



# BHP

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Consultation Summary  
Report – Preliminary Public  
Comment Period

## BHP Potash Export Facility at Fraser Surrey Docks

Consultation Summary Report – Preliminary Public Comment Period

December 2017



This Consultation Summary Report presents the findings from the Preliminary Public Comment Period for the BHP Potash Export Facility at Fraser Surrey Docks, undertaken by Lucent Quay Consulting Inc. (Lucent Quay) on behalf of BHP Billiton Canada Inc. (BHP). This document has been prepared as part of an application under the preliminary Project and Environmental Review (PER) process of the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

Lucent Quay is a Vancouver-based communications and engagement firm with extensive experience in port-related and general transportation projects.

For more information about the consultation process, please see the Approach and Methodology section of this report.

Online feedback was collected using the Interceptum survey platform, which stores all data in Canada. The input received reflects the interests and opinions of people who chose to participate in the consultation process.



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## 1 Background

### 1.1 About BHP

BHP Billiton Canada Inc. (BHP) is a leading global resources company with assets and projects in iron ore, petroleum, copper and coal. BHP proposes to construct a potash export facility at Fraser Surrey Docks in Surrey, B.C. to export potash from the proposed Jansen mine in Saskatchewan.

### 1.2 About the Project

Subject to regulatory and internal approvals, BHP would construct an export facility to receive and store rail shipments of potash and load onto bulk ocean-going vessels. The proposed facility, with a throughput of up to 8 million tonnes per annum (Mtpa), will:

- Receive shipments of product by rail from the proposed Jansen mine in Saskatchewan
- Offload products from rail cars to the conveyor system
- Store potash in the product storage building
- Transfer products from the product storage building via conveyors to the ship loader and to a waiting vessel for export

At the projected 8 Mtpa, 8 to 10 trains per week are expected to supply the facility. Three to four vessels per week are expected to load at the facility, ranging in size from Handysize up to Kamsarmax size.

Potash, technically known as potassium chloride (KCl), is a naturally occurring mineral salt and a key ingredient in agricultural fertilizer, including common household garden fertilizers. Potash is non-flammable, non-combustible and is considered non-toxic to aquatic species. Similar to table salt, potash is mildly corrosive to metals, and is water-soluble and requires a dry location for storage. Potash is processed into solid particles that are approximately 3/16 inch (4 millimeters) in size and range from pink to red in colour. The world's largest known reserves of potash are located in Saskatchewan, Canada.

About 95 per cent of potash production is used in fertilizers, with the remainder used in other chemical and manufactured products. Potash-based fertilizers are a major contributor to improving crop yields and resilience and helping to feed the growing global population.

## 2 Consultation and Engagement

### 2.1 Overview

On behalf of BHP, Lucent Quay Consulting Inc. (Lucent Quay) led a comprehensive round of initial engagement and consultation in accordance with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's (the port authority) requirements as part of the Project and Environmental Review (PER) process. The Preliminary Public Comment Period was held from 12 October to 8 November 2017, and was designed to introduce the company and the Project to interested parties. Project stakeholders and members of the public were invited to provide comments and ask questions about the scope of studies being completed as part of the permit application to the port authority.

All input received during the Preliminary Public Comment Period, including comments received as part of the community information sessions and on the feedback form, is summarized in this report. This input will be considered in finalizing the scope of technical and environmental studies and design development for the Project. The Project Team will prepare a Input Consideration Report to outline how the feedback and questions will be considered. Following acceptance of the permit application by the port authority, a second phase of engagement and consultation will be conducted, including community open houses, to provide further details about the Project and receive input on the results of our assessments.

### 2.2 Approach and Methodology

BHP is working with the port authority to ensure that community and stakeholder interests are considered as part of the PER process. BHP's approach for the Preliminary Public Comment Period was to develop a comprehensive public engagement process to provide valuable information to key stakeholders and members of the public, and generate meaningful dialogue. The engagement and consultation strategy meets all requirements outlined by the port authority for public and stakeholder consultation.

During the Preliminary Public Comment Period, the following activities were completed:

- Developed a **Project website** to make information available to the community and stakeholders
- Placed **advertisements** in four local newspapers
- Created an **information brochure and display boards** for download on the Project website and made available in print at community information sessions
- Developed an **online feedback form** to collect community and stakeholder input and made paper copies available at the information sessions
- Developed **notification letters** which were delivered by hand, regular mail and email to neighbouring residents, local businesses and three community associations
- Developed and delivered **notification letters** to municipal, provincial and federal government stakeholders by email and regular mail
- Hosted two community **information sessions** at locations in local communities (Surrey and New Westminster)



The activities above are described in more detail in the following sections of this report.

## 2.3 Notification

### Notification Letters to Community and Stakeholders

The public comment period notification strategy was developed to meet all requirements outlined by the port authority for public and stakeholder consultation and to provide the public and stakeholders with the opportunity to participate.

Notification letters were distributed to the local community and stakeholders by regular mail, email and/or hand delivery. The notification letter contained background Project information, described where to find further information and outlined ways to participate in the Preliminary Public Comment Period.

