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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)

T Parker

Date:

24-Nov-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.

I am strongly opposed to the two-tier rate system. It is unfair to residents living in northern rural areas who experience much colder seasonal temperatures, as well as those who are unable to use Gas or Wood Burning Appliances and must use electricity. It is also unfair to low-income residents and seniors. To increase the rates even further will leave many people in further financial hardship, not to mention in the cold. With the increase in prices in food, gasoline, and other necessities, the decline in government and health services, an increase in electricity rates will only narrow the gap between the rich and poor. Should people have to eat less to heat their homes in the winter? Should people be forced to choose between food and warmth? This is Canada after all, but it seems we are going backwards. There are enough homeless and less fortunate and low income people in the province, this will only exacerbate the problem. Our health care system is already lacking terribly. This will make it worse with malnourished people trading food for heat. Or worse yet, people losing their homes or dying in their homes from frigid temperatures because they can't afford to heat them. I am strongly opposed to any utility rate increases.