

**From:** Andy Shadrack [ashadra@telus.net]

**Sent:** Thursday, July 2, 2009 1:32 PM

**To:** Commission Secretary BCUC:EX; kris.aksomitis@aeso.ca; wjandrews@shaw.ca; wjandrews@shaw.ca; wjandrews@shaw.ca; daustin@securitieslaw.bc.ca; Banovic, Bernie FOR:IN; a\_barnett@ducks.ca; ludob@horizontec.com; chris\_best@transcanada.com; ebeswick@hardcreek.com; WGB@cwilson.com; bjoe@syntaris.com; dan.brown@encana.com; buchanan@smartt.com; cynthia.burton@shaw.ca; ChrisCampbell@telus.net; project@oreg.ca; rcarle@newwestcity.ca; paul.chernikhowsky@fortisbc.com; pcochrane@willisenergy.com; mcrawford@civicnet.bc.ca; Rod.Crockford@encana.com; Carlo.DalMonte@catalystpaper.com; ggover@saulteau.com; svdavis@shaw.ca; pim@premier-renewable-energy.ca; Dias, Oswald EMPR:EX; BCFNemc@gmail.com; eric@wildernesscommittee.org; seckert@naikun.ca; pfeldberg@cgy.fasken.com; djf@shaw.ca; gfletcher@rdmw.bc.ca; tfogarassy@naikun.ca; XT:EM Froc, Neil V - Hard Creek Nickel Corp EM:IN; gfulton@boughton.ca; byng@amebc.ca; egolds@sfu.ca; ggowe@wcel.org; ericgraham@dccnet.com; bgreen@westpacinc.com; jennifer\_griffith@aboriginal-law.com; laurie\_bonacci@aboriginal-law.com; jennifer\_griffith@aboriginal-law.com; laurie\_bonacci@aboriginal-law.com; alangrove@shaw.ca; kgustafson@lmls.com; thackney@shaw.ca; thackney@shaw.ca; thackney@shaw.ca; thall@kitimat.ca; bharper@econalysis.ca; nheap@davidsuzuki.org; robyn.heaslip@gmail.com; stephanie@greenwingenergy.com; matth@pembina.org; davidhuggill@canwea.ca; otisjasper@stolotribalcouncil.ca; j.johnson@cloudworksenergy.com; frank\_karabetsos@transcanada.com; roger\_williams@transcanada.com; TCE\_Regulatory@transcanada.com; charles.kelly@shaw.ca; factsbeforepolicy@telus.net; kennedy@coastforest.org; MKennedy@canhydro.com; dmitrikotliarov@seabreezepower.com; paulmanson@seabreezepower.com; samkenny@seabreezepower.com; skukucha@atlaenergy.com; ekung@bcpiac.com; davidk@fredolsen.com; sammy.chow@fredolsen.com; BCFNemc@gmail.com; rupert.legge@plutonic.ca; gerry.lister@bctc.com; regulatory.affairs@terasengas.com; glenn.macintyre@columbiapower.org; wildlife@shaw.ca; cmarr@sierrageopower.com; gmcdade@ratcliff.com; mclaren@citywest.ca; pmiller@boughton.ca; rmonk@kwl.ca; mamuir@ucalgary.ca; makmuir@ieels.com; ncesociety@gmail.com; osh@ecdsi.com; XT: PowellRiver, RegionalDistrict ENV:IN; jeff@westernbiomass.com; jpaul@sechelnation.net; benoit.pepin@riotinto.com; dave\_porter@bell.blackberry.net; reception@fns.bc.ca; danpotts@shaw.ca; JimQuail@bcpiac.com; support@bcpiac.com; david.rafael@scrd.ca; bruce.ripley@plutonic.ca; cheslattanation@yahoo.com; doug.ruse@fortisbc.com; rsanderson@enmax.com; shawwash@civil.ubc.ca; shipway@island.net; jskosnik@gmail.com; CSmith@Finavera.com; andre@microbialtech.com; bruce@mandellpinder.com; bstadfeld@mandellpinder.com; michael@runofriverpower.com; elroys@telus.net; scott.taylor@andritz.com; skathomas@shaw.ca; alison@cangea.ca; alison\_thompson@nexeninc.com; MThompson@Finavera.com; fred.tolmie@niscga.net; tzeprah@powerupcanada.ca; chris@powerupcanada.ca; jenn@powerupcanada.ca; guyvanuytven@shaw.ca; skywindtv@yahoo.ca; gwacholtz@bvco.com; RBW@bht.com; cweafer@owenbird.com; michael.weedon@bcbioenergy.ca; jweimer@telus.net; Bill\_Williams@squamish.net; gmcdade@ratcliff.com; XT:Chief, West Moberly First Nations EAO:IN; oilandgas@westmo.org; hwlitsum@hotmail.com; mwise@syntarispower.com; kwonder@gwdg.de; jwoodcock@sandwell.com; support@bcpiac.com; lworth@bcpiac.com; jgy@murdymcallister.com; ron.zeilstra@columbiapower.org

