



Peace River Power GP Ltd.

**Peace River 98-Megawatt Natural Gas-Fired Power Plant
Time Extension**

October 10, 2017

Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 22886-D01-2017

Peace River Power GP Ltd.

Peace River 98-Megawatt Natural Gas-Fired Power Plant

Time Extension

Proceeding 22886

Application 22886-A001

October 10, 2017

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Alberta Utilities Commission

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1 Decision summary

1. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission must decide whether to approve an application from Peace River Power GP Ltd. for a time extension to complete the construction of a 98-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant in the Peace River area. After consideration of the record of the proceeding, and for the reasons outlined in this decision, the Commission finds that approval of the time extension is in the public interest, having regard to the social, economic, and other effects of the project, including its effect on the environment.

2 Introduction and background

2. Peace River Power GP Ltd. (PRP), pursuant to Approval 22176-D02-2016,¹ has approval to construct and operate a 98-megawatt natural gas-fired power plant in the Peace River area. The power plant shall consist of two 49-megawatt simple cycle General Electric LM6000-PH gas turbine generators and two 13.8/240-kilovolt step up transformers with a total generating capability of 98 megawatts.

3. PRP, by Application 22886-A001, registered with the Commission on August 16, 2017, requested approval of a time extension from November 30, 2017, to September 30, 2019, in order to complete construction of the power plant.

3 Discussion

4. PRP stated that the requested time extension is required because market conditions have delayed the start of construction.

5. PRP stated that it has conducted a participant involvement program that included notification and consultation with stakeholders for the power plant application. PRP indicated that it notified all potentially and adversely affected persons within 3,000 metres of the proposed power plant. PRP stated that there are no landowners or residents located within 3,000 metres of the project site and that the project is located on Crown land. PRP indicated that it has not received any concerns from any party with regard to the project.

6. The Commission issued information requests to PRP on September 15, 2017, and received responses on September 18, 2017. In its responses, PRP confirmed that if the date of the nocturnal broadcast forest nesting owl survey is more than two years old at the start of construction, then it would contact Alberta Environment and Parks Wildlife Management prior

¹ Power Plant Approval 22176-D02-2016, Proceeding 22176, Application 22176-A001, December 6, 2016.

to construction to determine if a further survey is required. PRP indicated that it would conduct a new survey if required.

4 Findings

7. PRP has provided information respecting the need, nature and the duration of the requested time extension. Based upon the information provided, the Commission finds that PRP has demonstrated that the requested time extension is of a minor nature.

8. Due to the minor nature of the application, and no concerns arising from PRP's participant involvement program, a notice of application was not issued and, therefore, a hearing was not required. The Commission considered that its decision would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person, pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

9. Given the considerations discussed above, the Commission considers the application to be in the public interest in accordance with Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*. The Commission grants approval of a time extension to September 30, 2019, in order to complete construction of the project.

5 Decision

10. Pursuant to sections 11 and 19 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants PRP the approval set out in Appendix 1 – Power Plant Approval 22886-D02-2017 – October 10, 2017, for a time extension from November 30, 2017, to September 30, 2019, to complete the construction of the 98-megawatt power plant.

Dated on October 10, 2017.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Henry van Egteren
Commission Member