Coastal GasLink

Backgrounder

Overview

Coastal GasLink values the culture, lands and traditions of Indigenous groups. These values have guided how we have engagement with Indigenous communities since project planning began in 2012. We’re proud to have signed project agreements with all 20 elected First Nations governments along the approved route. The contracting and employment opportunities along with the long-term benefit programs set forth in the agreements were designed specifically for each community along the route, providing Indigenous groups with job opportunities and sustainable sources of revenue over the life of the project. Support for the agreements comes from the elected leaders indicated in the image below, as well as from several traditional and hereditary leaders within these communities. Coastal GasLink is committed to ongoing consultation and engagement for the life of the project.

Indigenous Partnerships

- Coastal GasLink traverses twenty Indigenous communities, including 5 Wet’suwet’en communities. Coastal GasLink has agreements of support in place from all 20 elected Indigenous communities along the project corridor, including project agreements signed with the five elected Wet’suwet’en Nations.
- All prime contractors since 2020, have signed agreements with Indigenous communities in whose territories they operate, including the following:
  - Ledcor-Haisla Limited Partnership
Nadleh-Macro partnership
- OJ Pipelines and Indigenous-led companies from Wet’suwet’en First Nation, Skin Tyee, and Witset First Nation
- Bothar and Indigenous-led companies from Witset and Wet’suwet’en First Nation
- Michels and Indigenous-led companies from Wet’suwet’en, Stellat’en, Witset, Skin Tyee, and Ts’il Kaz Koh First Nations, and Nee Tah Nuhn Band.

- Indigenous communities along project route requested equity ownership in the project, and Coastal GasLink has signed option agreements with 17 Indigenous communities for 10% equity in the project.
- To date, more than $1.5 billion in Indigenous and local employment and contract awards have been made, including $400 million in contracts provided to Wet’suwet’en businesses.
- 75 Wet’suwet’en members hired to date, working in construction, environmental protection, security and within workforce accommodations.

Wet’suwet’en consultation and engagement

- Since 2019, the team has had more than 2,800 engagements or interactions with the Office of the Wet’suwet’en and Hereditary House groups, including meetings, site visits, information sessions, emails, phone calls, and more – well beyond the project’s regulatory requirements for consultation.
- Programs and initiatives that have been implemented in response to Wet’suwet’en feedback include:
  - Elder site visits: site visits have been offered to specific areas of interest, including the Morice micro-tunnel work site, Traditional Land Use sites and archeology sites.
  - Construction Monitoring and Community Liaison (CMCL) program: representatives from local Indigenous communities who monitor construction activities and engage directly with the construction team in the field to ensure areas of importance and of potential concerns are identified and addressed effectively and respectfully. Each of the five elected Wet’suwet’en Nations have Advisors actively participating in the program.
  - Wet’suwet’en Hereditary House CMCL Program: establishment of Hereditary House CMCL program to help specific house groups represent their interests on the project. There is currently participation from six Houses, with ongoing efforts to enhance interest and expand the program to include additional representation from Hereditary House groups.
  - Community Workforce Accommodation Advisor (CWAA) programs: invites advisors representing the surrounding Indigenous communities to live in the workforce accommodation to share their culture and promote a healthy, safe and responsible lifestyle within the lodges. All four workforce accommodations located within Wet’suwet’en traditional territory (P2, 9A, Huckleberry, 7 Mile) have representation from Wet’suwet’en Advisors.
  - Wet’suwet’en Community Information Sessions: online sessions to provide project information to Wet’suwet’en community members. Four sessions were held providing information about the project overall, including information on the Morice River micro-
tunnel, the CMCL and CWAA programs, contracting and employment, and the project’s reclamation program.

- **Water Quality Data sharing:** commitment to share data collected from water quality monitoring sites within Wet’suwet’en traditional territory with the Office of the Wet’suwet’en and the Morice Watershed Monitoring Trust.

- **Fish fence donation:** donation of fish fence materials and installation manual to Office of the Wet’suwet’en Fisheries to support salmon conservation efforts.

- **Cultural awareness training:** required for all employees and contractors involved in the project (over 12,000 worker have taken this training since 2021); supplemented by Wet’suwet’en specific cultural teachings for leadership and workers located at workforce accommodations within Wet’suwet’en traditional territory.

### Development timeline and key dates

- 2012: Project planning and consultation launches.
- 2013: Over 100,000 hours of environmental and engineering studies are completed, with significant involvement and feedback from Indigenous communities.
- 2015: Ongoing consultation with Indigenous groups and route assessment. Coastal GasLink applies for EAC amendment to consider alternate route to address concerns raised by Indigenous communities.
- 2016: Remaining BC Oil and Gas Commission permits required for construction are received. In response to feedback from Wet’suwet’en leaders, field work conducted on alternate route which moves alignment further away from important cultural areas.
- 2018: EAO approves alternate route; Final Investment Decision (FID) is announced by CGL and LNG Canada.
- 2019: Construction commences.
- 2022: Nations sign equity agreements for 10% ownership share in project once complete. Project more than 80% complete.
- 2023: Anticipated construction completion.

### Consultation Records:

Coastal GasLink’s extensive consultation efforts, which were deemed to meet all regulatory and government requirements, are available to the public at the following links. These records also document additional consultation undertaken to address Wet’suwet’en concerns with the original alignment, which resulted in the selection of a revised alignment.

- [Consultation Report 1](#)
- [Consultation Report 2](#)
- [Consultation Report 3](#)
- [Consultation Report 4 (SHAR)](#)
- [Reasons for Ministerial Decision – Coastal GasLink](#)
Details on the engagement with the Office of the Wet’suwet’en are in the documents for the interlocutory injunction application court file number S-185487.C.

Participation and contribution of Traditional Knowledge is documented in the AIA report prepared under Heritage Inspection Permit 2013-0033.