, we don't have that on, 15 so my name is Sandra Fuchs. Oh, F-u-c-h-s. 16 I've been through the meetings since from the 17 I heard a lot of good speakers. beginning. Ι 18 heard a lot of environmental issues. I heard about 19 all the moose, the habitat, the wildlife, how it's 20 going to affect everything around in our area, our 21 culture, our water the most. I don't think I can 22 see one person in here without a water bottle, you 23 know? The water is something that we have to 24 preserve and make sure that it's there for our 25 future generations.

It's hard for me to talk, because I'm trying to get my teeth over Christmas, but anways, I ended up --

I work as an environmental monitor. 4 I worked 5 all through the Treaty 8 territory. I did stream 6 surveys. I did water -- all the water surveys all 7 around the area, and what it came down to is, like, 8 you cannot find any of this water in the States or 9 down in Vancouver. Here, it's fresh. You know, it's really fresh, and it's -- everything is like 10 11 bottled now, so what's going to happen in the 12 future? Like, for instance, in the States right now they're wanting our water up here or up in the 13 14 Yukon. You know, as an environmental monitor, I 15 went through a lot of impacts. I mean, the land 16 went through a lot of impacts in the area. Like, 17 every time you cut down a forest, where is the moose going to go? 18

We did a moose study at one point in 19 -no, 2005, and we found a lot of sick moose. Like, if we found a good moose, we distributed it to the community. But, you know, tonight we can't even feed you guys moose because nobody is out there to go hunting, and we can't find any moose anywhere that's close by, but this morning before I came

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here, there was a moose in my backyard. You know,
 probably coming to say you better speak up on my
 behalf.

4 You know, as an environmental worker, I work 5 a lot with animals, and throughout the project what 6 I was working for the Trans-Canada Line, I seen a 7 lot of animals, and then I went up north to 8 Fort Liard, and it's my first time ever being that 9 I hadn't seen any industries, no cut lines, far. no mountains taken down, and I seen animals right 10 11 by the road without being killed. Not unless a big 12 truck comes by. But other than that, there was no sign of industry up there, and that's how it was 13 14 when I was growing up.

15 I never grew up for about 12 years here. Ι 16 lived in Montreal. I had a chance to be out there 17 to see how the world was. When I seen when there 18 was nothing that was over there in Montreal, you --19 like, I didn't have no moose to eat. I started 20 meeting people from James Bay. I was there for the 21 James Bay project, and I learned from those people 22 of how much devastation that happened to their land 23 and what happened to our land over here, and I 24 spoke of it, and they were devastated with how much 25 -- how much more can you guys take? You know?

1 But I can't keep you guys here too long. 2 We're going to -- you're probably hungry, and thank 3 you very much for letting me speak. I know you guys seen me many times with my sunglasses, and I 4 5 thank you very much for being here, and it really 6 comes from the bottom of my heart, and I wish that 7 you would think about our Treaty. You know, the 8 government broke their promises, and they're 9 breaking them again. So I thank you from the bottom of my heart 10 11 for being here and listening to our comments and 12 our recommendations and our concerns, and I'll be 13 out there still fighting for that moose that came 14 to my backyard. Thank you. 15 MS. WALKER: My name is Pauline Walker, 16 W-a-l-k-e-r. 17 I was raised by my grandmother. I did a lot 18 of hunting and trapping with her. She told me a 19 lot of stories about things she's seen in her 20 lifetime, how she lost family to smallpox, TB, 21 residential schools. How she felt it -- she 22 herself -- we grew up camping, and she took me all 23 over camping. I camped all over with her in the 24 bush on horseback, and she just felt we were 25 getting restricted, more and more restricted, as to

1 where we could go, you know? People were moving in 2 Land was being fenced off here. here. Just all 3 that sort of things that -- and then this is one area I feel that is pretty open to us right now to 4 5 be able to utilize it. It's getting more and more 6 difficult. It is true. It is getting more and 7 more difficult to hunt for moose, and the moose 8 means a lot to us. It's our life. Everything on 9 the moose can be eaten, if you don't know that. Ιt 10 can be eaten, everything.

11 And I'm -- so a lot of times her and I would 12 sit there, and, yeah, we had electricity for part 13 of it, but I'm prepared to live without electricity if that's what it needs to be in order to protect 14 15 my land. At one time we were watching a movie and 16 I think -- not a movie, the news, and the tsunami 17 happened that was a big tsunami. I can't remember 18 when. And then there was some earthquakes. And 19 then she said to me, she said:

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"Granddaughter, the Creator
is mad. He is mad because of all
the things that are going on on the
earth, and he is trying to warn the
people, warn the people to stop all

1 the devastation on this mother 2 earth." 3 And that is all I have to say. The land is 4 5 important to us, and thank you for being here. MS. GERALDINE GAUTHIER: 6 My name Geraldine Gauthier. 7 I am a member here at the East Moberly Lake, RR169, now also known now as Saulteau First Nations. 8 I am 9 a Dane-zaa Cree and Iroquois. I have lived here most of my life, off and on. Only went out to go 10 11 to school, come back, whatever, but anyways --12 I grew up with the land, and I grew up with 13 my family, my mom and dad and all my brothers and 14 sisters, and we were taught all the cultural 15 ways -- sorry, I'm sorry. I -- first of all, I would like to welcome 16 17 BC Hydro, welcome the panel, Elders, youth, Chief 18 and Council and all the members that are present 19 here today. My apology. 20 Okav. And a lot of the stuff that I have 21 written here, I have 20 pages, but a lot of stuff 22 was already said. Okay. 23 Hunting areas, a lot of stuff was already 24 said that's going to be affected. Our moose is 25 infected. Along the Site C, the Peace River area,

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we have an abundance of moose and calving areas that are going to be affected, along with the caribou and the elk and all other animals. There has been a decline in a lot of animals due to all industry, that's oil and gas, mining, wild farms, forestry and fracking and BC Hydro.

