

River Freeze-up Advisory for the Peace River at Peace River

Alberta Environment has issued a **River Freeze-up Advisory Update** for the Peace River at the Town of Peace River.

The ice front on the Peace River was observed roughly 62 km downstream of the Highway 2 Bridge at the Town of Peace River on November 29, 2006 at approximately 4:00 PM MST. Based on this observation and the forecast weather conditions for the Peace River region, it is expected that freeze-up will occur at the Town of Peace River next week.

When freeze-up occurs and the ice front moves through the town, it is typical for the water level to rise between 2.5 to 3.5 m.

Flow releases from BC Hydro's Peace Canyon Dam will be kept relatively constant while the ice cover advances through the town. This is part of normal river ice management operations.

No problems are expected. However, due to the variation in the forecast temperatures over the next few days, there is potential for small ice movements and shoving of the ice cover as it advances upstream. These ice movements could cause rapid fluctuation in the water level in the area.

River Freeze-up refers to the formation of an ice cover that will result in a gradual increase in water levels. On occasion, the winter freeze-up can lead to ice jams and rapidly rising water levels. The location and occurrence of ice jams and the associated flooding are very unpredictable. Local authorities are advised to monitor the situation in their community.

Alberta Environment is monitoring river levels closely throughout Alberta for increases in river levels due to winter freeze-up. This advisory is in effect for twelve days and will be updated should conditions change.