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March 24, 2016

Ms. Laurel Ross
Acting Commission Secretary
British Columbia Utilities Commission
Sixth Floor – 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Dear Ms. Ross:

**RE: Project No. 3698781
British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC or Commission)
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro)
2015 Rate Design Application (2015 RDA)**

BC Hydro writes with respect to the timing of the oral hearing for the 2015 RDA. BCUC Order No. G-12-16 outlined the regulatory timetable for the review of the 2015 RDA. In the timetable there is a place holder of July for the oral hearing. BC Hydro proposes the oral hearing for the 2015 RDA occur in mid-August.

On February 26, 2016, BC Hydro filed an application for interim rates for F2017 and proposed we would be filing a complete Revenue Requirements Application (RRA) in summer 2016. BC Hydro expects to file the F2017-F2019 RRA at the end of July. Throughout the Information Request (IR) process on the 2015 RDA, there have been a number of requests for information related to the F2017-F2019 RRA including information on rate forecasts beyond F2019, an updated load resource balance and demand side management programs. While BC Hydro does not believe that the 2015 RDA oral hearing is the appropriate venue to debate or test these items we do believe that they provide contextual information that is informative to the 2015 RDA. As such, we propose that the 2015 RDA oral hearing be held in mid-August to allow for interveners to review the F2017-F2019 RRA so that there is understanding of some of these contextual issues. In Exhibit B-17, BC Hydro committed to file an updated Load Resource Balance and Load Forecast as an Evidentiary Update to reflect developments in the liquefied natural gas and mining sectors. BC Hydro will file this evidentiary update at the same time as it files its F2017-F2019 RRA.

BC Hydro has spoken to representatives of a number of interveners including CEC, BCOAPO, BCSEA, MoveUp, AMPC, NIARG and Zone 2 Rate Payers Group, on the proposed timing and all parties generally agree with the merits of BC Hydro's proposed sequencing of the F2017-F2019 RRA and F2015 RDA oral hearing. A couple of interveners indicated they may have potential scheduling conflicts depending on the

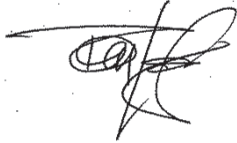
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exact timing in August and BC Hydro suggests the Commission request submissions on availability.

For further information, please contact Gordon Doyle at 604-623-3815 or by email at bchydroregulatorygroup@bchydro.com.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Loski
Chief Regulatory Officer

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Copy to: BCUC Project No. 3698781 (2015 RDA)
Registered Intervener Distribution List