

Water Engagement Initiative Main Table videoconference Meeting 16

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

10:00 am to 12:00 pm



Draft Agenda

- Welcome, introductions, and agenda review
- Action item review
- Technical Working Group (TWG) update
- Southside update
- Climate change research presentation by Dr. Stephen Dery
- Review of WEI Update document (*not discussed at the meeting*)
- Next Main Table meeting dates
- Potential next meeting topics
- Adjourn

Draft Agenda

- **Propose agenda additions:**
 - Devrie and Andy introductions
 - Presentation request by Province of BC regarding land use planning
 - Eton flows (*discussed as part of TWG update*)
 - Kim, Nechako Watershed Roundtable announcement
 - Agricultural interests by Lyla Brophy (*postponed to next meeting*)

Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Rio Tinto to review when and how spillway information is provided
- **Update:** Flow facts is the currently the primary tool to communicate potential gate changes.
- Advancing the communication recommendations the WEI Table has reviewed previously
- Presentation from Lyla about agricultural communication interests (*postponed to next meeting*)

Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** The TWG will investigate the effects of reservoir flooding on water pH, and the potential for effects on fish populations.
- **Update:** Jayson

Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM: Rio Tinto to compile contact information into one source**
- **Update:**
- **Communication Improvement 3: TEAM MEMBER AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION EFFICIENCY:**
...Rio Tinto to make information about their representatives broadly available, e.g. this should be digital and posted in various locations and revised as personnel change.

Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Rio Tinto to determine if other communities would benefit from regular meetings with Rio Tinto.
- **Update: Communication Improvement 3: TEAM MEMBER AWARENESS AND COMMUNICATION EFFICIENCY:** Rio Tinto to expand the list of municipal, regional district, and Indigenous communities to meet with on a defined basis to discuss Rio Tinto operations and relevant personnel...

Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM: Rahul (RR) to provide Andrew (AC) with more information what is involved in Communication Recommendation 4.**
- **Update:**
- **COMMUNICATION RECOMMENDATION 4: MAINTAIN “GET INVOLVED NECHAKO” WEBSITE**
- Recommendation for Table review, revision, and approval: Rio Tinto to actively maintain the Get Involved Nechako website as an informational tool throughout and after the completion of the WEI.

Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Rio Tinto to add link to additional average precipitation data to the Get Involved Nechako website.
- **Update:** Rio Tinto is integrating all platforms with reservoir operating data, snow, weather etc. The time frame is approximately 12 months