Notification letters were distributed as follows:

- 3,720 letters were mailed to residents in Surrey, Delta and New Westminster
- 200 letters were hand-delivered to residents in Surrey and Delta, in areas adjacent to River Road
- 19 letters were emailed to neighbouring businesses
- 16 letters were emailed to other stakeholders including community associations, union representatives and chambers of commerce

Letters were also sent to the following government representatives and organizations:

- City of Surrey, City of New Westminster and Corporation of Delta
- Members of Parliament for Surrey Centre, Delta and New Westminster-Burnaby
- Members of the Legislative Assembly for Surrey-Whalley, Delta North and New Westminster

During the information sessions, it came to the attention of the Project team that residents on two streets designated in the Canada Post delivery may not have received their invitation letter. As such, on 3 November 2017, prior to the public comment period close, we hand delivered 65 copies of the original letter with a cover note indicating the possible error and providing the end date of the public comment period, information on how to participate, and contact information should the residents want to follow up with the Project team.

A copy of the notification and maps of the public notification areas are provided as Appendix 1.

### Advertising in Local Newspapers

Advertisements were placed in four local newspapers that included the following information:

- The start and end date of the Preliminary Public Comment Period
- Website address to access further information about the Project
- Location, date and time for community information sessions



Advertisements appeared in the following newspapers on these dates:

- New Westminster Record, 12 October, 2016
- North Delta Leader, 12 October, 2016
- Surrey NOW-Leader, 13 October, 2016
- Delta Optimist, 13 October, 2016

Copies of newspaper advertisements are provided as Appendix 2.

### **Project Web Page**

A dedicated Project web page was created to provide information about the Project and the public comment period.

The web page provided:

- Background information about the Project
- Details outlining how to participate and attend community information sessions
- A link to the online feedback form
- Downloadable PDF copies of consultation documents
- A link to sign up for Project updates
- Project contact information
- A link to the port authority website for information about the permitting process

The project web page URL is: [bhp.com/fsdpotashexport](http://bhp.com/fsdpotashexport)

## **2.4 Engagement Methods**

### **Information Brochure and Display Boards**

An information brochure and display boards were developed for community information sessions and for download from the Project website. The five-page information brochure was also a printed take-away at public events. These materials were also made available on the port authority website.

The brochure and display boards provided the following information:

- Background about BHP
- Project overview
- A description of technical studies to be conducted
- Details on how to participate in the Preliminary Public Comment Period



A copy of the information brochure and display boards is provided as Appendix 3.

### **Feedback Form**

A 20-question feedback form was used to collect input as part of the Preliminary Public Comment Period. A link to the online feedback form was provided on the Project website and printed copies were available at the public information sessions.

A copy of the printed feedback form is provided as Appendix 4.

A detailed record of verbatim responses is provided as Appendix 5.

### **Community Information Sessions**

Two information sessions were held to facilitate community dialogue about the Project.

Dates and locations of the events were as follows:

#### **Fraser River Discovery Centre**

788 Quayside Drive, New Westminster

Thursday, 26 October, 2017

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

#### **Royal Heights Elementary School**

11665 97 Avenue, Surrey

Saturday, 28 October, 2017

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

These sessions provided the opportunity for members of the community to engage with and pose questions to the Project team about the following topics:

- Scope of technical studies
- Project description
- Information about BHP

Representatives from the port authority were also on site to answer questions pertaining to the port authority's Project and Environmental Review process.

The two events were informal, drop-in style events with printed reference materials available for review and take-away. The Project Team subject matter experts were in attendance to provide information about the Project and answer questions from participants. Printed and online feedback forms were available for participants who wanted to provide feedback at the meeting.



### 3 Participation

The Preliminary Public Comment Period provided a variety of methods for participation and input, including public events, an online feedback form, and a Project phone number and email address.

Participation results are as follows:

- 21 people attended the public information meeting in New Westminster
- 36 people attended the public information meeting in Surrey
- 26 people completed the feedback form online or in person
- 9 written submissions were received by email
- 78 people requested to be added to the Project database
- 780 unique page views on the project website

Participants who completed the feedback form indicated that they had heard about the meeting through:

- Notification letter delivered to home or business
- Friends or neighbours
- Local newspaper
- Email
- Website

Of the 9 written submissions received via email:

- Two submissions were from local or regional government representatives
- One letter was submitted by a local business
- Six letters were submitted by local residents

Responses are summarized by key themes in Section four of this document.



## 4 Key Themes

### 4.1 Feedback Form Key Themes

Between 12 October and 8 November 2017, 26 participants completed the feedback form either online or on paper at a community information session.

Key themes from the responses include:

- Questions and concerns about air quality, particularly dust
- Questions and concerns about lighting impacts to the neighbouring community
- Concerns about existing and increased train traffic and noise from trains, specifically whistles, idling and shunting
- Questions about the option for shore power to decrease the sounds of ships running engines while docked at the terminal
- Questions about the corrosive nature of the commodity
- Questions and concerns about protecting salmon and salmon habitat including how run off will be treated
- Questions and concerns about construction noise
- Questions about spill response procedure
- Questions about increased marine, rail and road traffic
- Question about whether this Project will replace the Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project

A detailed record of verbatim responses is provided as Appendix 5.

