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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](mailto: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:2 tier BC Hydro rate review

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

Name (first and last):David Peters	
City: [REDACTED]	BC
[REDACTED]	Phone: [REDACTED]

# Letter of Comment

Name (first and last):David Peters	Date:Nov 14, 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.

*Please write your comments in this box]*

Dear Commision,

I find that the 2 tier system unfairly punishes those who have electric heat and or live in colder parts of the province. I am sure An audit will show (or has shown) that lower mainland customers are benefitting from this system while those of us who live in the north cannot avoid the 2<sup>nd</sup> tier penalty. When the system was first promoted they even told us that most people in the province would get reduced bills and that most of those people were in the lower mainland. We already have higher bills because of colder weather and shorter days, yet we are expected to pay an additional penalty. I read one politicians comments where he had the audacity to say It was not unfair to northern residents because we had better insulated more efficient homes. It is true that our homes are more efficient but that efficiency is just another cost we have paid for and in spite of that efficiency we still cannot hope to have the low bills of southerners. Why should we have to pay higher bills because of our weather, higher costs for more efficient homes and still pay a penalty to subsidise poorly insulated homes in the south! It would seem to me that the real reason BC Hydro established this system was to discourage people from using electric heat as opposed to promoting energy savings. As someone who understands energy and thermodynamics I can tell you that BC Hydro's lighting incentive programs do virtually nothing to save energy and are merely causing a transfer of energy use derived from electricity to energy from gas or in my case wood because gas is not available at my location. Nearly 100% of lighting energy becomes heat energy. When the energy from lighting is reduced it must be compensated with energy from another source such as gas. Their goal would appear to be only to reduce the demand for hydro power which results in the increased consumption of fossil fuels. This is hardly an ecological positive. I am all for efficiency but the numbers and the results are not like those that are publicized. What we need is a program that would get the majority of people in the warmer parts of the province to make small changes as mathematically that is how you can have the biggest impact and it is that majority who are doing little or nothing to help. We are already doing all we can because our bills are already way higher without adding a penalty.

As I stated at the beginning this also punishes those who use electric heat . (the cleanest energy available in BC) Why should we be punished for using electric heat. If we are going to have penalties it would only be fair to compare total home energy consumption from all sources. Thermal efficiency in homes is exponentially more important than the electrical consumption component. It's like having three bank accounts and trying to save money by not spending from just one of them!

I might mention that when this was instituted I emailed my concerns to BCUC, BC Hydro and the Minister responsible (Rich Coleman if memory serves). I received no response from anyone! I sincerely hope that this process you are engaged in has good results and I hope you find this letter is helpful.

Regards,

Dave Peters

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