

June 6, 2018

VIA EMAIL

Patrick Wruck

Commission Secretary
British Columbia Utilities Commission
900 Howe Street, Suite 410
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Travis J. Allan

VP Public Affairs and General Counsel
AddÉnergie Technologies Inc.
2327, Versant Nord boulevard, suite 120
Québec (QC), G1N 4C2
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Dear Mr. Wruck:

**Re: British Columbia Utilities Commission (the Commission) – An Inquiry into the Regulation of Electric Vehicle Charging Service – Project Number 1598941
Response to Commission's IR No. 1**

AddÉnergie Technologies Inc. submits its responses to Commission IR No. 1 in accordance with the Commission's amended regulatory timetable pursuant to order G-96-18 for the above-referenced Inquiry.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 1-877-505-2674 X 296.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Travis J. Allan

CC : L. Tremblay

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1 **A. INVESTMENT DECISION**

2 **1.0 Reference: Exhibit C20-2, pp. 2–4, 9**

3 **Investment / future competitiveness**

4 On page 2 of Exhibit C20-2 AddÉnergie Technologies Inc. (AddÉnergie) states:

5 Direct current fast charger (DCFC) and multi-unit residential building (MURB)
6 home charging are unlikely to be widely and comprehensively deployed in British
7 Columbia without public utility involvement...

8 On page 9 of Exhibit C20-2, referencing public DCFC and curbside and MURB residential
9 charging, AddÉnergie states:

10 A competitive market serving all British Columbians is unlikely to develop
11 without significant utility investment.

12 1.1 In other jurisdictions that AddÉnergie is active in, have private third-party
13 investments in DCFC stations been observed? If so, please explain any key differences
14 with BC.

15 **Response:**

16 AddÉnergie has observed relatively limited private third-party investment in public DCFC
17 stations in other Canadian jurisdictions without significant utility and/or government
18 involvement and funding.

19 1.2 Please discuss whether AddÉnergie believes that there are circumstances where a
20 competitive market could develop naturally for DCFC, curbside, or MURB residential
21 charging, or for particular geographic locations in BC.

22 **Response:**

23 AddÉnergie believes it is possible that a competitive market for privately owned and operated
24 DCFC could develop in some regions of British Columbia if they have a large concentration of EV

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1 users, particularly if BC's electricity rates are amended to improve the economics of DCFC
2 station operation (Refer to Exhibit C20-2 page 8) and clarification is provided by the BCUC that
3 private parties are permitted to recover costs for EV charging services.

4 As noted in AddÉnergie's original submission, however, this is unlikely to occur without a
5 comprehensive and robust EV charging network in place to support EV adoption and is unlikely
6 to occur naturally in less densely populated areas of the province (the regulatory "chicken and
7 the egg" challenge). In other words, private companies are likely to focus on densely populated
8 regions, while less dense regions go under-served.

9 It is possible for a competitive market for MURB installation to develop in buildings that are EV-
10 ready, meaning that it is relatively inexpensive to install Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment
11 (EVSE) in most or all individual parking spaces. This would apply, for example, in buildings
12 developed under the newly-revised building by-laws of the Cities of Richmond and Vancouver,
13 which have shown strong leadership on EV-ready building policy. For many existing MURBs,
14 however, the high initial cost of developing EV-ready electrical infrastructure to allow for
15 widespread EVSE installation is likely to act as a significant barrier to competition until a
16 significant number of strata owners in a building are interested in investing in major
17 infrastructure retrofits, at which point the high upfront costs can be spread over multiple users.
18 AddÉnergie does not expect this to happen quickly for many existing buildings.

19 AddÉnergie has not seen a situation in which significant curbside EVSE deployment has
20 occurred without significant involvement from utilities and municipalities because of the
21 significant cost and regulatory challenges associated with that form of charging, challenges
22 associated with removing or occupying on-street parking and complexity around metering and
23 connections to existing electrical infrastructure.

24 1.3 Please discuss whether AddÉnergie has a view on how an EV charging market
25 comprised of a significant proportion of public utility owned EV charging could transition
26 to a competitive market.

