



Atlin's Hydro Opportunity

www.atlinhydro.ca

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Sept 23, 2024

Dear Community Member,

On behalf of Tlingit Homeland Energy Limited, we are happy to share more information about the Project's overall progress. In our last letter, we discussed the continuation of the geotechnical work for the Atlin Hydro Opportunity. If you missed this update, please check out a copy on our website, www.atlinhydro.ca.

Fieldwork Update:

Geotechnical Investigations (Complete)

The 2023 geotechnical SI program investigated the subsurface conditions at the Atlin Hydro Expansion Project proposed intake, penstock, powerhouse, substation and potential borrow sources. The program was conducted in two phases. The first phase of the SI program was carried out from June 1 to 11, 2023. The second phase was completed between November 9, 2023 and February 29, 2024. The SI program in its totality included the following activities:

- Excavation of ninety-nine (99) test pits
- Advancement of sixteen (16) sonic drillholes
- Completion of two (2) seismic cone penetration test soundings
- Installation of three (3) pumping wells, five (5) observation wells, and two (2) seismic standpipes
- Completion of a geophysical survey program that included: 3,925 m of seismic refraction surveys, 660 m of MSAW surveys, and two (2) downhole seismic tests,
- Laboratory index and advance soils testing on overburden samples collected from drillholes and test pits
- Laboratory geochemical testing on rock samples
- Hydrogeological testing including three (3) hydraulic pumping tests and eight (8) hydraulic single response tests

The recovered overburden and bedrock materials were logged, photographed, and sampled. Instrumentation installed in the drillholes were utilized for hydrogeological and geophysical testing.



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Archaeology

This summer the Project hosted multiple archaeology crews through the season and they have worked through fieldwork on the transmission line, the generation footprint, and around Surprise Lake.

Transmission line archaeology work is now complete, progressed as planned and reporting is underway.

Surprise Lake Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA): Most of the Areas of Potential (AOP) on Surprise Lake have now been shovel tested, with a select few still to be completed. There are two newly recorded sites as a result and one extension of an existing site after artifacts were recovered from an adjacent AOP.

Systematic Data Recovery (SDR): Identification and recovery of artifacts from various sites on Surprise Lake prior to construction has been ongoing through summer 2024. The Project completed infill testing for all sites and have now completed SDR at seven sites with two more in progress. The Project has been successful in discussions with the Archaeology Branch regarding optimized recovery methods and four small sites were approved for removal with no further work anticipated at those sites.

Systematic Data Recovery (SDR) on the generation footprint: Excavation of sites near the intake, penstock and powerhouse progressed well and is now complete at two of the three remaining sites. The third site has been expanded in accordance with recent findings. The project completed shovel testing around the periphery of the site as planned and all crews have been allocated to this site for the remainder of the season on a priority basis to ensure the generation footprint is construction ready by early 2025.





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Environmental Monitoring Programs

Throughout the summer season PIT tagging of grayling continued to observe spawning locations at Surprise Lake outlet and various other locations in the watershed.

Sediment sampling and testing was also completed as a part of baseline evaluation of the intake construction footprint.

Hydrology measurements such as stream gauging, water flows and water quality continue through all seasons as well.

Permitting and Project Timelines Update

The Project continues to advance towards obtaining primary permits such as the Conditional Water License, General Area License of Occupation, and the Occupational License To Cut and it is expected for these to start arriving early to mid-winter 2024. It is anticipated that the Project may be able to start clearing the penstock route as early as spring 2025.

Financial Update

The Project has been and will continue to actively work to close the funding gap with provincial, territorial, and federal governments and look forward to inclusion in the federal Fall Economic Statement. With the Taku River Tlingit First Nation's Joint Clan Mandate process complete and project approval now in-hand, more opportunities exist for funding via federal, provincial, and territorial governments.

What's Next

The Atlin Hydro Expansion project remains committed to actively engaging with the community and citizens. If you have questions or would like more information on specific aspects of the project's development, please do not hesitate to contact us through our website, the THEL Facebook page, or reach out to our project team listed below. We are happy to provide an open-door policy to those that would like more information, have questions or concerns either in person, by phone, or virtually.

Individuals looking for employment opportunities with the Atlin Hydro Expansion project, please do not hesitate to contact Darlene McGill with your information at darlene.mcgill@takucorp.ca.



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Stay Involved

There are several ways to stay involved:

- **SUBMIT COMMENTS & QUESTIONS ON OUR WEBSITE.** We are answering these and have posted answers to frequently asked questions on our website.
- **FOLLOW UPDATES.** Stay connected on social media for Project updates by liking and following our Facebook page @Tlingit Homeland Energy Limited.

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: peter.ramsden@takucorp.ca
Stuart Simpson, Project Manager Email: stuart.simpson@takucorp.ca