Okay. I oppose Site C. I know I am only one
voice and I am sure there are other people here
that feel the same.

10 Okay. Ecosystem is at risk; all the fish is 11 at risk. At one point in time we used to eat a lot 12 of fish. Not anymore. We were advised by Health 13 Canada just to eat very little due to mercury 14 levels. This was all said already.

15 I remember back in the day I used to go 16 fishing with Dad right until I left home, and he 17 used to catch a lot of fish, and the fish then were really healthy. We could eat a lot, and he gave a 18 19 lot away too, but now today it's not like that. 20 And with the Site C, if it does go through, it's 21 going to wreck the whole ecosystem, and the fish 22 are going to be gone. There's going to be no more 23 fish, and as for our berries. Our berry picking 24 patches, they've already been sprayed by pesticide. 25 We have berry picking patches in areas along

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the Peace River that are going to be lost if Site C goes through. I have seen this with my own eyes. I have worked on Site C archaeology for three years, and I have witnessed a lot of things along that Peace River right from the Moberly rivers, Halfway rivers, right down to Lynx Creek, the whole area where Site C is going to be impacted on us.

8 Okav. The weather. The weather has been 9 talked about already and the environment, the weather has changed dramatically in the past years, 10 11 and it's going to continue to change. And the air 12 we breathe, it stinks. And the people here are 13 getting sick at alarming rate. My uncle Stan 14 already mentioned all the diseases and stuff that 15 have been happening. There has been a lot of snow 16 in the past, and a lot of cold winters. That was 17 brought up already, and it's just changing dramatically due to industry and all other 18 19 development and the global warming.

20 Our water is another number one big issue. 21 We're going to be a shortage of water here in 2025. 22 What are we going to do? What are you guys going 23 to do? We have to live here for the rest of our 24 lives. You guys go back to your city, and you guys 25 live there. We're here to stay. We have to live

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here and live with all this devastation if this dam
 goes through.

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The trap lines were already discussed, and I know that there is trap lines in the area that are going to be affected.

6 Pipelines. Okay. Pipelines. I know that 7 you guys are putting this -- want this Site C in 8 order to accommodate those pipelines, along with 9 mining and wind farms and all that other development. A lot of the development that is 10 11 happening -- they are raping our land, ripping up 12 our beautiful mountains. What are you guys going 13 to do next, target our Twin Sisters? Those Twin 14 Sisters are very sacred to us, and we'll put a 15 fight up with that too.

And as for archaeology, our artifacts, we don't know where they go, what you guys are doing with them. We never see them.

And we have graves in the Peace River area. Are we going to have to face another [Native spoken], where all the bodies of graves come up and floating up in the water? I certainly hope not, because there will be a battle if there is.

24And our Treaty rights, number one issue. Our25Treaty is sacred to us. As long as the sun shines,

the grass is green and the rivers flow, our Treaty will stand forever. This is how our ancestors, grandmothers and grandfathers, have put it so we can benefit from it. But have we benefitted from it today? No. Broken promises, broken promises, promises never been filled.

7 Okay. I just want to make another concern 8 here. Okay. We have BC Hydro claims that are 9 sitting at your Treaty 8 office right now. These claims have been sitting there for the past two 10 11 dams, and they have been sitting there for the past 12 30 years. Why can't you guys, BC Hydro, settle 13 these claims first before we even put this third dam in? It's really, really frustrating and it 14 15 bothers me a lot that it's like putting the cart 16 before the horse. But I would really like to see 17 these claims resolved before this dam has even gets 18 approved.

19 A lot of history has been mentioned today. Ι 20 have late grandmothers and grandfathers too. Ι 21 know my grandmother, Mary Cryingman, and my 22 grandfather, Fred Napoleon, gave us a lot of 23 history to us children and a lot of knowledge as we 24 were growing up. I'd like to -- when my kids have 25 been passed on the knowledge. I have grandkids now

1 that I will slowly pass on the knowledge. 2 And they used to tell us about how a lot of 3 changes are going to happen, and sure enough today they are with the environment. 4 5 A lot has -- a lot of lost land has been 6 disruption and will diminish the quality of our 7 life. It will have an effect on all of us. Why do 8 you guys want to flood such a beautiful valley? 9 It's our livelihood there, and why are -- this was my Auntie Della brought up, why are our hydro bills 10 11 increasing every year when we can barely even 12 afford them now? 13 It's going to take an emotional, social, 14 economic and financial toll on everybody, and not 15 only that, it's going to bring a lot of alcohol, 16 drugs. And I agree with Yvonne: Why do we have to 17 bring foreigners in from other countries that don't 18 have criminal record checks or whatever? It's just 19 going to be more abuse. 20 And BC Hydro has become the biggest land 21 owner in the district by scooping up as much land 22 as they can in order for them to accommodate 23 themselves with trying to put up this Site C dam. 24 High agriculture land is being lost here, not to 25 mention land that we use for our way of life.

Enough is enough. Site C is not clean. Site C is not green, as you say it is. Do not beat around the bush with us, because Creator will have the last word. The Crown has a fiduciary obligation to us, which has never been fulfilled. Like I said, broken promises were broken.