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1 **Response:**

2 AddÉnergie submits that a utility could be required to return to the Commission to seek
3 instructions regarding ongoing investments in EV charging (i) after a set time period; or (ii) after
4 an asset (for example a DCFC charging station) has depreciated. Evidence to support a
5 determination on this point could include either documentation that the option to bid on taking
6 over a charging station had been offered to qualified third parties or a study of local EV
7 charging competitiveness.

8 During the period in which utilities are permitted to invest in EV charging equipment,
9 AddÉnergie submits that the single most important factor in preserving the possibility of a
10 competitive markets is to ensure that any BCUC-approved rates for EV charging services do not
11 unduly undercut market rates for similar DCFC public charging services.

12 1.3.1 Please discuss if AddÉnergie has a view on any key indicators that would
13 demonstrate that the EV charging market or sub-set of the market (such as DCFC) is
14 sufficiently mature to operate competitively. For example, should this be the number of
15 EVs fleet in BC, number of EV charging stations/ports per EV, distance measured
16 between public EV charging stations, or some other measures?

17 **Response:**

18 For DCFC stations outside of densely populated urban areas, AddÉnergie supports the modeling
19 that the BC Ministry of Mines, Energy and Petroleum Resources (MEMPR) notes it is obtaining
20 in its submission (Refer to Exhibit C19-2 page 6), and further agrees that a 50-kilometer
21 distance between public DCFC stations likely makes sense in many circumstances, for example
22 primary and secondary highways, although adjustment may need to be made for areas with
23 high vertical climbs or particularly cold winter climactic conditions.

24 For urban areas, AddÉnergie suggests that a measure of driving time may be appropriate, for
25 example, ensuring that all residents are within a certain minimum time from a public charging
26 station, under typical driving conditions. An alternative approach could be to look at coverage

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1 of major intersections or thoroughfares. In urban areas it is particularly important to ensure
2 broad coverage to support residents who are unable to charge at home, for example in some
3 MURBs, and who are therefore especially reliant on DCFC and other forms of public charging.
4 For MURBs, the test of whether the market for EVSE installation is competitive is relatively
5 more straightforward—it could be based on the cost, as estimated by a licensed electrician, of
6 installing EVSE at an individual parking space in accordance with all applicable strata by-laws
7 and applicable law. If the cost for an individual installation (which may necessarily include
8 upgrading a building’s electrical capacity to permit individual installations) is much higher than
9 the cost of installation in a typical EV-ready new build, then installation likely will not be
10 competitive, and utility involvement is likely desirable to resolve the lack of competition.
11 For curbside installation, AddÉnergie is not aware of indicators that could demonstrate that this
12 sub-market is sufficiently mature to operate competitively because of the specific regulatory
13 barriers restraining development.

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1 **2.0 Reference:**

2 **Exhibit C20-2, p. 6**

3 **Exhibit C15-2, p. 2**

4 **DCFC - third-party investment**

5 On page 6 of Exhibit C20-2, AddÉnergie states:

6 That the major barrier to EV charging station competitiveness is that British
7 Columbia lacks a comprehensive network of charging stations and that one is
8 unlikely to be developed by [third-party] investment alone.

9 On page 2 of Exhibit C15-2, Greenlots states:

10 [Unfortunately] a sustainable, competitive market is aspirational, and is unlikely
11 to arise prior to the adoption of a critical mass of electric vehicles. This is
12 primarily on account of a lack of a business model for the ownership and
13 operation of public charging stations based on sustainable revenues from
14 charging activities, and this has thus far resulted in a fundamentally inadequate
15 amount of [third-party] investment in such charging infrastructure.

