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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. 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)

Terry Edwards

Date:

2016 08 13

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.

I was dismayed in October 2008 when BC Hydro implemented the two-tier electricity rate since my home is completely electric (heat, light, appliances, tools). At the time I thought this was a cash grab by BC Hydro and am glad that I can finally register my thoughts.

I did a small spreadsheet to compare my electricity usage for the year before and after the change.

Before: Total kWh 22,083 Total Bill \$1388.25 Average cost per kWh \$0.0629

After: Total kWh 21,741 Total Bill \$1499.57 Average cost per kWh \$0.0690

Percent increase in average kWh rate in one year since two-tier was implemented: 9.72%

I then compared the two tier rate from July 2009 to July 2016

	July 2009	July 2016	%Increase
Step 1	0.0510	0.0829	62.6%
Step 2	0.0827	0.1243	50.3%

In 7 years the Step 1 rate has gone up an average of 8.8%/year and the Step 2 rate has gone up an average of 7.2%/year

During the cold months the cost of my Step 2 consumption is between 2x and 4x the Step 1 consumption. I have a well insulated house and have no opportunity to conserve electricity that I haven't already implemented

The initial and subsequent annual rate increases of 7-9%/year are completely out of line with the consumer price index and my annual compensation increase. I believe the provincial government's raiding of BC Hydro's income and it's insistence on deferred capital and operating expenditures is in effect an indirect tax on the citizens of this province.

I hope your inquiry into the two-tier rate structure of BC Hydro reveals the extend to which the consumer is being taken advantage of. For my part I have no choice but to continue to pay whatever BC Hydro charges.