



---

## INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release  
2006ENV0069-001016  
Aug. 3, 2006

Ministry of Environment

### **CASCADE HERITAGE HYDRO PROJECT RECEIVES APPROVAL**

VICTORIA – Vancouver-based Powerhouse Developments Inc. (the proponent) has received a provincial environmental assessment certificate for a proposed 25-megawatt run-of-river hydroelectric power project on the Kettle River about 2.5 km south of the community of Christina Lake following a comprehensive review led by B.C.'s Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).

The proposed Cascade Heritage power project also triggered a screening level of review under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), so the EAO and federal agencies harmonized the environment assessment (EA) process and prepared a joint Assessment Report/Screening Report for decision makers.

The joint report concludes that no significant residual effects are anticipated from the perspective of provincial and federal government agencies as a result of the project. Both federal and provincial agencies, as well as trans-boundary agencies, including the Washington State Department of Ecology, consider that the potential effects on their regulatory and programming interests have been adequately addressed.

The provincial environmental assessment certificate incorporates more than 150 commitments that the proponent has made and must implement throughout the various phases of the project. Some key commitments include a series of mitigation, compensation and monitoring measures to protect:

- Fish and wildlife, including threatened and endangered species.
- Water quality.
- Places of special significance to First Nations.
- Aesthetic values in the Cascade Canyon/Falls area and related local tourism, including measures to minimize disruption during construction.

The review has concluded that the proponent has adopted all reasonable impact management measures, including a complete redesign of the project to ensure that any potential impacts are minimized.

Power Developments Inc.'s Cascade Heritage project will provide 105 person-years of construction-phase employment and three permanent operating jobs. The proponent has also committed to providing approximately \$1 million dollars to enhance local tourism.

In addition to provincial certification, the project will require decisions by Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Transport Canada before it can proceed. Also, the proponent is required to obtain the necessary provincial and federal permits and authorizations following receipt of an environmental assessment certificate. Project development is subject to prior placement of a water reserve on the Kettle River in order to preserve future water allocation options.

More information on the environmental assessment certificate can be found at [www.eao.gov.bc.ca](http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca).

Media        Seumas Gordon  
contact:     Media Relations  
               Ministry of Environment  
               250 953-4577

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province's news feeds using RSS, visit the Province's website at [www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca).