

Key Dates: 2014 and 2024

The years 2014 and 2024 are key dates for the Columbia River Treaty (CRT) for two reasons:

1. The year 2024 is the earliest date either Canada or the U.S. may unilaterally terminate most provisions of the CRT, provided a minimum of 10 years' advance notice is given (2014).
2. The Assured Annual Flood Control provision of the CRT expires automatically in 2024 and flood control specified under the CRT changes to a Called Upon operation.

2024: EITHER COUNTRY MAY TERMINATE

The CRT is an evergreen agreement and has no official expiry date, but has a minimum length of 60 years, which is met on September 16, 2024. It is possible that one or both countries may wish to renegotiate or terminate some of the CRT effective on or after this date. Both countries may also consider mutual improvements for the implementation of the CRT.

If neither country provides notice to terminate, the CRT will continue indefinitely, with the exception of the Assured Annual Flood Control provision.

Under the CRT, the U.S. paid \$64.4 million US in advance for operation of the Assured Annual Flood Control through to 2024. This arrangement expires in 2024, whether the CRT is terminated or not.

By mutual agreement, parts or all of the CRT could potentially be renegotiated at any time.

Some provisions of the CRT—including Called Upon Flood Control, Kootenay Diversion rights and Libby Dam coordination obligations—would remain in place as long as the dams exist even if the CRT is terminated.

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2014: MINIMUM OF 10 YEAR'S NOTICE

With a minimum of 10 years' written notice, either Canada or the U.S. may terminate the CRT any time on or after September 16, 2024.

Either country may give notice earlier than 2014—and provide greater than 10 years notice—but 2024 is the earliest date for termination.

Either country may give notice after 2014, however, termination will not take effect until at least 10 years after the date of notice.

FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Downstream power benefits payments to BC (\$150- \$300 million US / year) expire. Canada's requirement to regulate flows for power interests in the U.S. ends. Canadian flood control obligations change to Called Upon Flood Control. There is increased uncertainty in the U.S. regarding Canadian operations.

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