

*Deferral Accounts  
Appendix 6*

**← News Releases**

**March 29, 2001 - Reservoir and Snowpack levels and the BC Hydro system**

**General BC Hydro System Overview**

- BC Hydro's reservoirs across the province are presently at 80 per cent of normal.
- While the most accurate system reading will occur with the onset of the spring freshette during the first week of April, it appears that snowpack and run-off could result in record low reservoir levels.
- This is an extraordinary situation not exclusive to B.C., but rather it is a western North American phenomenon affecting other areas including Washington, Oregon and California.
- BC Hydro is considering a combination of increased non-hydroelectric facility operations and increased electricity imports to help meet domestic needs.
- Despite these challenges, BC Hydro will have enough electricity to meet customers needs this year, and through to 2007.

**Regional Reservoir Overview – Northern Region**

Name	Reservoir/Location	Operating Range (permitted per Water Licence)	Current Information
WAC Bennett Dam – GM Shrum	Williston Reservoir  24 kms. West of Hudson's Hope	Full Pond: 2205 ft.  Minimum reservoir level: 2106 ft.	Seasonal water supply forecast for the Williston Reservoir is 87 percent of average.  Expected minimum reservoir level this year is 2150 ft with a refill forecasted to 2179 ft in the summer of 2001.  Expected minimum reservoir level for 2002 is currently forecast to be 2140 - 2145 ft, with the final number dependent on precipitation.