

Rutherford Creek, British Columbia

Run-Of-River Hydro Plant



Weholite pipe system carries Rutherford Creek water 3.5 km (1.988 miles) to powerhouse site.

The 50 megawatt, run-of-river development on Rutherford Creek in British Columbia is the latest project of Vancouver-based, David Andrews a pioneer in the small hydroelectric projects.

Rutherford Creek, a tributary of the Green River is some 73 miles north of Vancouver.

The completely “green” project takes water out of the Creek at a high point, puts it down the Weholite pipeline to a turbine and back into the Creek. So below the powerhouse, there’s no change in the amount of water.

“To my knowledge it’s the largest diameter profile wall pipe ever used in a pressure situation for a hydroelectric project like the Rutherford,” stated Mike Robertson P.Eng., the Project Manager for the Consulting Engineers, Knight Piesold Ltd. “The use of Weholite was cost efficient,” Mike added. “It’s easy to install and its light weight makes transportation easier.” Welded joints assure a watertight system.

Weholite pipe diameters range from 108 inches at the top end to 120 inches for the 1.5 km section above the powerhouse.

Project:
Water input line to hydro powerhouse

Owner:
Cloudworks Energy Inc.

Application:
3.5 km (1.988 miles) long;
108" to 120" I.D. Weholite pipe

Engineers:
Knight Piesold Ltd.

Contractor:
Peter Kiewit & Sons Co. Ltd.