In closing, I would like to once again thank
the panel for coming here to listen. This is very
important to us people that this dam does not go
through or does not be approved. A lot is at stake
here.

Another question, how will we be compensated if it does go through? I'm sure we do have a plan B in place, but I certainly don't want to see that plan B. I just don't want to see this dam come through.

17 I hope you have the respect for us and what 18 we have to say here today. I have grandchildren 19 that have to live here, that are going to live here 20 and see all the changes. I won't be here. Enough 21 is enough. And I can't express enough that this 22 dam is not needed. Thank you very much. 23 MR. MYRON GAUTHIER: Welcome, people. My name 24 is Myron Gauthier, I've been a band member here for 25 many years. You must have spelled Gauthier I don't

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1 know how many times here, G-a-u-t-h-i-e-r. 2 My nickname is Mulroney, and sometimes I wish 3 I was Mulroney, and then I would make all the right choices not to build Site C. 4 5 I seen you, Mr. Swain, on TV last night, and 6 I thought to myself, I wonder how that gentleman 7 Is he a nice quy or is he not? But, you know, is? 8 just by looking at you, I think you're a nice guy, 9 so I know you're going to make the right decisions. Okay. Site C, if it goes ahead, they're 10 11 going to -- it's going to bring a lot of activities 12 into our traditional lands and our communities, and 13 there's going to be an increase in drugs, crimes, 14 and so on. These are just some of the key points I 15 just made out just while I was sitting here today. 16 And what I see is when industry comes in here and 17 has a proposed plan to build something, what I see is they're slowly driving out the First Nations 18 19 people, and not only the First Nations people, 20 nature. 21 They're destroying the land, and they're 22 driving our food source away, which is -- that has 23 an impact on our First Nations people, because we 24 have to go further and further into the woods to 25 get our animals, and it's a challenge for us,

1 because we don't -- we don't -- like, for myself, I 2 don't make a hell of a lot of money, and the price 3 of gas nowadays is not easy for me. So that's the way I see what's going on out 4 there, and Site C, that's what's going to happen. 5 6 You're going to be driving out -- you're slowly 7 driving our people away, plus the animals. For the environment, we're going to have more 8 9 rains, slides, a lot of erosion. You're going to bring a lot of mercury. There's going to be a 10 11 build up of mercury in our fish, which we can't 12 eat. 13 Industry, when they come in, they build 14 things, but they can't fix it. They can't fix 15 the -- they don't realize there's going to be an 16 impact or there's a problem later on down the line. 17 They can't fix that, and I don't think they're really looking at the whole -- the whole job or 18 19 whatever you'd want to call it. Like, when they 20 build it, they don't really look at that side, 21 what's going to happen down the line. They should. 22 Us First Nations people, we live off this land. We 23 grew up here to survive. 24 My dad told me -- my dad, he's gone now, and 25 he always told me -- he taught me, look after the

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1 land. That's all we got. We've got to survive. 2 What are you people going to do if it ever comes to 3 an end? How are you people going to survive in the city? I know for one thing, you guys are going to 4 5 probably be coming knocking at my door. There is a 6 lot of things I want to talk about, but I'm not 7 going to take up your time.

8 I just hope you guys make the right decisions 9 on Site C, because it's not a good thing. Think 10 about it.

11 And what I want you to do -- when you guys go 12 back, I want you to go back towards Fort St. John 13 through Hudson's Hope and then Fort St. John. 14 Hopefully it's nice tomorrow. I want you to have a 15 look at that look out, and I want you to sit there, 16 and for a good half hour, and you look at the land, 17 what you guys are going to destroy. Then you'll 18 realize what we're talking about, what we want to 19 save. Not only for us in this room, the First 20 Nations people and our friends, especially our 21 younger generations. They want to see that. Have 22 a look at that. That's all I ask you to do, and I 23 mean God -- just make the right decision and see 24 what you're going to destroy, because I think it's 25 totally wrong.

1 So merry Christmas, happy new year, and safe 2 journeys. Thank you. 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Gauthier. Hello. First of all, I'd 4 MR. STEWART CAMERON: 5 like to thank the panel for coming here and also 6 BC Hydro, and I'd like to thank the Chief and 7 Council for, you know, letting us, the people, 8 speak also here, and I really respect that, and 9 also the Elders' panel we had. I really liked what they had to say. They voiced a lot of our concerns 10 11 as members of Saulteau and that. And our land use 12 people, you know, the up and coming leaders of our 13 community, the land use people. That's how I view 14 them, and, you know, they have passion and they 15 care for the land, and so with that I say, you 16 know, we --17 I feel proud today, because after listening also to the youth and what they had to say, you 18 19 know, we -- I can say we are a special people, 20 because even our youth, they're carrying it on, the 21 passion, and the need to protect more land. 22 With that being said, I kind of come forward 23 with reservations. I -- not my reserve, but with 24 reservations. And why that is is because there has 25 been panels set up before and to review this, to

1 review that, and, you know, comments given from our 2 people, and yet, you know, at the end of the day 3 the job is done, kind of speak, because they've heard us talk. So it kind of justifies that system 4 5 if you want to call it that, the system of the 6 government, the system of our society. It 7 justifies their guilt, if you want to calling it 8 that, their guilt about what the damage is they've 9 done to our people. It justifies their guilt, so 10 then they put on these road shows, everybody comes 11 around.