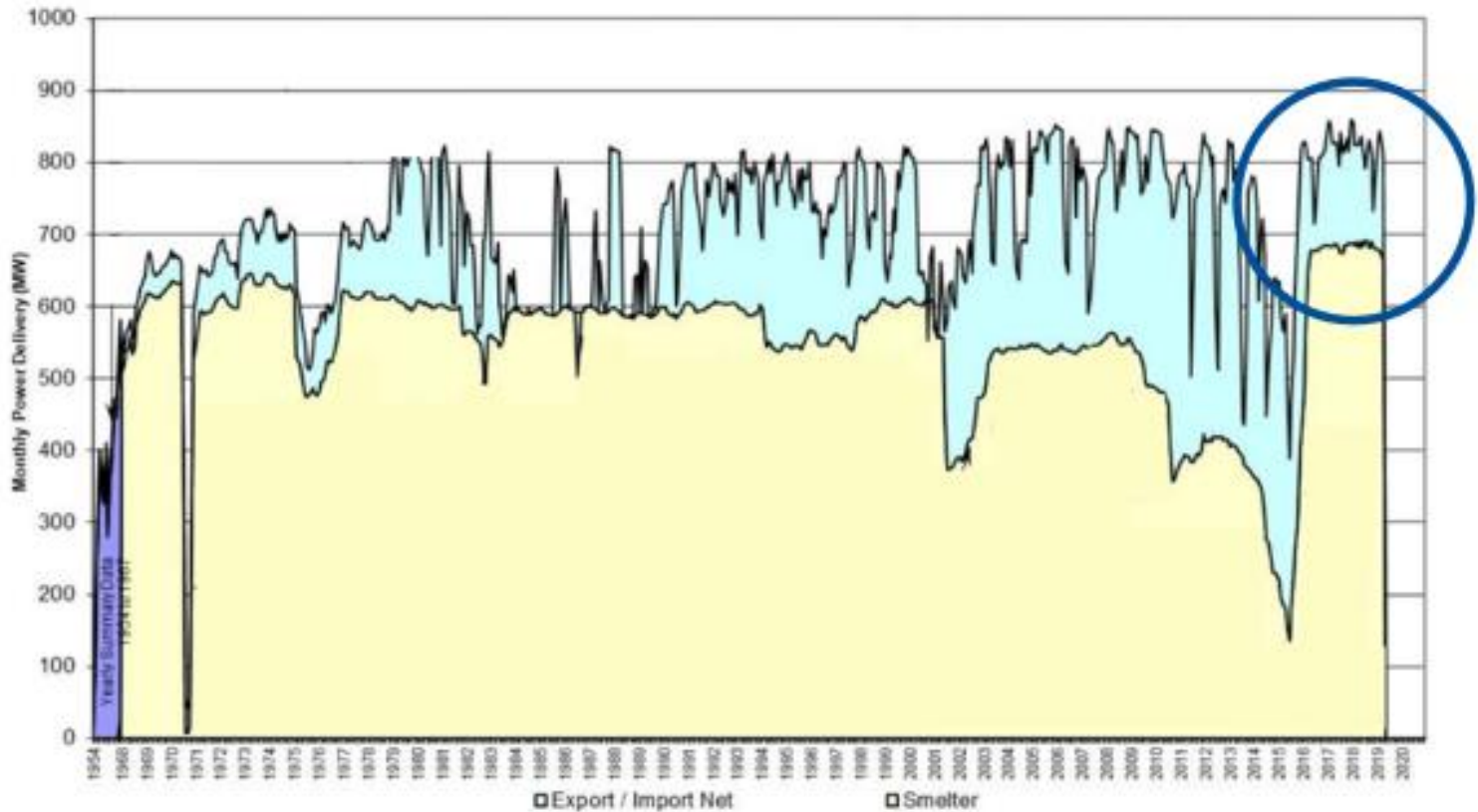
Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Rio Tinto to provide smelter energy usage data to the WEI Main Table.
- **Update:** Andrew, next slide

Energy Delivery Before & After Modernization

The Modernized Smelter consumes more energy, more consistently and requiring a higher degree of certainty to underpin the \$6B investment

Monthly Power Delivery to Smelter & Export
1954 to 2019



Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Rahul will provide a WEI Process Update for the Main Table to review in January.
- **Update:**
- Draft WEI Process Update included in pre-meeting reading package
- **Postponed** (*will be discussed at the next meeting*)

Meeting 15 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** The TWG will provide a list of water quality monitoring sites at the next meeting.
- **Update:** Jayson

Technical Working Group (TWG) update

- Jayson, as the TWG Coordinator, will provide a summary of the efforts being undertaken
 - Progress to date
 - Current investigations
 - Next steps to support the WEI Main Table
 - *Discuss role of Eton Flows*
- Jayson's presentation will be posted on the Get Involved Nechako website:
<https://www.getinvolvednechako.ca/wei>

Southside update

- Jason Collier, WEI facilitation team member, will provide an update on efforts that have been taken on the Southside

Climate change research presentation

- Dr. Stephen Dery
- Discussion of work in collaboration with the Integrated Watershed Research Group at UNBC
- Overview of the IRC program of research.
- Dr. Dery's presentation will be posted on the Get Involved Nechako website:
<https://www.getinvolvednechako.ca/wei>

Proposed March agenda topics

- TWG materials
- Province of BC land use planning initiative overview
 - “BC would appreciate an opportunity to engage with the membership in March to discuss BC interests in modernized land use planning in the Omineca...
 - ...BC is seeking 30 min to discuss these interests with the Water Engagement Initiative in March. BC recognizes that the WEI is specific to Rio Tinto operations, but in examining the interests being raised by participants in the WEI process, there may be opportunities to directly address them, or complement some of them. There are also issues that for BC, would be out-of-scope for any initial planning process.”

Proposed March agenda topics

- TWG materials
- *Province of BC land use planning initiative overview*
- Adaptive management structures
- Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative (NWSRI) update

Proposed WEI Main Table meeting dates

- Main Table meeting: March 10, 2021
- Main Table meeting: April 14, 2021 (*to be revised*)
- Propose to lengthen meetings
- TWG to continue meeting every two weeks to advance draft Objectives and Performance Measures for Main Table review

Adjourn