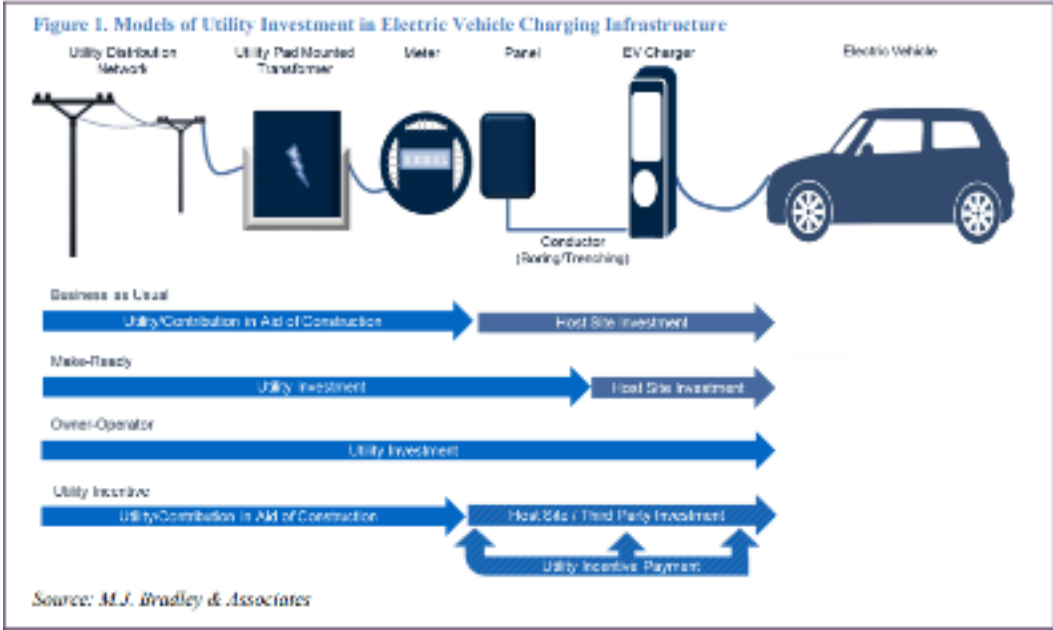
16 In a report authored [by] Georgetown Climate Center and by M.J. Bradley & Associates,
17 titled “Utility Investment in the Electric Vehicle Charging Grid: Key Regulatory
18 Considerations” dated November 2017¹ (GCC-MJBA Report), on page 9, Figure 1
19 provides the models of utility investment in EV charging infrastructure: (i) business as
20 usual, (ii) make-ready, (iii) owner-operator, and (iv) utility incentive.

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2.1 Please discuss the pros and cons of the four business models that are noted in the GCC-MJBA Report. Include considerations such as market growth, business sustainability, customer impacts, public interest, competition, and appropriate level of utility regulation.

Response

1. Business as usual

A business as usual approach is unlikely to support the development of the comprehensive and robust charging network needed to support provincial EV adoption goals or to provide all British Columbians with access to reliable EV charging services where they need them. This, in turn, is likely to restrain market growth. It is therefore not an appropriate model to increase competitiveness for any of the three types of charging that face particular market barriers.

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1 2. *Make-ready*

2 AddÉnergie submits that make-ready investments by utilities can help remove some, but not all
3 barriers to EV charging infrastructure deployment, thereby supporting market growth where
4 the only barrier is the cost of make-ready infrastructure. This could be the case, for example in
5 some MURB parking lots where the cost of secondary distribution infrastructure, trenching,
6 wiring and/or upgrading building electrical capacity are the primary barriers to EVSE installation
7 in private parking spaces. This may also be the case for some DCFC stations where demand is
8 expected to be both high and dependable (high enough to cover station capital expenditures
9 and the full range of operating and maintenance costs).

10 In both cases, however, permitting a utility to cover make-ready costs only, without allowing it
11 to recover any charging revenues, has at least two major drawbacks. First, this approach
12 unnecessarily impacts ratepayers overall by preventing utilities from recovering their costs via
13 charging revenue collection, which could otherwise help defray overall rate impacts. Second,
14 this model fails to fully take into account utility expertise and specialized demand response
15 programs that can minimize overall installation costs (by avoiding the need to invest in new
16 distribution infrastructure in some cases) and support overall distribution system protection
17 and management as EV uptake increases.

