



## Fact Sheet: Agricultural Impacts from Site C Dam

- Less than 3% of BC's land is capable for producing food – we must defend it!
- If the Peace Valley is flooded, we will be wasting some of the best farmland in the province, land capable of growing high-value, healthy, nutritious vegetables and fruits.
- Earth [has lost](#) a third of arable land in the past 40 years. As global populations soar, so too will the demand for food and quality soils, such as those in the Peace Valley.

### Quotes from Wendy Holm, economic agrologist:

- *“The Peace River Valley has the ability to produce food for a million people. It could supply fresh fruits and vegetables to people who live in northern BC, the Yukon and Northwest Territories, Alberta and the Lower Mainland. Fresh fruits and vegetables are essential to human nutrition and health.”*
- *“According to the experts, Site C dam may have a 100-year life. The agricultural land in the Peace River Valley will support life in perpetuity.”*
- *“BC's greatest food deficit is fresh fruits and vegetables. We import 56 percent of fruits and vegetables consumed in the province - the most important component of human nutrition. Mother Nature's 'green grocers', the fertile soils of the Peace River Valley are ideally suited for horticulture.”*
- *“BC Hydro projects total economic activity resulting from agriculture in the Peace River Valley would total \$215 million over 100 years. Even using BC Hydro's own model, with its impoverished impact base of 1,666 hectares (5% of Site C impacted ALR) a more robust horticulture scenario suggests agricultural activities capable of generating fully \$2 billion from farm gate sales and secondary economic activity alone during this same time frame. This doesn't measure values associated with human health resulting from better nutrition, particularly in Northern communities.”*
- *“As today's affordable food becomes tomorrow's economically rationed resource, communities with no farmland will be the clear losers as the new game of 'find the food' spins out of control in a wildly cycling global economy. Those who can pay the most will and those who cannot will go hungry.”*
- *“As a province, we have one option: we can grow it, or we can import it. The natural capital held in the alluvial soils and Class 1 climate of the Peace River Valley is transgenerational and is not for us to withdraw.”*

Submission to Joint Review Panel on Site C EA by Wendy Holm [here](#).

*“The Peace River Valley has extraordinarily high value for agriculture and it’s my opinion that the public interest is better served by allowing it to continue to sustain citizens through agricultural production rather than destroying it for power production. Power can be sourced from other alternatives; agriculture cannot,”* Eveline Wolterson, agrologist and soils scientist.

Presentation to Joint Review Panel on Site C EA by Eveline Wolterson [here](#).

**“Flooding that river valley is probably a sin against humanity; it’s a bloody shame...this is a tragedy,”** Richard Bullock, former ALC chair [commenting](#) on the proposed flooding of the Peace River Valley for the Site C dam.

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- **We all have a stake in the Peace River Valley!**