



southern lakes enhanced storage project ten years in the making

After ten years of research, public engagement and planning on the Southern Lakes Enhanced Storage Project, Yukon Energy's Board of Directors have decided to move the project forward into the next stage—preparing a proposal to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) to assess the project.

The proposed project would see us storing more water in Marsh, Tagish and Bennett lakes in the fall and early winter each year. The stored water would be used to generate renewable electricity later in the winter, when it's needed most.

what does this mean?

- It does not mean that the project will proceed.
- YESAB will assess whether the proposed project is expected to have significant adverse effects on the environment or the well-being of Yukoners.
- Yukoners and other interested parties will have the opportunity to share their views about the project directly with YESAB.

If all regulatory approvals are granted, the earliest Yukon Energy would be able to use the additional storage range in the Southern Lakes would be the fall of 2023. Nothing in how Yukon Energy monitors and manages water levels in the Southern Lakes will change until that time.

how did we get to this decision?

In our last round of public engagement, we found that:

Yukoners want more renewable electricity. Property owners and Yukoners care deeply about the impacts of the proposed project on the environment, property and First Nations lands and activities.

57% More than half (57%) of Yukoners support the option of increasing the amount of water we store in lakes during fall and early winter in order to produce more renewable electricity.

62% **77%** **61%**

62% of Southern Lakes property owners, 77% of Whitehorse residents and 61% of residents in other Yukon communities said they could support the Southern Lakes Enhanced Storage Project if we can demonstrate that the project would have minimal effects on the environment.

67% 67% of property owners we have contacted about possible mitigation solutions for erosion or groundwater on their property were not satisfied with the proposed solution.

10 years of research has shown us that:



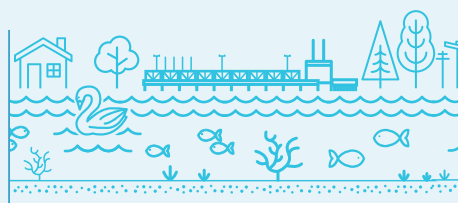
Storing more water in the Southern Lakes is a cost-effective way of generating more renewable electricity, and would result in us burning less diesel and liquefied natural gas (LNG).



Storing 30 cm more water in the Southern Lakes in the fall and using an extra 10 cm of bottom storage in the spring would have minimal effects on fish, wildlife, waterfowl and wetlands in the project area.



Shoreline erosion and longer durations of seasonal high groundwater caused by the project can be addressed with appropriate mitigation.



next steps

We plan to have our YESAA proposal ready in summer 2021.

Between now and then, we will:

1. Work with the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council to complete fieldwork for a Heritage Resources Impact Assessment.
2. Continue our discussions with First Nations governments and other stakeholders in the project area to develop a Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan. This will help us track potential effects of the project and outline how we'll make adjustments, if needed, to address significant effects.
3. Negotiate project-specific Benefits Agreements with First Nations.
4. Meet with Southern Lakes property owners who are expected to be directly affected by the project to review and confirm our erosion and groundwater mitigation plans.
5. Develop an adjudication process for property owners who experience unexpected impacts, should the project be implemented, to file concerns and seek additional mitigation.