



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)

James Gray

Date:

2-Sep-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.

The current two tier residential 'conservation' rate is flawed in a number of ways. The single threshold between rate 1 and the higher rate was based on the average consumption of all customers including those with access to natural gas - and who, therefore, do not use electricity for space and water heating. **A simple fix would be to have a second threshold (between the two rates) for customers without access to natural gas.**

The current system is touted as being revenue neutral, yet discussion in the press and with our MLA have indicated that ~90% of consumers have seen their bills decrease, under this two tier system, without reducing consumption. Those two things mean that, obviously, the 10% (without decreased bills) are paying more if things end up neutral. Also, if people's bills are lower without reduced consumption then the system certainly fails to encourage conservation.

When we built our house we installed an expensive ground-source geothermal system for space heating and air conditioning. In spite of the system's efficiency it is impossible for us to stay below the rate 2 threshold even in months with low heating and A/C requirements - the system is very obviously flawed.

In addition to correcting the obvious implementation errors of the two-tier RCR system, consideration should be given to reinstating the 'time-of-use' system that was temporarily available as some of my neighbours were building their homes. To me, that system directly encourages wise power usage.

Kindest regards,
James Gray