18 3. *Owner-operator*

19 As noted above, an owner-operator model is preferable in situations where the market is not
20 providing sufficient choice for EV charging infrastructure, including underserved areas that
21 require DCFC coverage, MURBs installation or curbside charging. AddÉnergie submits that it is
22 the most likely way to ensure the deployment of the comprehensive and robust charging
23 network needed to allow all British Columbians to access vehicle electrification and to achieve
24 provincial electrification objectives. Allowing for utility participation also unlocks significant
25 potential for BC utilities to leverage targeted load management and load shaping that could
26 minimize overall installation costs and protect BC's electrical distribution grid.

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1

2 Negative impacts on both competition and ratepayers can be minimized by ensuring that a
3 robust system is in place to vet utility investments in charging infrastructure based on objective
4 assessments of need, existing charging infrastructure and anticipated competitiveness impacts,
5 with particular emphasis on ensuring that charging fees to end-users are set at a reasonable
6 rate to avoid preventing competition from the private sector as EV adoption increases.

7 4. Utility incentive

8 AddÉnergie has seen significant positive impacts from utility and/or government charging
9 equipment installation incentives in jurisdictions in which it operates. These programs can help
10 build awareness and encourage consumers considering adopting EVs to purchase charging
11 equipment. Incentives are unlikely, however, to be sizable enough to address the significant
12 barriers to comprehensive and robust DCFC and MURB charging installation without other
13 utility participation.

14 Most existing subsidies and funding opportunities with which AddÉnergie is familiar focus
15 mainly on the capital costs of deploying infrastructure. In fact, maintenance, energy, customer
16 service, repairs, network and other operational fees are typically a significant portion of the
17 lifetime overall charger costs. Typical capital incentives are unlikely to address the risk that
18 some incentive recipients will walk away from stations that prove unprofitable to operate in the
19 short to medium term, or that they will fail to maintain them appropriately. In situations where
20 strategically important stations (i.e. stations that complete a desired provincial charging
21 network) are expected to run at a net loss for a number of years while the EV charging market
22 develops, a utility own-operate model is more likely to ensure that stations continue to operate
23 with appropriate maintenance and quality than a subsidy program.

24



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- 1 In the case of curbside charging, utility incentives are not likely to address the specific
- 2 regulatory and land-ownership barriers related to charging station deployment without
- 3 additional utility and municipal involvement.

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1 **3.0 Reference: Exhibit C20-2, p. 8, Appendix A**

2 **DCFC business model and economics**

3 On page 8 of Exhibit C20-2, AddÉnergie states:

4 The Generic Model attached at Appendix A illustrates how a cost model without
5 demand charges can improve the number of charging scenarios (i.e., by
6 increasing the number of daily DCFC users) in which a DCFC charging host can
7 recover its reasonable capital and operational cost expenses within 10 years.

8 3.1 Please confirm that the 10 year recovery period is a reasonable proxy for the useful
9 life of a DCFC station currently available in the market.

10 **Response**

11 While DCFC station technology continues to evolve at a rapid pace, AddÉnergie submits in its
12 best judgement that the typical useful life of a DCFC charging station is between 5-10 years with
13 recommended on-site maintenance and use in accordance with manufacturer specifications.
14 Initial installation costs (including civil and electrical works), which represent a significant
15 proportion of initial capital expenditures, have a typical life that is greatly in excess of 10 years.

16 In Appendix A of Exhibit C20-2, AddÉnergie provides a Generic DCFC Financial Model.

17 3.2 Please elaborate on the basis for the following assumptions:

18 3.2.1 Capex for 1st station.

19 **Response**

20 While every charging site is unique, AddÉnergie suggests that this is a reasonable estimate of
21 typical costs associated with upgrading existing electrical and civil infrastructure for DCFC
22 station installation plus the cost for a typical DCFC charging station currently on the market in
23 British Columbia.

24 3.2.2 Incremental CAPEX for subsequent stations.

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1 **Response**

2 While every charging site is unique, AddÉnergie suggests that this is a reasonable estimate of
3 typical costs associated with adding a second typical DCFC charging station currently on the
4 market in British Columbia. This cost is lower than the Capex for a typical first station because
5 many of the electrical and civil upgrades for the first station also typically support a second
6 charging station, so long as the first station is planned appropriately.

7 3.2.3 OPEX (maintenance and networking fee).

