

Date Submitted: May 26, 2018

Proceeding name: BC Hydro Amendment to Net Metering Service

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

Name (first and last): Matt Blackman

City: Squamish

Province: British Columbia

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Comment:

I oppose the changes to the current Net Metering program being proposed by BC Hydro for the following reasons: 1) Roughly 95% of the projects under net-metering are solar energy (photovoltaic) projects. The immediate change would limit the size of projects based on the utility customer's electrical consumption in the prior year. BC Hydro has stated that this change won't have a major affect on new participation since most projects would fall below this threshold. The submission as it is written will create additional hurdles for many new applicants and prevent some important new projects from going forward. 2) The proposed changes will make it more difficult for new Net Metering applicants. 3) The application does not allow customers to size systems to accommodate future increases in consumption. This is likely to be significant issue as electrical vehicle (EV) adoption increases. 4) As written, the BC Hydro submission will not allow certain green building certifications to be achieved in BC. For example the Living Building standard, the Passive House Plus and the Passive House Premium standards would not be permitted. 5) Researchers with the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions 2060 Energy Future Pathways team found that a photovoltaic (PV) penetration of 8.5% in BC would provide a good balance on the grid and not interfere with BC Hydro's minimum generation requirements. Currently penetration is less than 1% so there is plenty of room to grow without causing any technical problems for BC's grid. 6) Data from NRCAN shows that for every kWh of PV added would reduce GHG emissions by 16 kg. 7) Small and medium sized solar installations help stabilise the grid and produce power where it is needed, reducing the requirement for expensive and wasteful transmission lines. 8) If the net-metering program is ended which would appear to be the ultimate aim of BC Hydro, BC would become the only jurisdiction in Canada to not allow grid-connected solar power.