BCUC RIB RATE REPORT
EXHIBIT E-226

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BRITISH COLUMBIA | 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: Request for Comments Residential Two-Tier Electricity Rates

Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party? No

Name (first and last): Arthur Mathes

City: [redacted] Province: BC [redacted]

Email: [redacted] Phone number: [redacted]

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The BC Utilities Commission is authorized to collect and publish a person or organization's personal information when they participate in a matter before the Commission under sections 26(c) and 33.1(r)(ii) and (iii) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). Subject to FOIPPA, all documents filed in respect to an application will be placed on the public record.

Letter of Comment

Name (first and last) Arthur Mathes Date: Aug 15/16

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.

Dear Sir:

Before the Two-Tier Residential Electricity Rates were introduced, our Bill for 2 months during the coldest time of the year was $525. On that basis we decided to stay with electric (heat pump) heating system when we built a new energy efficient home. After the Residential Two-Tier Rates were introduced, our electricity bill during the coldest part of the year went up to $1700-1800 for 2 months. To mitigate this unreasonable increase, we installed a wood stove in the basement and used the furnace fan to the heat throughout the house. We were able to reduce the electricity bill to $800-900 range-but we burn 5 cords of wood from October 1 to March 31.

We canNot afford a 3X increase in our electrical bill – this is totally unreasonable. We have no natural gas in the area. I receive $1000 CPP and $625 OAS. per month. Total $1,625 per month. The electricity bill is the largest monthly expenditure. I recommend going back to the rate structure before the Residential Two-Tier Electricity Rates were introduced.

Recommendations

1. Go Back to the Rate Structure that was in effect before the Residential Two-Tier Electricity Rates were introduced
2. Provide Natural Gas at the same rates as residents of Creston enjoy.
3. Provide grant to change the furnaces to Natural Gas (Estimate: $3500-4000)

A Mathes

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