8 **Response**

9 This is a conservative estimate of maintenance costs and networking fees based on
10 AddÉnergie's typical experience. Actual costs change depending on factors such as station
11 location and climate, installation quality, station quality, frequency and thoroughness of
12 preventative maintenance and use.

13 3.3 Please discuss whether, in AddÉnergie's view, there is likely to be a material change
14 to any of the EV charging station operation assumptions and charging station usage
15 assumptions in the next five years.

16 **Response**

17 We are in a rapidly evolving market, meaning that changes in batteries and charging
18 technology, and required charging equipment are likely.

19 3.3.1 Please comment on the possible impact of such changes on the conclusion that
20 "There are relatively limited scenarios in which a station is likely to recover costs within
21 a decade."

22 **Response**

23 AddÉnergie believes the changes discussed in response to IR 3.3 mean that electrical
24 infrastructure supporting charging equipment should be sized to anticipate future higher

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1 voltage needs so that, as station use increases, additional charging units or faster charging units
2 can be added without requiring major electrical upgrades.

3 At this point, AddÉnergie does not believe these potential changes materially change the
4 original conclusion noted above as it relates to areas of the province of British Columbia that
5 are not currently experiencing very high DCFC use levels.

6 3.3.1.1 If the conclusions were to change in future, would AddÉnergie consider that
7 public utility involvement in the DCFC market would remain appropriate?

8 **Response**

9 AddÉnergie's position is that utility involvement in the DCFC market should be based on
10 demonstrating a lack of competition for DCFC charging services at the time of investment,
11 meaning that involvement should be assessed against technologies and charging station
12 economics and availability at the time when the investment decision is being assessed.

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1 **B. TECHNOLOGY**

2 **4.0 Reference: Exhibit C20-2, p. 8**

3 **Dependability and quality of public charging services**

4 On page 8 of Exhibit C20-2, AddÉnergie states:

5 AddÉnergie submits that the dependability and quality of public charging services
6 provided to the consumer should be a central consideration in rate setting. Providing
7 quality equipment, maintenance, monitoring and timely repairs is essential to building
8 consumer trust and to avoid safety and convenience concerns that can result from
9 consumers being stranded at low-quality or inadequately maintained charging
10 infrastructure.

11 4.1 Please describe AddÉnergie's protocols and response times to emergency and non-
12 emergency customer issues at EV charging stations. Please include specifics that are
13 applicable at AddÉnergie's EV charging stations located in the province of BC.

14 **Response**

15 For its stations in the province of British Columbia AddÉnergie conducts proactive real-time
16 monitoring, offers 24/7 support via telephone for users in both English and French and
17 conducts preventative inspections and maintenance, to ensure we provide market-leading
18 customer experience to our station owners and EV drivers.

19 4.2 Please discuss the manufacturing installation, operations, and maintenance
20 requirements of public EV charging stations. For instance, are there any requirements
21 established for which manufacturing, installations, operations, and maintenance of
22 public EV charging stations must be handled by trained and certified
23 electricians/engineers? Are there any permit, inspection, or testing processes?

24 **Response**

25 Some of the main requirements to manufacture public EV charging stations include:

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- 1 • Having the manufactured product certified by an approved certification agency (CSA,
2 UL, or other) according to each and every applicable CSA standard;
- 3 • Having the manufacturing facility listed in the certification report of each manufactured
4 product;
- 5 • Having the manufacturing facility successfully pass the random regular audits performed
6 by the applicable certification agency;
- 7 • Having the appropriate facility, the appropriately skilled and trained workers
8 (assemblers, electronic technician, manufacturing engineers), the appropriate supply
9 chain, and the appropriate tools to
- 10 ○ Assemble power electronic equipment, EVSEs and DCFCs;
- 11 ○ Test power electronic equipment, EVSEs and DCFCs; and
- 12 ○ Repair power electronic equipment, EVSEs and DCFCs.

