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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)

A Howard Marshall

Date:

Aug 29, 2016

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 am a residential electricity customer of BC Hydro, living on Gabriola Island without access to natural gas.

There was a huge increase on my hydro bill February 02, 2016 to March 31, 2016 comparable to previous years. I was on a trip for fourteen days during that time and had to use base board heaters while away, no other appliances were used.

Having purchased new appliances, energy efficient, we are careful with electrical consumption when home.

The electricity bill that I received is the direct result of Government and BCUC requiring electric utilities to implement a two-tier system that was not properly designed to address the wide range of electricity consumers that exist in B.C.

As structured it ignores the fact that there is a small percentage of BC residents - in rural areas - who use electricity for space heating, and no access to natural gas as with those in urban areas.

Rural BC residents should be moved to a different pricing system. This could be done by replacing the two-tier system with some combination of flat rate/time of use pricing. Residents who have no access to natural gas should not be penalized for increased hydro bills.