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April 6, 2006
File No.: 260254.00006/15311

Delivered by E-mail and Facsimile

British Columbia Utilities Commission
6 Fl., 900 Howe St.
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Attention: Rob Pellatt

Dear Sir:

**Re: Vancouver Island Transmission Project
BCUC Project Number 3698395**

Pursuant to the Commission's Exhibit A-74, and the letter from Davis & Co. dated April 5, 2006, the following is BCTC's response to Mr. Herbert on behalf of Sea Breeze.

As indicated in Mr. Reghelini's letter of April 3, 2006, subsequent to the close of the evidentiary phase of the proceeding, BCTC found it necessary to extend the time for receipt of submarine cable bids to April 27, 2006. Contrary to the suggestions by Mr. Herbert, it was only in the immediate period prior to March 29, 2006 that it became clear, based on communications from certain suppliers, that BCTC was highly unlikely to receive the number of cable bids which it would prefer if it maintained the then schedule. BCTC is well aware of the schedule associated with the VITR Project and continues to attempt to manage the risks associated with that schedule.

BCTC will not respond in detail to Mr. Herbert's request to file various additional information with the Commission with respect to the decision to extend the cable tendering process. BCTC did not undertake this decision lightly and recognized the modifications that would be necessary in the schedule for Argument in doing so. However, BCTC made the judgment that receiving the best possible response to the cable tender was in all parties' best interests, despite the acknowledged inconvenience to the Argument schedule. While BCTC would prefer that this had not been necessary, it believes that the modifications requested to Argument are achievable. These will not delay the final date of Argument before the Commission nor, presumably, the date of the Commission's decision. Mr. Herbert has provided no indication of what he proposes to

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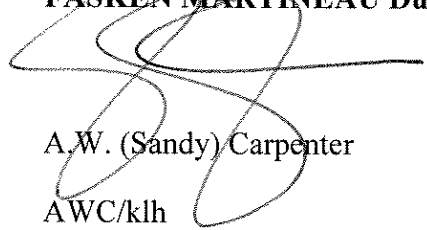
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do with the requested additional information and BCTC does not believe this information will contribute to the record in this proceeding.

Regarding Mr. Herbert's final request, BCTC is prepared to file its report with the Commission by May 2, 2006, as requested. BCTC sees no reason for the extension in the period of time for Intervenors to respond to these materials given that the nature of the information and issues associated with it have not changed. Accordingly, if BCTC's report is to be filed by May 2, BCTC submits that Intervenor comments should be required by May 7, 2006 and BCTC would then file its response to these by May 10, 2006. BCTC is also prepared to provide the Commission and Intervenors with the information on the cable tenders to be made public by 2:00 PM on April 20, 2006, if the Commission wishes this information. BCTC notes that this information will be publicly available to Intervenors at that time regardless whether it is provided through the Commission process.

Yours truly,

FASKEN MARTINEAU DuMOULIN LLP



A.W. (Sandy) Carpenter

AWC/klh

- c.c. BCTC
- c.c. Registered Intervenors
- c.c. Davis & Company