



Watching Out for BC's Wild Salmon

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October 24, 2008

Jason Quigley
Regional Director
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
Pacific and Yukon Regional Office
Suite 320, Sinclair Centre, 757 Hastings Street West
Vancouver, BC
V6C 1A1

RE: Sedan Creek Independent Power Project (CEAR ref. # **08-01-41761**)

Dear Mr. Quigley,

Watershed Watch Salmon Society (WWSS) has significant concerns regarding the proposed Sedan Creek Independent Power Project (IPP) in the Skeena Watershed. Through preliminary research on this project by WWSS biologists, and through a public meeting held by WWSS and North West Watch in Terrace, BC on Oct. 16, we have reason to believe that this project will result in a net loss of salmon spawning habitat and potentially harmful alteration of salmon spawning and rearing habitat, with an insufficient mitigation plan.

Furthermore, input at our Oct. 16 public meeting from concerned residents living near this proposed development suggests that public participation around this project has been inadequate at best. We are not aware of any public meetings that have been held in the City of Terrace – the closest large town to this proposed project. The Sedan Creek IPP would be the first run-of-river hydroelectric development in the Skeena Watershed to dewater anadromous salmon habitat, and therefore should require broad public participation within the watershed before being considered for a water license.

As such, WWSS hereby requests public participation under section 18(3) of the CEAA, specifically in the town of Terrace, but also in any other town within 100 km of the proposed development where no public meetings have yet been held.

And WWSS hereby requests the Project File for the Sedan Creek IPP under section 55 of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA). We expect the Project File to include the following:

- All correspondence pertaining to the proposed Sedan Creek IPP
- All documentation of public participation regarding the Sedan Creek IPP including minutes from any public meetings.
- All documentation of proposed project infrastructure (intake structures, weirs, penstock, powerhouse, tailrace, transmission lines, and other project components including access to the sites) and any construction infrastructure (camps, landings, spoil pits, etc).

- All documentation, studies, and evaluations pertaining to potential impacts to fish, wildlife, ecologically significant hydrologic and geomorphic processes, and associated mitigation strategies.

Electronic records from the Project File should be sent to wwss@telus.net, and hard copies should be sent to the above address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Orr". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Craig Orr, Ph.D.
Executive Director

CC: Joy Hillier (DFO, Prince Rupert), Dave Carter (CEAA, Vancouver)