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www.bcuc.com**British Columbia  
Utilities Commission**

## Letter of Comment

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, to submit a letter of comment concerning an application currently before the Commission, please provide a completed form to [commission.secretary@bcuc.com](mailto:commission.secretary@bcuc.com). If email is unavailable, please mail the form to the address above. By doing so, you acknowledge that all letters of comment are published with the author's name as part of the public evidentiary record, both in print copy and on the Commission's website. All personal contact information provided on this page is removed before posting to the website. Forms must be received by the Commission by the last filing date included in the proceeding's regulatory timetable before final arguments.

Proceeding name Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party? Name (first and last) City  Province Email  Phone number

# Letter of Comment

Name (first and last)

William Baker

Date:

11-Aug-16

Comment: Please specify the reasons for your interest in the proceeding, your views concerning the proceeding, any relevant information that supports or explains your views, the conclusion you support and any recommendations. The Commission may disallow comments that do not comply with the Rules of Practice and Procedure.

RE:

Dear BCUC,

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my concern for the rate increases of BC Hydro electricity.

As a rural resident on Gabriola Island, my only options for energy are BC Hydro electricity, or self made energy. Solar, wood fire, wind turbine, or micro hydro. I have chosen to be with the BC Hydro electricity service because of it's green nature, reliability, and safety. Unfortunately, by choosing not to live in a populated area with Natural gas service means I am penalized by the two-tier rate system of BC Hydro service rates.

I viewed my service history, and during the summer months my family of four in our small manufactured home, still manage to land in the 2nd tier, most likely because of the hot water tank, and computers we use to work online. This means as early as October I will be paying 2nd tier rates only to heat and light my home.

This will cause stress on our family as we are affected by, rheumatism, which heat seems to be the only relief from having to persist constant nagging pain without have to resort to medication.

We are able to pay for the electricity we use, it is expensive, and I sound like a tyrant as I run around the house turning down thermostats, but we are fortunate we are able to keep up. I think of the many retirees on my island, and the other families that are not able to keep up with the harsh demand of BC Hydro's billing department. I feel that BC fails families that need help, and BC Hydro as a crown corporation has some of the blame to bare. Particularly when we look at how the BC Government manages the BC Hydro household.

Site C is an expensive undertaking when considering the transmission loss required to get electricity to the lower mainland, the loss of farmland, or the impact to the region. The SAP system, or Accenture Business Services of BC failure to reduce costs and streamline services. Nanaimo has a shiny new office I see, and the John Hart aluminum suspension bridges are grand endorsements of the success BC Hydro has enjoyed, but doesn't really demonstrate the massive deferred accounts.

There is no reason BC Hydro shouldn't be a shining example of a world class utility. However government intervention, mismanagement, greed, and lack of vision are really what need to be corrected. Turning power off for a family in need in a rural area because of these unfair billing practices are not the way to correct these problems. The BC Hydro legacy is to make power affordable and safe for the citizens of this province, and so far it is failing it's primary objective in favor of corporate sponsorship of the LNG red-herring dream, and political gain.

Please deny the rate increase and admonish the Corporation for failing to protect fair access to power.

Sincerely,  
Billy Baker