12 And the other thing I was noticing when I was 13 sitting back there is amount of people back there like busy little bees with your laptops and notes 14 15 and written down. It's like an intrusion. To me 16 it was like an intrusion. Like, to me it's 17 disrespectful. You know, to see that -- that people hovering around making little notes, talking 18 19 to each other, as our people are talking, and I was 20 just watching them and I was just thinking, wow, it 21 hasn't changed a bit.

I used to be the Chief here years ago, and, you know, we talked to BC Hydro about all this stuff before. You know, we -- from the Treaty 8 level, all the Chiefs to spoke to it about all

1 these things like, over and over again, and, you 2 know, so that's why with me I just -- I don't 3 I don't trust -- I'll have to say this -trust. 4 the panel. I don't know you from Adam, you know? 5 And when I say I don't trust you, I say that with 6 respect also, because of what we've been through. 7 It's not that I don't trust you as individuals. Ι 8 don't trust you as a system of what you represent, 9 you know, not as individuals. You know, you're 10 probably wonderful people. But, you know, you're 11 also put in a bad position, I would say. I want --12 wouldn't want to be in your shoes.

13 And definitely, you know, like we used to 14 have a hunting territory up in Beattie Peaks area. 15 The Twin Sisters are the sacred mountains that one 16 of the panels here mentioned. My mom and dad used 17 to own a hunting territory up there, and back in say about '65 I would say, I was about ten years 18 19 old, and it was funny because back there one of the 20 Elders now, I guess, one a little bit older than 21 me, was telling me about do you remember that time, 22 Stewart, that you were in the mountains and you 23 were fishing and that fish nearly pulled you into 24 the water when you were standing on the log? Yeah, 25 and -- because that's how good the fishing was back then, and you don't see that nowadays. I don't know how old I was. I was about eight or ten years old, and this fish was just about pulled me into the water. It was so big.

5 But all that is gone. It's gone. I've seen 6 that disappear. You know, when my dad was talking 7 about the dam to us about being built and that, to 8 me and my older brothers, he was saying that he 9 would have to sell out probably, because they were going to build a big dam. Well, they were already 10 11 starting the dam I think at that time, and they 12 said when they're done there's going to be a big body of water here, he said, through this whole 13 valley. Where, you know, there's good habitat down 14 15 there and the migration route, all that stuff. He 16 talked about the caribou, the sheep, the goat, 17 everything, the grizzly. And he said that's all going to be stopped. They might as well build --18 19 at that time he said they might as well build a big 20 cement wall here, like 2,000 feet into the air, and 21 just -- you know, that's the same thing. That's 22 what they're going to be doing, and they're going 23 to kill off everything, and he said and you guys 24 will see it, and this land we're on will be 25 nothing. It will be nothing. So our hunting

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territory will be nothing.

2 So maybe being a businessman he made a wise 3 decision and sold it. No, just kidding. But, you know, it was devastating to all of us to have to 4 5 let go of something, you know, and a lot of the 6 people from Saulteau, like one of the Elders I was 7 talking to, they used to come up there with us too 8 all the time, you know, all summer. But, you know, 9 all that is gone, and then, you know, I used to ride up there as a kid, you know? I was ten years 10 11 old, eight years old, six years old maybe, and we 12 would see at Mount Roy [phonetic] when we just --13 right over the first mountains and that, and we 14 would see caribou in there, like 150 to 200, 300 15 head of caribou, and the little ones would come up 16 to us with their heads high being curious, you 17 We were on horseback, and they would come know. right up to us and check us out, and, you know, to 18 19 smell the air kind of thing, and then they would 20 run away from us, of course. And I seen all that, 21 and then I also heard what my dad said that I would 22 see, and I see that today.

You know, I went back there, and I didn't see
one caribou nor one goat. You know, all those
things. And now we're talking about Site C, you

1 know? Another area that's sort of a pathway and a 2 calving ground that's going to be destroyed yet 3 When you destroy those type of areas, again. you're not just destroying that specific area where 4 5 lake is going to sit over. You're destroying, you 6 know, thousands of miles around it, because of the 7 cycle of the animals and that, how they move around. You know, people don't take that into 8 9 consideration, and the amount of -- you know, people talked about it here. 10

11 Our land use people talked about the 12 cumulative impact. You know, that's happening on 13 our land base. You know, what can this land base 14 hold? Nobody really knows that. They have 15 imaginary cumulative impact assessment study models 16 that they kind of look at, you know, and little --17 nice little fashion way that they try and guess, you know, to look like they're looking into this 18 19 crystal ball for all of us and say, don't worry, 20 we'll save the land and our dam won't hurt the land 21 base at all.

But it's a cumulative impact that's going to happen, and can this land base hold that? No, it can't. It already has been proven with the big dam, that it can't hold that. You know, it was

1 devastating. You know, going from being able to 2 see 300 herd of caribou in my time, in my time, you 3 know, down to nothing. You know, and, you know, 4 I -- we drive through Hudson's Hope way there and down in that where they're going to be flooding and 5 6 that, and it's a really good calving ground, and 7 you see a lot of moose in that area in certain 8 times of the year, so that's all going to be gone, 9 and the ripple effect, the impact out on to the land base because of that project is just 10 11 horrendous. It's -- I don't know. It's just like 12 somebody I think was talking about the nail on the coffin. Well, I see that as the nail on the coffin 13 14 to this land base. You know, and -- you know, 15 people should be looking at alternatives. You 16 know, co-gen and maybe co-generation, and with gas 17 or whatever it may be, you know? So that there's alternatives for that energy that's needed. 18

You know, so with me I say no -- I say no to the dam based on the fact that there is not enough information to make a sound decision on it. That's, you know, that's only the right thing to do, so without that information, we're stuck with no. I mean, what else are we supposed to say? Maybe? Well, we'll find out, build it, and maybe we'll find out. No. It's no now because we don't have enough information surrounding the whole issue, the whole impact, all that stuff. We don't have that.

