QUICK FACTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

Corporate Purpose

BC Hydro's corporate purpose is to provide reliable power, at low cost, for generations.

Business of BC Hydro

BC Hydro is a commercial Crown corporation owned by the Province of British Columbia. BC Hydro is one of North America's leading providers of clean, renewable energy, and the largest electric utility in British Columbia, serving approximately 95 per cent of the province's population and 1.8 million customers. We are responsible for reliably generating between 43,000 and 54,000 gigawatt hours (GWh) of electricity. Electricity is delivered to customers through an interconnected system of 18,531 kilometres of transmission lines and 56,780 kilometres of distribution lines.

2009 Facts

- Net income was $366 million, compared with $369 million the year before, resulting on a return on equity of 11.75 per cent.
- Power Smart conservation programs delivered cumulative energy savings of 983 GWh—equivalent to powering 65,700 homes for a year.
- BC Hydro received decisions from the British Columbia Utilities Commission on our Residential Inclining Block Rate Application, which will help us meet the increasing costs of doing business, and the two-step Conservation rate, which will encourage conservation in October 2008. The Conservation Rate will benefit up to 70 per cent of our residential customers, who will pay less than under the previous "flat rate" structure.
- Water levels flowing into our reservoirs were 96 per cent of average for fiscal 2009, 18 per cent lower than the year before due to lower than average system inflows into our reservoirs. As a result, BC Hydro needed to purchase more energy from the market which is more expensive than energy generated from its system, increasing the overall cost of energy.
- Many of BC Hydro's power-generating facilities were built decades ago, and needed additional refurbishment and expansion to continue providing reliable electricity to British Columbians. BC Hydro is investing significant funds—$365 million over fiscal 2009—to address our aging infrastructure.

Energy Facts

Definitions

power = how much electricity is consumed by customers (or produced by power generators) at any instant in time

energy = how much is consumed (or produced) over a period of time

capacity = the maximum sustainable amount of energy that can be produced or carried at any instant. Example: a car engine's horsepower rating is its energy capacity

Units of power

- 1 kilowatt (kW) = 1,000 watts
- 1 megawatt (MW) = 1,000 kilowatts (or 1 million watts)
- 1 gigawatt (GW) = 1,000 megawatts (or 1 billion watts)

Units of energy

- 1 kilowatt hour (kWh) = 1,000 watts for 1 hour (1,000 watt hours)
- 1 megawatt hour (MWh) = 1,000 kWh
- 1 gigawatt hour (GWh) = 1,000 MWh

(Note that the abbreviations for prefixes follow metric convention, so kilo is k, while mega and giga are capitalized. The abbreviation for watt is W.)

Power to Energy ratios – rule of thumb

- Power to energy – for thermal electric: MW x 8 = GWh per year
- Power to energy – for large hydro: MW x 5 = GWh per year

Comparison statistics

- The average household in BC Hydro's service area uses 11,258 kWh per year.
- A large industrial customer, such as a pulp mill, might use 400 GWh in a year, equal to the consumption of 40,000 households.
- A typical large office building of 20–25 storeys will consume 5 GWh in a year, equal to the consumption of 500 households.
- A large "big box" retail outlet will consume 3.5 GWh per year, or roughly the equivalent of 350 households.
- A 1 MW micro hydro plant produces about 5 GWh per year of green energy.

Financial Information
(in millions)

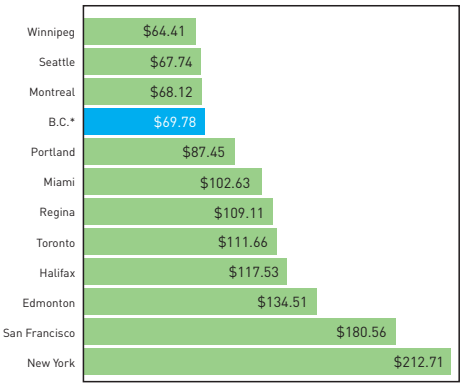
For the years ended as at March 31

	2009	2008
Revenues	**$ 4,269**	$ 4,210
Net income	**$ 366**	$ 369
Property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	**$ 12,140**	$11,154
Property, plant and equipment and intangible additions	**$ 1,400**	$ 1,076
Net long-term debt[1]	**$ 9,135**	$ 7,519

[1]Consists of long-term debt, including the current portion, net of sinking funds and cash and cash equivalents.

