# Safer, Smarter & More Sustainable Atlin's Hydro Opportunity

# www.atlinhydro.ca COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## May 15th, 2023

#### Dear Community Member,

On behalf of Tlingit Homeland Energy Limited, we are excited to share the Atlin Hydro Opportunity Project's optimized design and our upcoming work in the community. In our last letter, we shared how the Project will contribute to the Atlin community and region. If you missed this update, please check out a copy on our website.

#### **Optimized Design**

The optimized design makes Atlin's Hydro Opportunity safer, smarter, and more sustainable. Overall, it limits new disturbances, reduces impacts on beach areas, and conducts less in-water work. Key changes to the Project design include:

- Using a penstock (pipe) to transport water instead of an open canal.
- Burying the transmission line near Warm Bay Road.
- No longer impacting Pine Creek Beach by changing the powerhouse location to be further away from the beach, where the tailrace will discharge directly into Pine Creek.
- Using only one powerhouse and a shortened tailrace.

From design through construction and operations, we are committed to minimizing the impacts on the environment and our neighbors. Check out our Open House Display Boards on the website for more information on the optimized design and our mitigation plans. Stay tuned for more details in our future updates.

#### **Community Feedback**

In March 2023, we hosted three public open house events to provide updates and gather feedback on the optimized design. Through our conversations with the community, we heard many key themes. These included the importance of:

- Mitigating construction impacts, including concerns about blasting and new infrastructure, as well as the construction camps. We also heard interest in jobs and training opportunities and questions about our restoration and monitoring programs.
- **Protecting traditional uses**, including the importance of aligning with the Atlin Taku Land Use Plan and questions about the project's potential impacts.

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- **Understanding project benefits**, including questions about energy generation, revenue generation and sharing, and job and training opportunities.
- **Understanding the planning process**, including questions and concerns about the project timeline and opportunities for engagement.

To read about how the Project responds to community feedback, please check out the Frequently Asked Questions on our website.

#### **Early Works**

Over the coming months, you may notice activity on site. It is important to know that this is early investigatory work and not the start of construction. Early work will include geotechnical investigation (e.g., sonic drilling, cone penetration testing, etc.), surveys, and general site review to inform design and project planning. During this work, there may be minor, intermittent traffic delays on Surprise Lake Road and Warm Bay Road. Prior to construction, we also hope to host another Jobs Fair to engage local businesses, suppliers, contractors, and community members in the Project. Notifications will go out to the community prior to Early Works starting in each project area.

#### What's Next – Short Term

We are continuing to work with the Province of BC and Yukon Territory and anticipate Project permitting to be issued later this summer or early fall. While we are waiting on permitting, we are using our employment survey to assess employment and training needs/interests to prepare for the construction phase. We are currently engaged in discussions with the TRTFN Education Department to ready community members for employment opportunities. If you are interested in working on the Project, filling out the survey, or receiving training, please contact <u>darlene.mcgill@takucorp.ca.</u>

### Stay Involved

There are several ways to stay involved:

- **SUBMIT COMMENTS & QUESTIONS ON OUR WEBSITE.** We are answering these and posting answers to frequently asked questions.
- FOLLOW UPDATES. Stay tuned for our next newsletter that will share what to expect post-construction. Sign up for e-newsletters through atlinhydro.ca/stay-engaged.

Thank you for reading! We look forward to any feedback or questions you may have. If you would like to arrange a one-on-one meeting, please do not hesitate to email the contacts below.

Peter Ramsden, Project Director Email: <u>peter.ramsden@takucorp.ca</u> Stuart Simpson, Project Manager Email: <u>stuart.simpson@takucorp.ca</u>