5 How can anybody make a decision without information, proper information, you know? There 6 7 should be a long-term thing. There should be a 8 cumulative impact assessment model that's developed 9 for all this area up here. There's a need for 10 that. You know, we have to know what this land can 11 hold or not hold. We've already seen what it can't 12 hold, but what about the future. And the rate it's 13 going, we know the answers. Because like I said, 14 even my lifetime I've seen it. I've seen it really 15 have a big impact, big impact on it. And this 16 is -- just like -- it's going to nail it too. I 17 know, I know it is, because I've seen it, so I didn't just hear this from my grandmother or even 18 19 though I've heard their stories, but I was -- I 20 seen it happen myself, you know? And I just don't 21 want to see that again. Like, it's just too much.

And like a lot of people said, you know, Hydro never even talked to us about the damage they did there. You know, they talked about -- I don't want to talk too long, but there's so much I'd love

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1 to say, I know I won't. I'll cut it short. 2 They talked about the commercial use. Ι 3 think one of the panel members I think I believe it was you that was asking about the commercial use 4 5 and kind of like what that meant or how -- what the 6 value of it might even be towards, you know --7 well, the value there is even beyond what your 8 average BC resident who holds a trapper's licence 9 per se.

You know, our people, yes, they do hold trap 10 11 lines under the provincial ticket and all that, but 12 on top of that, it's -- the trap lines go beyond 13 just hunting, fishing and trapping, it's what the young people who were here, they talked about the 14 15 language, the culture, the loss of it, you know? It's the school. It's a school that will be 16 17 destroyed. You know, our school, our university, that's going to be destroyed. That's what the 18 19 young people were talking about, you know? That's 20 what they had passion for. They were scared to 21 lose that, and they're afraid to lose that part of 22 the university per se. You know, as in the 23 universities they have today. We have our 24 universities too in our land base. You know, our 25 language is there. It's tied to it.

And so that's what -- you know and we're losing our medicine cabinet. For myself, you know, I can say about ten years ago I got -- I had cancer, and I was healed because of our cancer medicine that came from the land base. That's why I'm talking here today. I truly believe that, because it did heal me.

8 You know, those are the things that are going 9 to be destroyed, so they're bulldozing, flooding our schools, our universities, our medicine 10 11 cabinets, our food, our grocery stores. You know, 12 when you start thinking about it, that impact is 13 just horrendous and devastating to our people as 14 you've heard throughout the whole day. To make a 15 decision on this dam without enough information is 16 just -- it's a crime. Only criminals would do 17 that, and then they should be -- they should be thrown in jail for that, you know? We would be. 18 19 We'd be thrown in jail. But the system, the 20 society, doesn't get thrown in jail. They can 21 justify their actions by coming to listen to me 22 talk, you know? Say, well, we did hear out 23 Saulteau, and, you know, they had some good things 24 to say however because the economy deems it 25 necessary to build this dam, we're going to have to

1 build a dam, you know? 2 So hopefully, hopefully, hopefully sound 3 minds prevail and people make the right decision together, you know? Even BC Hydro, you know, 4 5 should seriously think about what they're doing 6 instead of trying to push things through. Thev 7 should really ask themselves are there 8 alternatives? Have we really looked at everything? 9 Have we looked at the cumulative impact assessment that this whole -- our part is going to do on to 10 11 this whole land base that the people are talking 12 about. 13 Okay. I close. Thank you. 14 MS. WALKER: I'd just like to plead with 15 the panel to look at the cumulative impacts in the 16 northeast area as far as oil, gas, logging. There 17 is maps circulating as to how many oil well heads are in our area, and it's like -- I read an article 18 19 a little while ago. There is enough -- so much 20 impacts that it's -- there's enough to go around 21 the earth four times in our little corner of BC 22 alone. Enough is enough. 23 MR. MCCORMICK: I'd like to thank this panel 24 for taking time to share your views, and we 25 appreciate the flexibility of the panel and the

1 staff and the secretariat for making yourselves 2 available for this time. 3 With that, I'd like to acknowledge two people 4 who won't have the opportunity to present today, the first is Jack Davis, who for personal reasons 5 6 is not available today. Mr. Davis has provided a film to the secretariat of about four minutes with 7 8 his views on this project, and I would invite the 9 panel to consider it. And the second is Fernie May Garbitt. Fernie 10 11 has been very active in helping to gather the 12 information that has been put before the panel and 13 organized today's proceedings, and she offered to step aside because of the lack of time, but she 14 15 and -- we hope to file some of her materials as 16 well, and I'd like to offer apologies to anyone who 17 had registered and was hoping to speak today and didn't have the opportunity. I would invite those 18 19 individuals to speak with the lands department, and 20 then we can see about having materials filed under 21 your name with the panel for consideration. 22 And lastly I understand that Hydro will do a 23 brief response, and I would then invite Chief Davis 24 to close to evening, and just prior to mentioning 25 to Hydro, if we could consider one question from

the youth panel that I don't believe received a
response at the time of the youth panel
presentation, I believe it was a question posed by
Ashley, which was what programs or mitigation
measures will Hydro implement specifically for the
youth of Saulteau First Nations?
Thank you.
THE CHAIRMAN: I'd like to thank the panel
for -- it's not every time we get two Former Chiefs
on one panel. Very distinct and very eloquent.
Thank you very much.

