

Cranbrook, British Columbia

Weholite for Hydro Project



Infra Pipe raised the bar in the polyethylene pipe industry when it produced Weholite pipe for the Aberfeldie Run-of-River Hydro redevelopment project.

The Aberfeldie generating station is located on the Bull River, 30 km east of Cranbrook, British Columbia, deep in the Canadian Rockies. The original facility was built in 1922, then rebuilt in 1953. Now in the 21st century, as part of BC Hydro's Resource Smart Programme, construction of an upgraded facility was needed to increase the generating capacity from 5MW to 27MW, increasing the supply of clean energy to the region and creating jobs both during and after construction.

Weholite, 11 feet in diameter was installed over a length of 2,800 feet over challenging mountain terrain. Additionally, fourteen mitered elbows, two 48" DR21 man ways and a small quantity of solid wall pipe ranging from 24" DR32.5 to 55" DR32.5 were required to complete the installation. Joining of the pipe was completed by Infra Pipe's field technician services using their semi-automatic internal welder.

Infra Pipe had worked closely with design consultants Knight Peisold since 2003 and construction began in the spring of 2007.



Lightweight Weholite allows for the use of standard construction equipment.

Project:
 Aberfeldie Hydro Electric Power project upgrade

Owner:
 BC Hydro

Consultant:
 Knight Piesold

General Contractor: Western Versatile Construction Corporation

Application:
 Over 2,800 feet of 11 foot diameter Weholite