

# 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](mailto: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? [ Yes / No ]No

Name (first and last):Paul O'Beirn	
City: [REDACTED]	Province: BC
Email: [REDACTED]	Phone: [REDACTED]

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# Letter of Comment

Name (first and last): Paul O'Beirn	Date: November 16, 2016
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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.

*Dear Commission Members,*

I am amazed that we are being asked to re-submit comments once again on the on the issue of the current two tier electrical in BC and it's cogency and fairness with respect to rural users who are required to use electricity for hot water and heating purposes. It comes as no surprise that BC Hydro's and FortisBC's reports do not see any adverse impacts of the two-tier rates, they are not the ones paying electrical bills that have more than doubled since the implementation of this system. Both reports provided by BC Hydro & Fortis BC go to great lengths to avoid answering the Ministers question. I cannot understand how these companies could say that there is no evidence to support higher bills under the current system; did they pull any historical bills to compare what customers are paying now Vs 2, 3 or 4 years ago? I'm happy to supply the minister with commission with copies of my bills, which clearly show the severe impact of this system under the current rates being charges. The year over year increases far exceed normal operating and capital improvement increases that most businesses can expect consumers to pay, but given limited options for rural users, we are forced to swallow the increases. It seems to me that both reports were wordsmithed by individuals who specialize in clouding the issue at hand, rather than answering the question in a direct and succinct fashion. To this end, I think both companies have failed to answer the Minister questions and such they should not be accepted by the commission. The information provided in the "Marty Utility Report Comments" in the "Arguments" section of the Website, clearly outlines the impacts of two-tier rates on customers like us. In the absence of unbiased and data based reports from BC Hydro or Fortis BC, I would like to recommend the commission receive the report submitted by Mr. Marty, as the basis of your response to the Minister, until such time as BC Hydro & Fortis produces a factual response based comparative historical usage and billings prior to the implementation of the system and current bills. I suspect if they had provided this information in the first place, that we wouldn't be required to reiterate was already expressed by hundreds of rural customers already.

Regards,

Paul O'Beirn

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