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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)

Michael Day

Date:

8 Aug 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.

Although there is now natural gas service in Victoria, our home was built in the 1980s when BC Hydro was promoting "all-electric" homes. That means it has no ducting or vents for furnace heating; in fact our minimal crawl space wouldn't even accommodate a furnace. So effectively I have no natural gas option for space heating, and believe my situation falls within the mandate of this review.

Part of the incentive for building/buying an all-electric home was a two-tier rate where the second tier was lower. The theory was that the first tier supported the electricity needs of homes heated by oil or gas (or wood), and the second tier made all-electric homes economical. That "fair" approach was made unfair when Hydro switched to a one tier system, and subsequently made even more unfair when they went back to two tiers, but with the second tier higher. I have been diligent about trying to make my home energy efficient (insulation, windows, etc.), but the bottom line is that I can never reduce my electricity demand in 8 months of the year to below the second tier level. I have installed a gas water heater and a gas fireplace, but that only heats one room. I have to heat the rest of the house with electricity.

BC Hydro has NEVER been fair to its all-electric-home customers in devising new rate structures. Maybe this review will right a wrong perpetrated on its loyal customers from the 70s and 80s.