12And I'd now like to turn to Hydro for their13responses to the day.

14 Thank you.

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15 MS. YURKOVICH: Mr. Chair, perhaps we'll --16 should we respond to the question first and then 17 I'll give a few closing remarks? Okay. MR. PROVERBS: Yes, thank you, Chair. 18 19 And to Ashley and the youth, and I'm not 20 going to avoid your question, but what I would 21 propose is that what we would like to do is sit

down and talk to the youth and get your ideas of the type of programs that you believe would be important, and once we have had those discussions, we can then incorporate those into the larger discussions that we're having around potential benefits that could flow from this project if it's approved, and so we would look forward to having those discussions with the youth, getting your ideas.

6 I think we're already talking about a lot of 7 subject matter that would interest you that goes to 8 education and training and matters like that. We 9 are talking about things like infrastructure within the community, athletics, a lot of important topics 10 11 that are important to the youth in this community, 12 so we would very much like to talk to the youth, 13 get your ideas.

14 Thank you.

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16 Closing remarks of BC Hydro:

17 MS. YURKOVICH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 18 Chief Davis and Councillors from Saulteau 19 First Nations and community members, we would like 20 to thank you first for the good day that we have 21 had here today and for the thoughtful presentations 22 and for all of those who came up to share their 23 personal stories, and their concerns. We also 24 appreciate your warm hospitality that we've felt 25 here today.

1 We did have the overview from the lands team, 2 and it was important for them to talk to us about 3 the challenges that you were facing with the level of activity in your territory. The panels were 4 very well organized today, and we heard a lot, and 5 6 we heard with our hearts. I want to thank the 7 Elders, Elders Gauthier, Campbell, Ronnenberg, 8 Owens and Courtoreille for particularly for sharing 9 your stories with us today about many things including your experiences with the impacts of the 10 11 Bennett and Peace Canyon Dam and during that 12 construction and operation.

I heard from Elder Owens I think how much --I think her words saying that you are rooted and informed by our traditional lifestyles. Those are important words, and each of you spoke about the important traditions to your family, to your children, your grandchildren, and the future generations, and we thank you for that.

The youth panel, five bright articulate young women as well as the youth that are leading the lands office, I think we heard from you your concerns. I think for me I heard clearly that you have a lot to learn about your traditions and want to be able to pass those along and you need time to

1 do that. I appreciate your courage for showing up 2 and for presenting. 3 My impression is that if you are the future of this community, your community is in very good 4 5 hands. 6 The land -- both the land user panel and the 7 final panel that we heard from spoke passionately about the use of their traditional territories and 8 9 many of the issues that have been raised today are issues that we have heard consistently. We look 10 11 forward to responding in detail during our 12 discussions we will have on current use and 13 wildlife, to discuss methyl-mercury and dam safety 14 and seismicity along with the other topics that 15 were raised today. When we have our topic-specific 16 sessions in January, and we will have more to 17 respond on those things at that time. Just before closing, I want to thank 18 19 Councillor Watson for her remarks at the beginning 20 of today's session. This is indeed hard work, and 21 I respect the difficult task that you, Chief and 22 Council to guide your community, and I want you to 23 know that we share your strong desire to work 24 together, whatever the future may hold. 25 Thank you.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms. Yurkovich. 2 I think it remains only for me to say to 3 Chief Davis through him to the community, thank you 4 very much for your welcome today. We listened hard. We'll go away and think a lot. 5 6 Chief Davis. 7 Closing remarks by Chief Davis: 8 9 CHIEF DAVIS: Thank you once again. First off, I'd like to say thank you to our 10 11 Creator for listening to us today, having pity on 12 us today, giving us a clear mind to speak from our 13 hearts and to be able to speak clearly. Thank you for that. I also give thanks for the Elders of our 14 15 nation that stepped forward and gave their 16 thoughts, their incite, their knowledge that they 17 shared with us here today. I give them thanks. I give thanks to the community members, to the land 18 19 users, for they are the ones that hold many of the 20 answers that your panel seeks, and it's unfortunate 21 that we don't have more time in a day, or that we 22 don't have more time in this process, to ensure 23 that each and every member of this nation is heard 24 and has been given the right amount of time to 25 express their thoughts and their feelings.

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1 And I also give thanks to the youth. Thank 2 you to them for taking the time out in a day for 3 believing that an education within a system that's not ours will in some way better their life. 4 Thev 5 took a day off from that to come here today and 6 share their thoughts and the wisdom that they 7 already carry. Thank you to them. 8 Thank you to you, the panel, today, for 9 taking the time to listen to the members with an Thank you for that. 10 open mind. 11 Thank you to BC Hydro and your group. Thank 12 you very much. Thank you to all the support staff. 13 With that said, I would like to speak on behalf of the ones that couldn't make it here 14 15 today. I'll try my best to speak on behalf of the 16 ones that aren't born yet. I'll speak, and I'll 17 try my best to speak on behalf of the ones that 18 have passed. There was a lot of mention today 19 about the Treaty, and the Treaty is what is to --20 supposed to protect us from encroachment. The 21 Treaty is to ensure that we are not molested, that 22 we are not put aside or looked at as being 23 inferior. The Treaty gives us the right to go out 24 on to the land and to continue to hunt, trap and 25 fish as if we had never signed a Treaty.

You heard today that we have many people that
 still exercise that, many, many people.

