SITE C CANCELLATION

Robert McCullough

McCullough research

November 30, 2017



FIVE QUESTIONS AND SOLUTIONS

- 1. Low Load Forecast: Does Electrification Affect It? (No)
- 2. What alternative portfolio do you recommend? (Wind, DSM, Mica)
- 3. What is the cost and practicality of wind and solar in BC? (Good)
- 4. Can we find capacity other than Site C? (Yes)
- 5. What about rates and ratings if Site C cancels? (Rates lower/Ratings higher)

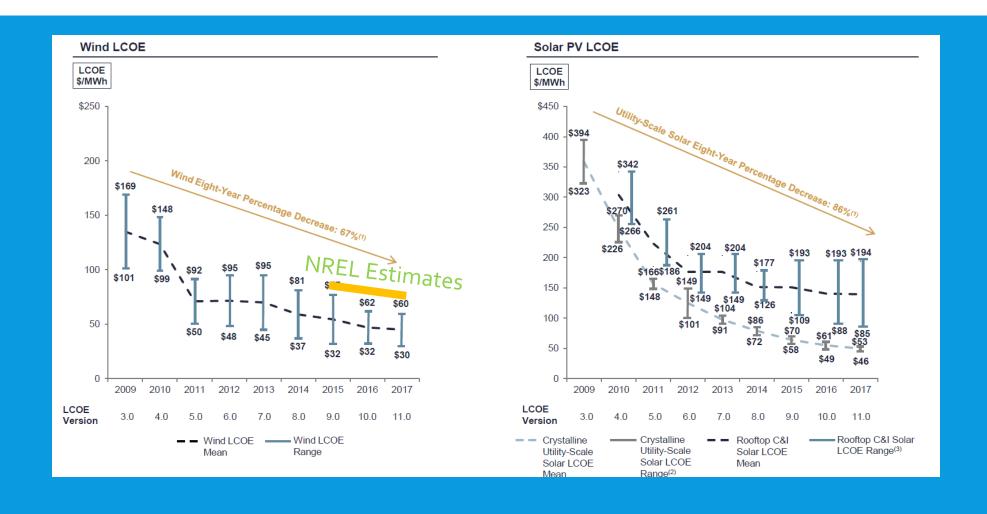
SOLUTIONS...



QUESTION #1: SITE C IS NOT NEEDED FOR DECARBONIZATION/ELECTRIFICATIONS

- Our best answer is to use resources that are deployable on demand
- We are currently paying customers to take power off-peak
- One important example, electric vehicles according to research from California and New York – indicate major impact is off-peak
- The low load forecast is sound given flat loads elsewhere in North America

QUESTION #2: LOW CARBON ALTERNATIVES





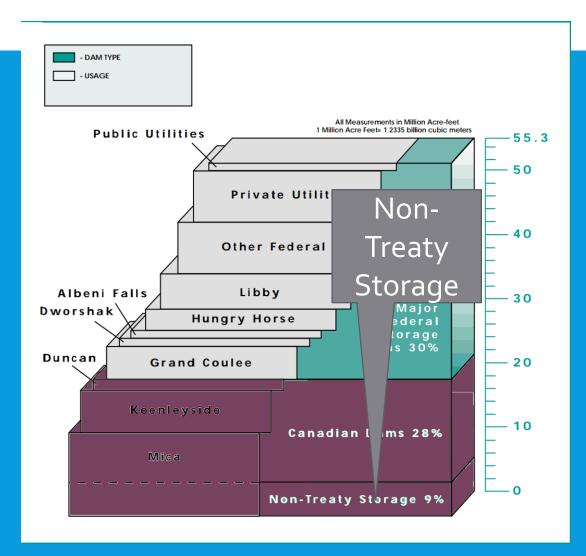
UNIVERSITY OF BC WATER GOVERNANCE FINDINGS

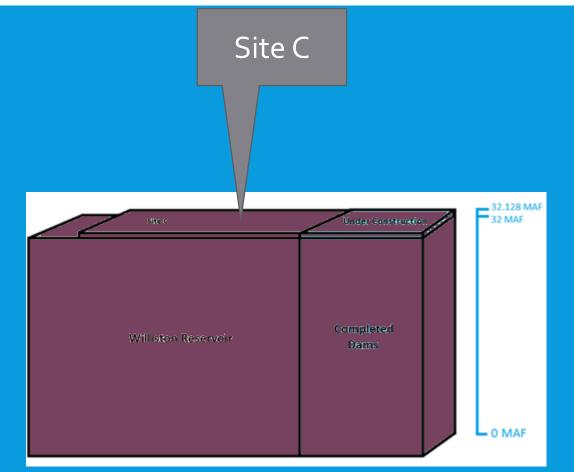
- Site C more expensive than export markets and BCUC alternative portfolio (before sunk and termination costs)
- Site C risks are asymmetric negative risks exceed positive risks
 - Significant rate impacts
 - Declining alternative costs
- BCUC alternative provides 22% more jobs
- Site C has higher green house gases than alternative
- Site C has unprecedented negative environmental impacts, including on agricultural land
- Site C is the subject of First Nations litigation with significant risk
- http://watergovernance.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2017/11/UBC-Report-Site-C-Key-Issues-Full-Report-1.pdf