**Cc:** XT:Fraser, Janet FIN:IN; bctc.regulatory@bctc.com; bchydroregulatorygroup@bchydro.com; regulatory@fortisbc.com; Atamanenko, Alex - Riding 1A; Gerry Wilkie; Gary Diers; Kate O'Keefe; Lee-Ann Unger; Simon Gordeau

**Subject:** Observation: Citizens in the West Kootenay Are Getting Very Angry

Kaslo

Thursday, July 2

I have thus far made two attempts to contact Commission staff, but no one seems to want to respond to me. So I am going to make an observation based on the fact that I had to deal with a very angry crowd of about 1,100 people in the Village of Kaslo on the evening of Tuesday, June 23rd here in the West Kootenays. I helped out the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) staff by chairing the question and answer session for about three

hours.

While you, the Commission, and various intervenors wrangle over procedures for discussing the issues related to this Transmission Enquiry, the general public is starting to get quite restive as the EAO keeps on hearing Independent Power Producer (IPP) proposals on a one off basis with no comprehensive power line transmission plan for the province in place.

It therefore seems to me that this "Enquiry", for some residents of BC, is a bit like shutting the barn door after the horse has bolted. Let me give you all a graphic example of why this "Enquiry" should have been held before the Minister of Environment directed the EAO to start hearing IPP proposals and before BC Hydro started awarding contracts for various IPPs.

Fortis BC just filed their Cost of Service Analysis with the Commission on June 30th 2009, which contains the factual information that they will sell wholesale to BC Hydro \$589,095 (FortisBC 2009 COSA, Cost of Service Summary By Customer Class, Schedule 1.1, A-4, June 30, 2009) worth of power under a Lardeau Valley contract. Meanwhile Fortis BC itself has to purchase power because it cannot meet its own internal energy needs within its overall service area. In fact the Fortis BC and BC Hydro services areas north of Balfour, on Kootenay Lake, right up into the Lardeau Valley are subject to regular brown outs and blackouts.

Enter Axor and a proposal to build two hydropower generation projects on Glacier and Howser Creeks in the Lardeau Valley, such that the power will be delivered to BC Hydro's Invermere substation via a brand new 230 Kv line over the Purcell Mountains. Meanwhile last week British Columbia Transmission Corporation (BCTC) and BCUC held hearings in the East Kootenay with regard to upgrading the Cranbrook to Golden transmission line to 230 Kv and BCTC allegedly admitted that there was sufficient power to supply Golden via existing power supplies in the East Kootenay.

Quite frankly Kafka could not have written a better script to tell a tale of wasted resources and missed opportunities. My question to Commission staff and all those participating in this "Enquiry" is: how much longer do the taxpayers of BC have to wait before we have a comprehensive plan with regard transmission lines and appropriate energy development?

Allowing the Glacier-Howser IPP to deliver power to BC Hydro's Invermere substation via a brand new transmission line when there are clearly power distribution problems in this West Kootenay BC Hydro service area (I also understand Axor may have to bring in diesel generators to build their project as the existing transmission lines cannot deliver enough power to the project site) is in my opinion highly questionable.

It also helps explain why 1,100 people showed up at the EAO "public consultation" meeting in Kaslo to give the thumbs down on the project. Even more telling, of 1,100 people in the room only 12 held their hands up when one of the intervenors asked how many people had faith in the environmental assessment process. Subsequent "public consultation" meetings in Meadow Creek and Invermere found similar levels of opposition to the entire project.

As someone who participated in the "resource wars" in the 1990's over logging, I had hoped that we would be able to move beyond civil disobedience and protests to a rational discussion about land use and orderly resource development in the West Kootenay.

My inability, as an elected Regional District Director, to obtain a comprehensive understanding from Axor, BC Hydro and Fortis BC as to why the proposed Glacier-Howser IPP should not deliver the power south into the West Kootenay grid underscores the failure of power companies in BC to understand that the general citizenry will not accept a spiders web of power lines criss-crossing the province.

My observation, based on the palpable anger being expressed for three hours the night of June 23rd in Kaslo, is that this Commission and the various power companies must get their act together soon, or face the wrath of a



Box 250  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3  
Tel: 604-660-4700  
Fax: 604-660-1102  
Email: [commission.secretary@bcuc.com](mailto:commission.secretary@bcuc.com)