
INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Ministry of Environment

PORT MANN PROJECT RECEIVES CERTIFICATE AMENDMENT

VICTORIA – The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (the proponent) has received an amendment to its environmental assessment (EA) certificate for the Port Mann/Highway 1 project (proposed project), which is part of the government’s Gateway Program.

The Port Mann/Highway 1 project originally received an EA certificate on June 12, 2008. The proposed project, as certified, included construction of a bridge adjacent to the existing Port Mann Bridge and various improvements to Highway 1 and associated interchanges between McGill Street in Vancouver and 216th Street in Langley. During the bid process for the proposed project, the proponent was presented with an enhanced design concept for a single, bi-directional bridge that offered environmental and economic benefits over the original twin-bridge design.

The certificate amendment only addresses the revised bridge design concept and does not affect other aspects of the proposed project. The single bridge is similar in traffic capacity and location as the currently certified twin-bridge design.

The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) concluded that there will not likely be any significant adverse effects if the amendment is carried out according to the commitments and mitigation measures set out in the certificate amendment. In reaching its conclusions, the EAO consulted with the technical working group that participated in the original environmental assessment. This included representatives from local governments, provincial and federal agencies and First Nations.

The potential effects of the revised design are expected to be the same or reduced in relation to the previously certified twin-bridge design. All of the 233 commitments in the existing EA certificate will apply to the amended project.

The existing Port Mann Bridge will be decommissioned following completion of the project and an environmental assessment of this activity will be considered in the future, as necessary.

The as-constructed capital costs for the Port Mann/Highway 1 project are expected to be \$2.46 billion and the project is expected to generate approximately 8,000 construction jobs and contribute more than \$800 million to the provincial gross domestic product.

More information on the certificate amendment and the original environmental assessment can be found at www.eao.gov.bc.ca.

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