

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? [Yes / No]

No

Name (first and last):Randall J Priest	
City: [REDACTED]	Province: BC
Email: [REDACTED]	Phone: [REDACTED]

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):Randall J Priest	Date: November 7, 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 a resident of a community that is not serviced by natural gas rely on electricity as the main energy source. The following are a few of the issues that affect:

= we have stayed off the levelled billing plan and despite irregular meter readings endeavour to pay at each billing for that periods consumption. Thus able to see directly how habits and usage affect billing costs.

= as a lower fixed income retired couple, the two tier rate is advantageous in that for the better part of the year monthly billing is at or below the 1st step rate. (Feel that all efforts to comfortably stay below or close to the 1st tier rate is a contribution to reducing overall energy demand in the Province.) A move to a levelled rate penalizes any efforts to keep consumption low by removing the lower rate setting.

= comments and conclusions regarding low income users is not accurate in identifying all low income residences. Once away from major urban centers it is my observation (in a community unserved by natural gas) most residences use wood as the main source of heat. Thus energy requirements do not reflect actual energy usage or the negative effect on local air quality conditions.

= speaking for peoples in the east and west Kooteny's the construction of the various dams negated the opportunities to establish at the time major forestry related industries and any need to provide a natural gas service. So today as the Province endeavours to move forward encouraging optional industries ie. Mining , any proponents are disadvantaged in procuring an economical energy source. Hence the communities are being twice disadvantaged.

= to equalize communities unserved by natural gas there were homes fixed with 2 meters, one for general use and one for heating at a lower rate. This was particularly advantageous to Vancouver Island residents who are now often serviced by natural gas. But from reviewing the application being made these are now the same high income residences using the greatest amount of hydro. While again the smaller communities with limited opportunities are still unserved and the 2 meter residences being eliminated.

Thank You for receiving and reviewing the concerns of the general public.

Randy Priest