
From: T Vulcano <skywindtv@yahoo.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 2:29 PM
To: Commission Secretary BCUC:EX
Subject: F2017-2019 Rate Increases

January 16, 2018

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary
BCUC

Dear Mr. Wruck:

There have been a number of arguments for and against the BC Govt requested rate freeze. I do not envy the Commission's role in making a determination. Although I find those arguments against the rate freeze more compelling I am of the opinion there need not have been a rate increase in the first place. This is based on slowed rate of consumption and BC Hydro not doing enough to find alternatives to electrical demand. However it is just an opinion in that I am unable to grasp all the intricacies in part due to the massive amount of information that needs to be digested. I have reviewed all the presentations except the Fortis one which I found unduly long (and unclear). Given BC Hydro claims it can find ways to accommodate the rate freeze perhaps it could be honoured and at the same time not change the proposed rate increases for future years. They may then do more to work within such financial constraints and become a more efficient utility.

Oral Hearings

if I may I would like to comment on the protocol of using alphabetical ordering for the oral hearings. It is an advantage to those at the beginning of the presentations in that they both have predictability when they may present their positions and are also in a better position to make notes and prepare comments on others' presentations. It is a disadvantage for those at the end of the alphabet (like myself) who have uncertainty when they may have their turn (not knowing how long others will take) and having to keep in mind what they want to say (and possibly adjust based on previous comments) and then have to immediately respond to anything everyone had to say. It is not the alphabetical ordering that I object to so much as starting at the beginning of the alphabet. To resolve this imbalance (unfairness) ordering of presentations/speakers might be random or start in different places of the alphabet than at "A".

Please advise if you would like references for studies showing bias for people being listed alphabetically.

Thank you for your consideration to my feedback.

Sincerely,

Terry Vulcano
SkyWind Foundation