

VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON
-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES-

Minutes for the **Committee of the Whole** of Council of the Village of Pemberton held Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. in Council Office, 7400 Prospect Street. (White Building)

ATTENDING: Mayor Jordan Sturdy
Councillor Lisa Ames
Councillor Ted Craddock
Councillor Susie Gimse
Councillor Alan LeBlanc

STAFF: Lori Pilon, Administrator
Sheena Fraser, Manager of Administrative Services
Lorien Chilton, Management Intern

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m. Mayor Sturdy called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded
THAT the Agenda be approved.
CARRIED

3. Ryan River Independent Power Project - Regional Power Inc.

David Carter, Regional Power Inc.
Andrew Ritchie, Director, Permitting & Lands
Nigel Protter, Exergetics Development Co

David Carter provided an overview of the Ryan River Independent Power project that has been proposed on the Ryan River north of Pemberton.

Regional Power has been involved with several IPP's not only within British Columbia but across the country. Currently Regional Power is operating an IPP in Sechelt.

Carter described the type of operation that is being proposed advising that the goal is for this project to be as unintrusive as possible, preserve and protect sensitive areas, ensure fish activity is not impacted and to work with local and government officials on all aspects of the project.

Carter advised that the intake area, as proposed, is located within a non-fish bearing area of the river and that studies have indicated that the most prolific areas within the Ryan River for fish habitat are lower down and along the dyke area. Carter advised that at Sechelt Creek they worked extensively with the Department of Fisheries and were successful, through good management and cooperation, in increasing the fish activity in the spawning channel and will ensure the longevity of salmon establishment. There is also concern related to grizzly bear habitat and in discussions with the Ministry of Environment it was established that the development in the proposed area would not impact the grizzly bear. Finally, the goal on Ryan River is to improve the fishery substantially which will in turn improve the grizzly habitat.

Carter explained that Regional Power's goal is always to ensure that any infrastructure put in place for a project will suit the environment and surroundings and will fit in like a park like setting. A concept rendering of what the building would look like in terms of form and function was presented, however, the intention is to seek guidance from locals on the final design to ensure it meets with community expectations.

Carter provided an explanation as to how power is transmitted and the challenges this presents with the most logical route being to run the lines along the Pemberton Valley. Carter acknowledged that this option was not palatable to the community so Regional Power had explored other routes that would enable them to hide the transmission lines. By taking advantage of current or old logging roads it was determined that following the Miller Bench above the Valley would achieve the goal of ensuring low visibility of the lines, utilize current or old service routes and keep the visual impacts low.

Andrew Ritchie provided an overview of next steps that include finalizing the Terms of Reference, making application to the Environmental Assessment Office and if accepted Ministerial approval will be required. It is anticipated that this process will take approximately 18 months.

Mayor Sturdy thanked Regional Power for attending.

4. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:30 p.m. Mayor Sturdy adjourned the meeting.

Mayor

Administrator