3 I witnessed this morning a sacred song that 4 came in, and that's what started us today. You 5 also witnessed a pipe ceremony today, and that is 6 sacred, and that is what started this process 7 today, so the people from our side of the table 8 knew and know that there is a protocol that has to 9 be followed, so what was spoken here today was the truth, and it came from the heart. 10

11 First it was a Treaty, and then came the 12 residential schools. So as a middle-aged group 13 now, the ones of us that are on the younger side of 14 the baby boomers. I personally never experienced 15 residential school, but I've seen -- I've heard 16 some of the experiences and what became of that 17 experience, that alone and that experience has come 18 back, and the members that were forced to go to 19 these residential schools were stripped of their 20 language, their culture, their ceremonies. Thev 21 before were beaten if they ever talked about them. 22 For the most part, my great great 23 grandfather, the visionary that brought the

24 Saulteau people here, he too for the most part had 25 to set aside some of the legends and songs and

ceremonies that came with him being a Saulteau Indian, but also in doing God's work. And his own people chose the church over the teachings from the Creator. They chose the church over our songs and our stories.

6 There are some within our community that 7 still practice some of these ways. Some of us 8 still carry on the sweat lodge. Some of us still 9 carry on the songs, but as one young lady said today, culture is a life long process, and it has 10 11 to start from somewhere. Culture and beliefs start 12 from the first breath that you take here on earth, 13 but they started long before that, and I won't go back on a lot of the comments that the members made 14 15 today in regards to the animals and the plants and 16 all that stuff, but I will take one part of what 17 they said today and try my best to explain to you what I know, what I was taught to be an Indian on 18 19 this land.

First and foremost, one needs a land base in order to pass on oral history and in order to be able to pass on songs, in order to be able to pass on legends, stories. In order to be able to pass on knowledge of medicinal medicines, you need a specific place where you can practice that where

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1 you are in harmony with nature. Those places are 2 shrinking, we don't have very many places to go to now that are -- the word is not "usable," but 3 "special." All places are special, but there are some places that you need to be able to connect to 5 6 the energy which drives the universe.

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7 Going back, our relatives from the south and to the west were decimated in numbers when the 8 9 government of the day killed off all the buffalo on They thought that they could kill the culture 10 him. 11 and the language of the people by taking away the 12 buffalo. Today, here, on our land, it's not the 13 buffalo that they're taking way. You're imposing 14 industrial development on us that's killing our 15 culture and our language. Nobody is taking the 16 time to measure the amount of activity that's on 17 the land.

18 This process I view and the world that we 19 live in now and being First Nations here, I see 20 this as a modern day genocide to a people and to a 21 culture all for the sake of money.

22 There is an Elder who can't be here with us 23 today. He's also my uncle, my dear uncle, and I 24 love him. And he shared with us something that he witnessed and heard from an individual who is on 25

1 the side of BC Hydro back in the day when this 2 fight was first brought forward, and after a 3 lengthily -- well, I don't want to say speech, But after he had because that's the wrong word. 4 finished talking, one of the people from the other 5 6 side said to him, well, I guess you'll die with the 7 lights on, and that's what's going to happen in the 8 end, because of the fact that we need that area.

9 In order for me to pass on my language and my 10 songs that I've learned and that were passed on to 11 me and some of the ceremonies, I need a place that 12 will still resonate the energy that is required to 13 get into that state of mind where you need to be. 14 The teachings will dictate which way the future 15 generations go.

16 The project that's being proposed is so huge 17 that the impacts that will be caused by it will be 18 irreversible. The land base that will be taken 19 away is gone forever. As I said earlier, you can't 20 put a price tag on a culture. You can't put a 21 price tag on a language. If we took away the 22 English language today, you wouldn't be able to 23 communicate with us here today. How much would you 24 be willing to pay to communicate with someone 25 again? You could give a life, but then it doesn't

make any sense, because you wouldn't be able to talk English after anyway even if you gave your life. See, so that's how important it is, and that's how -- there's no price on it. No amount of compensation will pay for or justify that dam being built.

Now, the Province has been preaching 7 Okay. 8 to the general public reconciliation with the First 9 Nations. Reconciliation meaning that they're going 10 to try to understand our culture more, our 11 languages, and who we are as a people, where we 12 come from, how we use the land, but at the same 13 time the Province wants to build a dam, so how can 14 we have reconciliation while you're killing us on 15 the other side. We can't have that, and it's not 16 good for anybody.

17 We need -- how do we find out -- we don't 18 know what the future generations will need, yet 19 they have got a Treaty that's guaranteed, and which 20 is written and instilled into the Constitution of 21 Canada, which will allow them to hunt, trap and 22 fish as they please anywhere within Treaty 8. What 23 if three generations from now the people want to 24 live down in that valley and it's flooded? We 25 can't do that, because we can't be cutting into

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their future, because they're not here to combine and speak their piece, so we've got to speak on their behalf, but we know inside that we need that land in order to survive.

5 The Treaty states, yes, we will take time 6 from time to time -- or we will take land from time 7 to time, and the old saying of, well, just go 8 somewhere and practice your Treaty rights, it's a 9 little more complex than that. To put it in layman's terms, I would like to see you go to 10 11 Russia and start hunting over there and doing 12 whatever the hell that you would like to do. You'd 13 probably get shot; right? Okay. Well, there's a 14 natural law that we as Indian people have to 15 follow. Yes, we do have the right to hunt anywhere in Treaty 8, but we don't go hunt anywhere in 16 17 Treaty 8. We make sure that we let the other parties know that we're coming. We let the other 18 19 groups know and communities or families know what 20 type of activities that we want to go carry out. You know, so it doesn't work that way. 21

And the right to building cabins, to building sweat lodges, practicing our ceremonies, we're free to do that anywhere. And what happens if I choose -- I'm speaking on behalf of myself now. If I

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1 choose to go down in that valley and say that I am 2 going to follow through this ceremony, but with 3 that ceremony comes different ceremonies that also connect into that one within the web of life, 4 5 that's my right. Who and where is this person 6 today and within this process that is going to tell 7 me that I can't go down there and practice that right? I have that right, because it's protected 8 9 in the constitution.

