

## **Electrifying the Energy Transition**

Clean Energy BC's membership provides reliable electricity to BC residents through production partnerships with BC Hydro. Our members' projects are delivered on time at the lowest cost with zero construction risk to the BC Hydro ratepayer and taxpayer. The sector supports the cultivation of energy sovereignty, fostering self-determination and capacity building within First Nation communities; our membership includes a number of First Nations that own and operate clean energy facilities. Private sector investment in BC's electricity system has enhanced the grid's dependability and contributes to a high standard of living in British Columbia by providing regional economic growth, ranging from stable family-supporting jobs to substantial local and provincial taxes.

### **BC's Current Energy Mix**

BC is abundant in natural resources, including clean and reliable renewable electricity. However, electricity is only one component of BC's energy mix and accounts for approximately 1/3 of the energy we consume. Most buildings in BC are heated by natural gas, and although renewable natural gas (RNG) will help reduce emissions it will not provide the entire solution. The transportation sector, heating our buildings, and many industrial activities still rely on fossil fuels; producing greenhouse gas emissions as a result. Fuel-switching from these fossil fuels (like gasoline, oil and natural gas) to low-carbon electricity is key in meeting the Government of BC's CleanBC greenhouse gas reduction targets.

BC's electricity resources provide a clear pathway for decarbonizing our energy system and can serve as a catalyst for electrification in other sectors. Many regions across the globe are not as fortunate and do not currently have electricity grids as low carbon as BC's. Our clean electricity system is BC's advantage; it is imperative that we leverage it to grow and future-proof our economy while meeting greenhouse gas reduction targets.

### **Supporting Decarbonization in BC**

BC's climate change action plan, Clean BC, identifies electrification as a primary means for reducing greenhouse gas emissions across industry, transportation and the built environment. CEBC supports this policy. Likewise, electrification as a means of managing the associated carbon emissions from BC's liquified natural gas (LNG) industry will be critical in achieving our climate targets. Electrification provides a pathway for reducing emissions from natural gas extraction, processing and transport.

### **The Role of Clean Energy IPPs in the Energy Transition**

Independent power producers have the expertise to supply affordable and safe renewable energy with the speed, innovation and agility required to decarbonize our energy system; while the inherent risks associated with infrastructure development, operation and maintenance are transferred to private sector investors. Clean electricity facilities that are owned and operated by – or partnered with – First Nations are helping to charge economic reconciliation within BC. Furthermore, the cost of renewable energy and storage technologies has rapidly decreased while the technology has advanced to provide more flexibility and reliability. While there are a multitude of different models and scenarios for achieving a global energy transition, the transition to a low-carbon energy future in BC will be built on the backbone of BC's clean electricity system and continuing production partnerships between First Nations, IPPs and BC Hydro.



## **About Clean Energy BC**

*Clean Energy BC (CEBC) has been the voice of British Columbia's clean energy sector for over 25 years. We are an industry association that represents independent power producers (IPPs), developers, operators, service providers, First Nations and academic institutions. CEBC believes in decarbonizing BC's energy system using low-carbon electricity produced by our IPPs. We mainly do this through the production of non-damming hydroelectricity, wind power and solar power.*

## **Additional Materials**

[Clean Energy BC. \(October 2018\). \*Electrification of British Columbia: Assessing the economic and environment benefits of extensive electrification in BC.\*](#)