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British Columbia  
Utilities Commission

WOTJIMAH ↓

## 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

RESIDENTIAL INCLINING-BLOCK RATE REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BC

Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party?

NO

Name (first and last)

KEVIN HAMILTON

City

[Redacted]

Province

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Email

[Redacted]

Phone number

[Redacted]

Ms. Laurel Ross  
Acting Commission Secretary  
BC Utilities Commission  
Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC, V6Z2N3

BCUC Log # 53841  
RECEIVED  
7 21 16  
Routing 50648

Dear Ms. Ross

**RE: Residential Two – Tier Electricity Rates Comments**

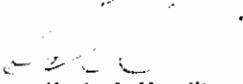
After reviewing the BC Hydro and Fortis BC reports, I would like to comment on the two tier rates for the commission’s consideration. I have been a customer of both BC Hydro and then Fortis BC since 1994. It is my personal opinion (and that of my many residential neighbors) that the current “two – tier electricity rates” are not in line with the Commission’s responsibilities – *“to ensure that customers receive safe, reliable and non-discriminatory energy services at fair rates from the utilities it regulates”*.

I say this for the following reasons;

- 1) A review of my electrical utility bills over the past ten years show a 60 to 70 percent increase in cost for electrical consumption (cost averaged against the on the varied amount used throughout the year compared to other years within the past decade),
- 2) My two neighbors who are elderly and on fixed incomes (their pensions are not indexed) are increasingly finding it difficult to pay for their electrical bills, particularly in the winter when their primary source of heating comes from electrical baseboard heaters. They have neither changed the construction of their house, nor changed the manner of electrical consumption over the years. The only factor that varies is the environmental temperatures which varies from year to year. This increase in electrical rates and the hardship placed on these people could be perceived as discriminatory due to the fact that they are forced to forego paying for other life essentials such as gasoline for their vehicle(s) and/or purchasing items such as food or paying for other bills / taxes etc.

I know that these figures and my overall opinion is “general” and without much supporting documentation or facts. Nevertheless, I hope the commission takes this information into consideration at the upcoming hearing dated November 24, 2016.

Sincerely,



Kevin A. Hamilton

[Redacted contact information]