

Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street, Box 250
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6Z 2N3Phone: 604-660-4700
BC Toll Free: 1-800-663-1385
Fax: 604-660-1102
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

BCUC RIB RATE REPORT

Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party?

No

Name (first and last)

Carol Zumpano

City

[REDACTED]

Province

BC

Email

[REDACTED]

Phone number

[REDACTED]

Letter of Comment

Name (first and last)

Carol Zumpano

Date:

August 10, 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.

I live at Apex Ski Resort near Penticton, and moved there partly because it was cheaper than living in Penticton. I am retiring this year at age 71. I have installed a wood burning stove into the fireplace enclosure to help with the costs of heating my condo, and have the temperature set at low to conserve energy. We replaced the windows, added insulation to the attic, etc. I believe that the 2 tier system unfairly penalizes me personally, and also most people who live in colder rural areas who do not have access to natural gas. I expect that even with access, there would be unanticipated costs involved in changing to natural gas heating. I have heard of other people on limited incomes, besides myself, who are having difficulty managing heating at the higher rates, and have done what is available to them to reduce energy use. I have no reason to believe that rates won't continue to climb and claim a larger portion of my pension. My recommendation is that the threshold for the higher rates be adjusted upwards to respond to colder rural areas where energy costs are already greater, and people are more likely to be living on limited incomes.