Residential Rates

Monthly $ Bills per 1,000 KWh



Note: All bills and average rates are in Canadian currency and exclude taxes. "B.C." refers to BC Hydro service territory. Source for rates: April 2008 Hydro Quebec Survey. The exchange rate used to convert bills in U.S. dollars into Canadian dollars is $0.9737 (CA$1 = US$0.9737), the rate in effect at noon on April 1, 2008.

Operating Statistics

For the years ended as at March 31

	2009	2008
Customers		
Residential	**1,606,156**	1,568,508
Light industrial and commercial	**191,286**	194,861
Large industrial	**162**	160
Other	**3,434**	3,480
Trade	**290**	257
Total	**1,801,328**	1,767,194
Electricity sold *(gigawatt hours)*		
Residential	**17,861**	17,553
Light industrial and commercial	**18,265**	18,406
Large industrial	**14,303**	15,380
Other	**2,083**	1,961
Total domestic	**52,512**	53,300
Trade *(electricity and gas)*	**50,799**	51,815
Total	**103,311**	105,115
Domestic Change Over Previous Year (%)	**(1.5)**	0.7
Revenues *(in millions)*		
Residential	**$ 1,197**	$ 1,171
Light industrial and commercial	**1,054**	1,054
Large industrial	**481**	536
Other energy sales	**82**	183
Total domestic	**2,814**	2,944
Trade	**1,455**	1,266
Total	**$ 4,269**	$ 4,210
Average revenue *(per kilowatt-hour)*		
Residential	**6.7¢**	6.7¢
Light industrial and commercial	**5.8**	5.7
Large industrial	**3.4**	3.5
Other	**5.3**	6.5
Trade[1]	**6.6**	6.5
Average annual kilowatt hour use per residential customer	**11,258**	11,290
Peak one-hour demand integrated system *(megawatts)*	**10,010**	9,548
Lines in service		
Distribution *(kilometres)*	**56,780**	56,297
Transmission *(circuit kilometres)*	**18,531**	18,531
Number of employees[2]	**5,844**	5,185

[1] The method used to calculate trade revenue per kWh is based on gross trade revenues.

[2] Includes full and part-time employees of BC Hydro and its subsidiaries.

Generating Capacity in kW

	Hydroelectric*	Kilowatts (kW)
	Aberfeldie	25,000
	Alouette	9,000
	Ash River	28,000
	Bridge River	478,000
	Cheakamus	158,000
†	Clayton Falls	2,002
	Clowhom	33,000
	Elk River	12,000
	Falls River	7,000
V	GM Shrum	2,730,000
	John Hart	126,000
	Jordan	170,000
	Kootenay Canal	583,000
	Ladore	47,000
	La Joie	25,000
R	Lake Bunzten	72,800
	Mica	1,805,000
V	Peace Canyon	694,000
R	Puntledge	24,000
V	Revelstoke	1,980,000
	Ruskin	105,000
R	Seton	48,000
	Seven Mile	805,000
R	Shuswap	6,000
	Spillimacheen	4,000
V R	Stave Falls	91,000
R	Strathcona	64,000
R	Wahleach	65,000
	Walter Hardman	8,000
	Whatshan	54,000
		10,258,802

* Maximum sustained generating capacity
R Has recreational area
V Has visitor centre
† Non-integrated area

Thermal

	Burrard	950,000
	Fort Nelson	47,000
	Prince Rupert	46,000
		1,040,500

Diesel Generation

†	Ah-Sin-Heek	6,580
†	Anahim Lake	3,650
†	Atlin	2,650
†	Bella Bella	3,300
†	Dease Lake	3,450
†	Eddontenajon	2,550
†	Masset	12,945
†	Sandspit	9,150
†	Telegraph Creek	1,800
		46,075

Total Capacity 11,345,377

Generation capacity figures may vary slightly from those stated in BC Hydro's Annual Report due to recent plant upgrades/updates.

BC hydro
FOR GENERATIONS

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A downloadable version of this information is available at:

bchydro.com/quickfacts

GDS09-181 June 2009 ISSN 0226-9112