

Date Submitted: February 14, 2018

Proceeding name: BCUC Regulation of Electric Vehicle Charging Service Inquiry

Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party: No

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Comment:

It is very important that we work together to reduce climate change. Our transportation sector can and should produce far less atmospheric carbon. Battery electric vehicles, BEV's, are one good way to do this. Especially if the BEV's are charged with solar energy at the home of the BEV owner. This is difficult in Canada, in part, because the federal government put a 286.1% duty on the worlds most economical solar panels. On the CBC this morning a BCUC representative said that free electric charging stations were "unsustainable". Billions of dollars have been provided to fossil fuel producers on a sustainable basis. Why would Canada subsidize the major source of atmospheric carbon and not a minor amount of energy to help reduce this threat? In any case the BCUC has recently approved a charge for high speed charging stations at 35 cents per kWh. This is more than 3 times the BC Hydro price. If we are going to support the transition to cleaner vehicles then we must help to make the transition more attractive to consumers. Price is one of the most effective ways to do this. Ontario is moving ahead with this BEV transition by providing BEV purchasing subsidies more than 3 times the BC assistance. The largest BC vehicle purchase incentive is for fuel cell vehicles, which use hydrogen. The energy used to produce hydrogen is 4 times more than the energy in the hydrogen. This make fuel cell vehicles no better than fossil fuel vehicles. Why is BC subsidizing a step backwards? It does not seem to be generally recognized that climate change is a threat every bit as great as the threat Canada faced in 1939. At that time, after 10 years of being unable to end the great depression, the governments in Canada had no trouble sending over a million young men to Europe for years. Over 100,000 died or were wounded. We can stop climate change but certainly not by doing things the way we have done them. And certainly not by setting a poor example for others to emulate. On a per capita basis British Columbians produce more climate change gases than people from almost every country. We must do better.