



West Kootenay EcoSociety

Activating people through leadership and education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

‘The Integrated Resource Plan Doesn’t Cut It’ says the EcoSociety

Nelson, April 1, 2011 – The West Kootenay EcoSociety (WKES) has released a statement calling for a comprehensive long-term energy plan for the province. With a new leader in government, another Independent Power Project (IPP) under fire – this time in Golden, and BC Hydro touring the province asking for public input on its new Integrated Resource Plan, the statement is aptly timed.

“A comprehensive energy plan for this province is long overdue and it is time the government took real leadership in developing one. The Integrated Resource Plan just doesn’t cut it,” says Raelynn Gibson of the WKES.

The Integrated Resource Plan is BC Hydro’s long term plan for securing resources to meet its customers’ needs over the next 20 years. It was mandated by the BC 2010 Clean Energy Act.

Gibson points out that the Integrated Resource Plan fails to address the widespread public concerns about energy development in the province because it is operating within the flawed framework of the BC 2010 Clean Energy Act. She stresses that the government needs to take seriously the concerns of its citizens instead of fostering the chaos that has led to the public outcry on such projects as Glacier/Howser and now Beaver River in Golden.

“I call on Christy Clark to stop wasting taxpayers’ money reviewing short-sighted projects and start on the important work of establishing a truly sustainable energy plan for this province.”

To view the EcoSociety statement, go to <http://www.ecosociety.ca/campaigns/glacier-howser-campaign/>

To view BC Hydro’s Integrated Resource Plan, visit:
http://www.bchydro.com/planning_regulatory/irp.html?WT.mc_id=rd_irp

To view the online comment form visit: <http://synosurvey.com/s/bchydro-irp2011/>
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