QUESTION #3: STORAGE IS SUBSTANTIAL

- Storage on the Columbia is a partnership between BC Hydro and the Bonneville Power Administration
- The Bonneville Power Administration's control area has roughly ten times the current level of wind turbines as British Columbia. It uses approximately 1 Million Acre Feet to firm wind
- Site C is approximately an eighth of that it's requirement is approximately .12
 MAF
- The Columbia River currently has 55.3 MAF: water behind dams
 - 15.5 MAF in Canadian Treaty storage
 - 5 MAF in non-treaty storage

STORED BEHIND THE DAMS?





QUESTION 4: WHAT ABOUT CAPACITY TO MEET PEAK LOADS?

- We have extensive capacity other than Site C Mica's capability for example.
- Our region is so surplus in capacity, we tend to value it at very low levels
- Hydro-Quebec (Canada's leading utility in wind energy) treats 30% of nameplate wind capacity as usable capacity to meet loads

QUESTION 5: RATES AND RATINGS

- Regulatory treatment of terminated projects that had been previous judged "used and useful" is generally lenient rate payers are not punished due to an act of god
- In the case of Site C, continuing the regulatory treatment of existing expenditures is not a reach the costs have been financed and recovery need not be changed.
- Reclamation costs appear exaggerated. Reclamation costs are usually accumulated over the life of the project. In this case, reclamation is underfunded, but would have enjoyed a 70 year amortization as well.
- Utilities facing similar issues Hydro-Quebec with the Gentilly-2 and Omaha Public Power District and Calhoun – do not indicate rate increases or bond downratings
- Provinces proceeding with troubled projects Manitoba and Newfoundland have been downgraded and are facing significant rate increases

RATES AND RATINGS: 2024 COST IMPACT (PER YEAR)

	Site C		Wind Farm
Cost:	\$10.0 billion (Best Case)	Termination:	\$1.8 billion (Worst Case)
Spent:	\$ -2.1 billion	Wind farm:	\$0.1 billion
Net	\$ 7.9 billion	Net	\$1.9 billion
Allowed Return	x 6.22%		x 6.22%
Cost of Capital	\$491 million		\$113 million
Return of Capital	\$263 million		\$ 60 million
Total Cost	\$755 million		\$173 million

BOND RATINGS

- Bond rating agencies like certainty, not risk
- Utilities facing similar issues Hydro-Quebec with the Gentilly-2 and Omaha Public Power District and Calhoun – do not indicate rate increases or bond downratings
- Provinces proceeding with troubled projects Manitoba and Newfoundland have been downgraded and are facing significant rate increases

SITE C OVERVIEW: THIS IS A TROUBLED PROJECT

- Expensive relative to well managed projects like Hydro-Quebec's La Romaine (Site C is 40% higher on a per MWh basis)
- First major hydro project in thirty years (Revelstoke)
- Poorly bid and poorly managed one of the main civil works bidders immediately went bankrupt
- Unfortunate start with tension cracks and delays
- Cost overruns are just starting with contractor claims steadily arriving
- BC Hydro omitted 1,600 MW of resources in their Site C Inquiry submission

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Site C
 10.0 billion (Best Case)

Less Sunk Costs -2.1 billion

Less Reclamation -1.8 billion (Worst Case)

• Net =6.1 billion

Less Alternatives -3.4 billion

Termination Dividend =2.7 billion (Worst Case)

SOLUTIONS

- There are options where everyone wins
- They are not limited to the Order in Council of August 2, 2017
- BC Hydro had 1,600 megawatts that were not considered in the Inquiry, but were recommended in the Final Report
- This is not a zero sum game



EASIEST SOLUTIONS:

- Terminate Site C and rely on a renewable portfolio firmed by the five maf at Mica deploying new renewables as needed
- Monetize the Canadian Entitlement

RESOURCES NOT CONSIDERED IN THE INQUIRY

- Non-Treaty Storage:
 - In addition to the storage included in the Treaty, British Columbia owns five million acre feet at Mica
 - This is currently provided to BPA on an agreement terminating in 2024
- Canadian Entitlement:
 - In 1948, the Columbia River destroyed Oregon's second largest city
 - In 1964, the U.S. and Canada agreed on a cooperative management of the Columbia River and added reservoirs at Duncan, Arrow, and Mica
 - British Columbia energy was sold for the first thirty years
- Revelstock Upgrade

ACTION PLAN

- 1. Terminate Site C construction and commence reclamation
- 2. Adopt prudent long term financial plan on sunk and reclamation costs
- 3. Direct BC Hydro to adopt resource plan around renewables
- 4. Use the Non-Treaty Storage for firming
- 5. Proceed with Revelstoke Six if needed
- Make a long term transaction to maximize revenue from the Canadian Entitlement