13 Some of the main requirements to install public EV charging stations include the following:

- 14 • Developing plans for civil works, construction electrical works;
- 15 • Obtaining appropriate municipal and regulatory permits and conducting any searches
16 required regarding the installation site, including utility capacity review;
- 17 • Having a certified electrician perform any electrical works;
- 18 • Obtaining inspection of electrical works;
- 19 • Having the newly installed public EV charging station tested (by the electrician) with an
20 appropriate test apparatus (EV or EV simulator), after first power up; and
- 21 • Having the newly installed public EV charging station commissioned (by a trained
22 engineer at our Network Operation Center) at the central server level of the Charging
23 Service Provider.

24 Some steps required in the maintenance of Public EV charging stations include:

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- 1 • Regular and unscheduled maintenance by an appropriately skilled and trained
2 technician, in accordance with the manufacturer specification related to the specific
3 model of charging stations, more specifically:
- 4 ○ In the case of AC charging stations, a certified electrician has the required skill
5 set to perform any type of maintenance task; and
 - 6 ○ In the case of DCFCs, to maintain or repair anything inside the charger, an
7 electronic technician with a strong knowledge of power electronics is required;
8 and
- 9 • Maintaining and repairing anything upstream of the charger, which requires a certified
10 electrician.

11 4.2.1 Please distinguish any differences between public EV charging stations and home EV
12 charging.

13 **Response**

14 Public charging stations are typically required to be rugged enough to sustain more frequent,
15 heavy use, while incorporating additional features such as access control, locked connectors
16 and real-time data and reporting services which contribute to a seamless user experience for EV
17 drivers. Public chargers should typically incorporate the use of an aluminum enclosure which is
18 more resistant to vandalism, as well as cable management to avoid safety issues associated
19 with cables sitting on the ground where people may walk or equipment may be operating.
20 Finally, a public charger should also incorporate a payment authentication service to enable
21 station owners to recover costs where appropriate. While many home EVSE users seek one or
22 more of these features as well, they tend to be optional for EVSE installed inside a garage.

23 4.3 Please discuss whether there are any existing minimum requirements of the owner
24 and/or operator of public EV charging stations to purchase liability insurance, or other
25 insurance, to cover against potential losses.

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1 **Response**

- 2 AddÉnergie is not aware of any legal minimum requirements of this nature, although they are
3 often required as part of private agreements with the owners of the charging site (sometimes
4 called “site hosts”). At AddÉnergie, we advise our site-host clients to obtain sufficient insurance.

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1 **5.0 Reference: Exhibit C4-2-1, pp. 3–6 Future technology**

2 On pages 3-6 of Exhibit C4-2-1, Mr. Flintoff summarises several prospective future
3 technologies that may displace current technologies.

4 5.1 Please explain AddÉnergie’s considerations for changes to battery technology, such
5 as solid- state batteries, when it invests (owns or operates) in DCFC stations.

6 **Response**

7 AddÉnergie closely monitors developments in battery and associated technology including high-
8 capacity and inductive charging options. At present, many of these technologies are still in the
9 R&D phase, meaning that it is not possible to predict with a high degree of certainty which will
10 be deployed on a commercial basis (if any). Because high-capacity, fast-charging batteries are
11 likely to require additional charger capacity, AddÉnergie advises its client site hosts to prepare
12 for technological change by investing in sufficient electrical capacity to accommodate future
13 upgrades to higher charging capacities and follows the same practice on sites it owns and/or
14 leases for its own chargers.

15 5.2 Please explain AddÉnergie’s considerations for changes to high-capacity charging
16 technology, such as 350-450kW charging rates, when it invests (owns or operates) DCFC
17 stations.

18 **Response**

19 AddÉnergie’s considerations are similar to those for changes to battery power in response to
20 question 5.1, above. AddÉnergie also considers that, while future models of EVs are likely to
21 support high-capacity charging, many existing vehicles are not able to use these chargers to
22 their full capacity, meaning that existing chargers are still likely to be useful for many existing
23 vehicles in the future.

24 5.3 Please explain AddÉnergie’s considerations for other changes to technology in the
25 EV market when it invests (owns or operates) in DCFC stations.



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1 **Response**

2 AddÉnergie attempts to make its technology as future-proof as possible. For example, our
3 networked stations (including DCFCs) are remotely upgradable to allow us to continually update
4 our services and software and we retain ownership of a network communications gateway to
5 enable us to continually update our technology.

