

**From:** Cliff Paluck [cliffpaluck@shaw.ca]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 13, 2012 7:19 AM  
**To:** Commission Secretary BCUC:EX  
**Cc:** Andy Shadrack; alex.atamanenko.c1@parl.gc.ca; bhydroregulatorygroup@bhydro.com; bcjoey68@gmail.com; bharper@econanalysis.ca; bmerwin@mercerint.com; curtis@thermoguy.com; cweafer@owenbird.com; David M. Aaron; Dennis.Swanson@fortisBC.com; ekung@bcpiac.com; FortisBC Regulatory Affairs – Electricity; fredweislaw@gmail.com; guylerox2@gmail.com; Jerry Flynn; kemiles@telus.net; lerouxconsulting@shaw.ca; Norm Gabana; rhobbs@shaw.ca; shonnahayes@shaw.ca; support@bcpiac.com; tbraithwaite@bcpiac.com; thackney@shaw.ca; wjandrews@shaw.ca; zerowaste@shaw.ca; Gordon Fulton; Susan L. Yurychuk  
**Subject:** FortisBC Inc. Advanced Metering Infrastructure CPCN - Procedural Conference in Kelowna, November 8, 2012 (PC) [BLC-ACTIVE.FID1476786]

Ms. Erica Hamilton,  
Commission Secretary,  
British Columbia Utilities Commission.

**FORTISBC INC ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE CPCN**  
**EXHIBITC19-5**

Dear Ms. Hamilton;

First, as Co-Chair of the West Kootenay Concerned Citizens (WKCC), I would like to express my appreciation to the BCUC for the Community Input Sessions that they have scheduled as well as for the Hearing process that they have implemented. In regards to the Community Hearing Session, I would like to thank both Mr. Fulton, for finding a spot on the Agenda for me to make (as an individual and not as an Intervenor) a submission, and to the Chairman, for allowing me to do so.

Further, because our group (WKCC) is represented by Mr. Bennett as our Intervenor and, because I do not wish to create any problems related to this correspondence, I wish to make clear that I make the following statement on my behalf regarding the BCUC's hearing process to deal with Fortis BC's request for approval of its AMI project. My statement is as follows:

In C13-4, Mr. Shadrack, (Director, Area D of the Regional District Central Kootenay) makes two recommendations with which I concur. They are:

1. That "These proceedings should be suspended until such time as Fortis BC has provided the Commission with the ability to consider a comprehensive wired smart meter option."

and

2. That "All of the proceedings in this hearing should contain an oral component so as to maximize the ability of lay persons to make their views, concerns, questions and opinions known to the Commission panel."

I concur with these recommendations for the following reasons:

Re: #1

Many citizens in the Fortis BC's service area, have indicated that the Commission does not have all the information necessary to make an informed decision about Fortis BC's AMI project because only the wireless version of smart meters has been presented. Without presenting any options, I feel that Fortis BC is attempting to dictate an outcome by a process which is also undemocratic.

Re: #2

Because Fortis BC is attempting to have these wireless meters forced upon us (which is undemocratic), it is, therefore, of the utmost importance that the Commission do everything possible to adopt a process which maximizes the lay person's ability and opportunity to present their views, concerns, questions and opinions to the Commission for their consideration. As Mr. Shadrack points out, some of the Intervenors may be "...completely new to the BCUC hearing process..." and, as they make their submissions, it might be "...easier to guide them in an oral hearing....". This would not be possible if the hearing, or part of it, was restricted to written submissions only.

I therefore feel strongly that all proceedings in this hearing should contain an oral component.

Thank you,

Cliff Paluck,  
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