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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)

Gaylord King

Date:

August 7, 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.

For the last several years my electricity bill has increased in spite of my consumption going down. I did not need the 2 tier system in order to conserve. Prior to installation of the new "smart meter" my electricity usage was just under the tier 1 limit having removed many fluorescent lamps and an extra freezer to reach that limit. All my lamps are CFL. I use wood for heating, with 1 small baseboard heater in the bedroom, set at minimum. For most of summer 2015, and Mar-April 2016 I was in tier 1. My last bill, May-June 2016 was for some inexplicable reason 186 kw hr into tier 2 even though it was summer. I use cold water wash, with outside line drying. To avoid the high demand clothes dryer I even used an inside drying rack during the winter. I have no option for natural gas so am willing to pay extra for my minimal extra electric heat in winter. There is no way I can further reduce my electricity use, already conserving the most feasible. I would suggest a modification of the tier limits, perhaps 1800 KWH, with a slight increase in the basic rate, to allow for a small reduction in the tier 2 rate. Since I am in a semi rural area without gas service perhaps a special rural rate could be instituted, or a rebate offered to those with no gas options. I am strongly considering adding some solar panels to keep me in tier 1, even at 75 years old I will not be able to recoup this expense in electricity savings. It is still worth it to me to not pay Fortis a dollar more than necessary even though others in a similar situation cannot add solar.