VICTORIA – Doig River Environmental LP (the proponent) has received an environmental assessment (EA) certificate for the Peejay Secure Landfill project.

Environment Minister Barry Penner and Community Development Minister Blair Lekstrom made their decision to grant the EA certificate after considering the review led by B.C.’s Environmental Assessment Office.

The project consists of a 32.5-hectare landfill to be used for the disposal of 50,000-75,000 tonnes per year of contaminated soil from upstream oil and gas activities. The project is located within Treaty 8 territory in B.C. The Fort Nelson, Prophet River, Halfway River, Blueberry River, Doig River, West Moberly, and Saulteau First Nations, as well as the Treaty 8 Tribal Association, participated in the EA review. The development of such a facility in this location should help industry and local communities to address soil contamination issues in a cost-effective, sustainable manner.

The EAO Assessment Report concludes the project should not have significant adverse effects, based on the mitigation measures and commitments included as conditions of the EA certificate. Before the project can proceed, the proponent will still need to obtain the necessary provincial licences, leases and other approvals.

The provincial EA certificate contains more than 70 commitments that the proponent must implement throughout various stages of the project. Key commitments include the following:

• Design the project with a triple liner system and install it under the supervision of a qualified installation expert.
• Install appropriate fencing around the entire site to prevent wildlife from entering.
• Install a leachate monitoring system and ensure any leachate detected is stored, tested, treated, and disposed of as required by provincial regulations and requirements.
• Install, maintain and monitor a groundwater monitoring system in accordance with provincial regulations and requirements.
• Continue to monitor and be financially responsible for the project for at least 25 years after its closure.
• Refuse to accept free liquids or naturally occurring radioactive materials.
• Consult and communicate with B.C. Treaty 8 First Nations throughout the lifespan of the project.

The capital cost of the project is expected to be approximately $4 million.

-30-

Media contact: Kate Thompson
Manager, Media Relations
250 953-4577

For more information on government services or to subscribe to the Province’s news feeds using RSS, visit the Province’s website at www.gov.bc.ca.