Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission project:

FACT SHEET

- Over the next 20 years, the population of the Lower Mainland is expected to grow from 2.5 million to about 3.4 million. Over that same time period, the demand for electricity in B.C. is expected to grow by as much as 40% - the majority of it in the Lower Mainland.

- The transmission circuits that bring power from where it is generated in the B.C. Interior to the Lower Mainland create some of the most critical paths in BC Hydro’s transmission grid. While the system continues to operate reliably today, the ILM transmission path is reaching its thermal limits and needs to be reinforced.

- The new transmission line will expand the capacity of the transmission system between the Interior and the Lower Mainland to ensure a continued safe and reliable source of electricity for British Columbia’s growing communities, reduced risk of disruptions and outages to the system province-wide and improved energy efficiency by reducing transmission system energy losses.

- The project is likely to provide opportunities for local vendors and suppliers for goods and services during construction such as right-of-way clearing and access road development, truck drivers and equipment operators, flag people, right-of-way restoration, accommodation and meals.

- Up to 543 person-years of employment could be created through the construction of the Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission project.

- The Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission project includes construction of a new 500 kilovolt transmission line from the Nicola substation near Merritt to the Meridian substation in Coquitlam and a new capacitor station near Ruby Creek.

- The new line will be approximately 255 kilometres in length and will parallel an existing 500 kilovolt transmission line for the majority of the distance.

- Approximately 74 km of the line will require new right-of-way, while approximately 60 km will require widening of the existing right-of-way.

- The estimated project cost of the Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission project is $725 million. BC Hydro is continuing to pursue an in-service date of fall 2014.

- The Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission project is part of BC Hydro’s regeneration strategy, investing to renew and expand the province’s electricity system.