The dam I feel is, in my view -- in my view, 10 11 I feel that if the dam is built, it is going to 12 expedite the death of our culture. Instead of us 13 surviving another hundred years, you could probably 14 knock that down to 20, 25, because you're going to 15 kill a culture and you're going to kill a language, 16 and that's who we are as a people, and we need 17 that. And for the most part, we can't allow it.

18 All the members within my immediate family 19 have spiritual names. My daughter here today is 20 going to -- she wanted to speak earlier, but she 21 had to go to town, part of her work, and so she 22 would just like to share something very quickly 23 with you folks, if you don't mind. 24 MS. SHELBY DAVIS: Hello, welcome to my home. 25 I'm Shelby Davis, D-a-v-i-s.

1 Sorry I missed you earlier. I was busy 2 working and trying to make some money, seeming as I 3 have the nickname of "Gypsy" lately, seeming as I've been travelling lots, and what I've been 4 through in the past couple years of my life -- this 5 6 is my home. This is where I feel safe. This is 7 where I come to heal. I'm young, and I love to 8 chase the wind and visit my brothers and sisters, 9 the mountains, the trees, all over BC, and I've felt starvation. I know what it's like to starve 10 11 from not having money and not being able to work in 12 the cities, because I can't -- I can't grasp that 13 lifestyle. I look at money as just paper.

14 I've slept outside. I had to even go -- when 15 I was stuck in Prince George, I had to make a 16 friend that lived outside of town just so that I 17 could go out and get a couple chicken, just so I could eat for two days, and I'm grateful that my 18 19 grandparents at least taught me something that I 20 could feed myself, and I'm scared for my children, 21 my future children, my unborn children, and what I 22 have felt in my lifetime already in my 22 years are 23 just in the short period of time, and in that 24 timeframe where I have felt the hurt and the 25 suffering and what the devastation of this Site C

is going to do to our people, I've felt that, and I don't want to wish that upon anybody, especially our children.

I'm a very quiet person, and I don't speak 4 very much unless spoken to, but I felt today that I 5 6 had to voice my opinion, because I've been through 7 I have scars, physical scars, from being a lot. 8 away from my home and not being able to make it 9 home. And as soon as I come back, I feel the spirit here. I can feel the trees. I can feel the 10 11 wind. I can feel every living creature. I feel 12 every single person in this room. I feel all of 13 your energy in this room, and listening to 14 everybody today was breaking my heart, because I 15 could feel everybody's pain and stress of how much 16 they don't want this, just as much as I do, and I 17 don't want anyone to go through what I've been through in my short life already, and I just hope 18 19 you can understand and sympathize with me, because 20 I can't -- I can't let this happen to my children. 21 I don't want to let this happen to anyone's 22 children.

23 So if you have any children, take a moment 24 and think about your child and think about putting 25 them in this situation, if they were stuck in this

1 situation, what you would do to protect them, and 2 it's like the love for my people is unconditional, 3 just as much as the land, and if this happens and my home is destroyed, I've lost my heart, I've lost 4 5 my spirit, and I can't get it back. 6 So, please, really think about this, because 7 you're breaking every single one of our hearts. And I thank you for coming here today and 8 9 listening to every single one of us, the ones that were fortunate enough to speak today. 10 11 And as you take that drive to go catch your 12 planes home, it's like as our people said, like, 13 take a moment, take a breath, breathe in the air, 14 feel the energy around you, just take a moment and 15 try to open yourself up to mother nature, the 16 Creator, the land, just take it all in. And I 17 just ... 18 Thank you for your time, and I really 19 appreciate this, so thank you from the bottom of my 20 heart. 21 CHIEF DAVIS: Thank you. 22 So in closing is that again I will state that 23 I don't want to go back and try and cover a lot of 24 the points that the members have raised, because I

feel that they have done a great job in sharing

1 their thoughts here today, but the hardest thing 2 for one culture to try -- it's very, very hard to 3 try and understand another culture. It takes a long, long, long time, and I do believe that that 4 5 was the most important component of this whole 6 process, and no one bothered to take the time to 7 come and seriously sit down and talk to us about 8 this project. We should have spent years on this 9 project sitting within our community and with the members, and the members that have passed now. 10

We've lost so many Elders in the last few years, but no one took the time to sit down with the people within our community to ask what their thoughts were personally.

And this process now is the clock is ticking, and with that said, I think you've heard just about everything here today that we have to share, but my view is that if the project goes ahead, it is the beginning of the end of a culture. We cannot go practice anywhere else, because you saw on the map today the cumulative impacts that are going on.

This is all that we've been able to protect. This is all that's going to be left, and in due time that's going to be taken away too, and with that said, I want to die out in the forest. I

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1	don't want to die with the lights on. I don't need		
2	a dam. I'll die in the forest.		
3	Thank you.		
4	THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Chief.		
5	I have only one silly thing to add, and that		
6	is could people please turn their headsets in when		
7	they leave.		
8	Thank you so much.		
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10	(Proceedings adjourned)		
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