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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

RESIDENTIAL TWO-TIER ELECTRICITY RATES

Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party?

No

Name (first and last)

DON SHYLUK

City

[REDACTED]

Province

BC

Email

[REDACTED]

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Letter of Comment

Name (first and last)

Don Shyluk

Date:

10 Oct 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.

As an owner of a house with electric base board heaters I am badly affected by the two-tier rates.

BC Hydro has a crusader operating mentality for their conservation policies. This is a prime motivation to have a two-tier rate structure. In Rate Design you have to establish a structure to generate required revenue, but that structure should be fair and not driven by being punitive to captive customers.

Back in the 1990s when my house in Courtenay BC was built BCH was encouraging customers to use electric heat and the state of the art was base board heaters. So my house and many thousands of houses are captive and subjected to punitive two tier rates every winter since that was established a few years ago.

We should have been grandfathered to a single tier rate for our electric heat. Winters when we are heating our houses generally have huge surpluses of water spilling over the dams so there is little reason to have a punitive cost for our heat. Zeal for punitive power rates to encourage conservation must not over ride fairness to captive customers.

I repeat that BCH encouraged electric heat and now unfairly punish us.

I have done feasibility studies on gas and oil and heat pumps and generally there is a huge upfront capital requirement to change technology to gas or heat pumps which would then offer reduced consumption of electricity. If I was building a new house the feasibility of alternate energy is favorable. Retrofitting is not viable.

We are caught in a web and ask for fairness by relief from the two-tier rates.