## 4.2 Public Information Session Key Themes

Session #1	Key theme
<b>Key themes below are categorized as follows:</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Few = 1 to 3 people</li> <li>• Some = 3 to 5 people</li> <li>• Many = over 10 people</li> </ul>
<b>Community Information Session #1</b> <b>New Westminster</b> <b>Thursday, October 26, 2017</b>	<p><b>Noise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many local residents expressed concern about existing noise levels due to train whistles and idling</li> <li>• Some posed concerns about increases in rail traffic and resulting increases in noise</li> <li>• A few residents were concerned about current noise due to dropping pipes</li> <li>• A few participants posed questions about the possibility of shore power to reduce noise of ships running engines while docked at the terminal</li> <li>• Some participants posed questions about rail track “squeal” at the curves in project site</li> </ul> <p><b>Air quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many posed questions or concerns about dust from potash</li> <li>• Some posed questions or concerns about emissions from vessels and trains</li> </ul> <p><b>Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many posed questions about whether the Potash facility would replace the permitted Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project</li> <li>• Many provided comments about unresponsiveness of Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project to public concerns</li> <li>• Many residents expressed concern about the lack of updates on the Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project</li> </ul> <p><b>Lighting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some provided feedback that current lights are a nuisance</li> <li>• Some posed questions about increases in light affecting nearby residents</li> </ul> <p><b>Aquatics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few participants posed a concern or question about effects of potash on fish if there was a spill.</li> <li>• One participant posed a concern about effects of light on fish</li> </ul> <p><b>General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many industry representatives attended the events and were interested and curious about the project</li> <li>• Some expressed their general support for project</li> </ul>

Session #2	Key theme
<b>Key themes below are categorized as follows:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Few = 1 to 3 people</li> <li>• Some = 3 to 5 people</li> <li>• Many = over 10 people</li> </ul>	
<i>Community Information Session #2</i> <b>Surrey/Delta Saturday, October 28, 2017</b>	<p><b>Noise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many expressed concerns about existing train whistles</li> <li>• Some expressed concern about noise from Hwy 17 and on the current site, (specifically dropping pipes)</li> <li>• Many expressed concerns that the Project will result in more train whistles</li> <li>• Some expressed concern about ships running engines while docked at the terminal</li> <li>• Some expressed concern about trains idling</li> <li>• A few posed questions about the possibility of shore power to reduce noise of ships running engines while docked at the terminal</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Air quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some posed concerns about current levels of diesel particulate from trains and Hwy 17</li> <li>• Some posed concerns about raising a family in the Project area due to existing air quality and noise</li> <li>• Some posed concerns about increased air quality issues due to the Project</li> <li>• Some posed questions about dust generation</li> <li>• Some asked whether electric engines could be used to move trains around the yard</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Lighting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some posed concerns about increases in light from site</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Commodity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few participants expressed concern about the corrosive nature of product</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many had questions about whether the Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project would proceed</li> <li>• Some commented on Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project unresponsiveness to public concerns</li> <li>• Some residents expressed concern about the lack of updates on the Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Aquatics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One participant asked about possible infilling of Gunderson Slough</li> </ul>
	<p><b>General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few expressed concerns about the transparency of the process - that the project is a "done deal" before feedback is submitted or that feedback will not be considered</li> <li>• A few expressed concern about property values</li> </ul>

#### 4.3 Written Submissions

During the Preliminary Public Comment Period, key themes in the 9 written submissions received include:

- Questions and concerns about dust and air quality
- Questions and concerns about increased traffic and emergency access for first responders
- Questions about how this Project will affect the proposed Fraser Surrey Docks Direct Transfer Coal Facility project
- Questions and concerns about increased noise from project operations and, train whistles/ horns
- Questions about emergency response plans
- A question about whether additional dredging will be required
- Concerns about property values
- A question about demolition and construction timing
- A query about commercial opportunities

### 5 Summary and Next Steps

The Preliminary Public Comment Period for the proposed Potash Export Facility at Fraser Surrey Docks was held from 12 October to 8 November 2017. A comprehensive public engagement process was implemented in accordance with the port authority's public consultation and engagement requirements.

The Project team developed a dedicated project web page, online feedback form and hosted two public information sessions in Surrey and New Westminster with the intention to introduce the Project to interested parties and receive comments about the proposed facility.

Key themes that emerged as part of the Preliminary Public Comment Period include:

- Main concerns from residents include dust, noise and lighting
- Main concerns from stakeholders and local businesses are traffic and emergency access for first responders
- Interested parties would like to be kept informed as the Project progresses

#### 5.1 Next Steps

The Project Team will prepare an Input Consideration Report to outline how the feedback and questions will be considered. Following the submission of the permit application in early 2018, and a completeness review by the port authority, a second phase of engagement and consultation will be conducted including opportunities to provide input on the results of the technical assessments.