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1 **6.0 Reference: Exhibit C3-2, p. 2**

2 **Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP)**

3 On page 2 of Exhibit C3-2, Drive Energy states:

4 ...the EVSE owner, who are also clients of vendors, are captive of a monopoly/oligopoly
5 structure in which they are tied to the provider of the hardware (charging station) that
6 they have purchased. As mentioned above, until the smart EVSEs operate on Open
7 Charge Point Protocol [OCPP] like ABB, Easton or Tritium DCFCs, all level 2 hardware is
8 tied to the same company to provide payment processing & service and are very
9 vulnerable to uncompetitive monthly fees and payment processing fee hikes.

10 6.0 Please discuss AddÉnergie's view on the benefits and drawbacks of using OCPP.

11 **Response**

12 AddÉnergie strongly believes that customers should have choice in the management of EV
13 charging and discharging infrastructure. Currently, there is no globally accepted standard on
14 this subject, although the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is currently working
15 on a potential standard under 63110, which AddÉnergie believes is likely to become the global
16 standard for the management of EV charging and discharging infrastructure.¹

17

18 In the interim, many companies and organizations, including AddÉnergie, have found it
19 advisable and in the best interest of customers to publish and use open source protocols. In an
20 effort to provide its customers with high-performing and flexible assets, AddÉnergie developed
21 the Open Network Protocol (ONP)-Intranetworking.² This protocol is available under the
22 Creative Commons Attribution-NoDerivatives 4.0 International Public License, the same open

¹ A list of International Electro Technical Commission under the TC 69 Electric road vehicles and electric industrial trucks work programme including 63110 can be accessed at

http://www.iec.ch/dyn/www/f?p=103:23:8890089465082:::FSP_ORG_ID,FSP_LANG_ID:1255,25

² Accessible at <https://addenergietechnologies.com/download/9385/>

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1 licensing terms that have been used to publish other EV-charging management protocols, such
2 as the Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP).

3 The ONP-Intranetworking Protocol allows all AddÉnergie-manufactured charging stations to be
4 managed from the company's Charging Station Network Management System (CSNMS). The
5 protocol also allows third party network management systems with appropriate security
6 permissions to obtain full control of AddÉnergie charging stations, and it allows network
7 operators to develop a control interface to manage third party charging stations from
8 AddÉnergie's CSNMS.

9 While AddÉnergie is not opposed to OCPP, our experience suggests that the commonly used
10 versions (1.5 and 1.6) lack some key features required to fully manage a large quantity of
11 networked charging stations including management of faults, configuration, accounting and
12 billing, performance management and security. As a result, OCPP-based chargers are typically
13 deployed with customized extensions to the protocol, which are necessary to fill the gaps. Our
14 understanding is that the versions also lack backward compatibility with one another, and that
15 the upgrade of a charging station using an earlier version to a newer version is typically
16 challenging to do remotely, creating meaningful barriers when it comes to maintaining and
17 evolving a large scale network.

18 AddÉnergie also has experienced taking over charging stations designed to operate both with
19 and without OCPP in situations where other charging networks have ceased operations in a
20 particular area and AddÉnergie was chosen to take over station management. Our experience
21 suggests that controlling charging and discharging functions (covered by OCPP and the ONP-
22 Intranetworking Protocol) is one of the least complicated elements of a transition. Far more
23 expensive and time consuming is the transition of customer data and billing/payment
24 information in a manner that is accurate and complies with applicable law (including privacy
25 and user agreements). These issues are not covered by OCPP.

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1 **C. RATES**

2 **7.0 Reference: Exhibit C1-2, p. 13**

3 **Rate design – charging station to EV customer**

4 On page 13 of Exhibit C1-2, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro)
5 states: “It may be possible to differentiate time-based charges to vary based on vehicle
6 capacity to address such fairness issues.”

7 7.1 What is AddÉnergie’s view on alternative rate structures, such as BC Hydro’s
8 suggestion to differentiate time-based charges to vary based on vehicle capacity?

9 **Response**

10 BC Hydro’s suggestion to differentiate time-based charges based on vehicle capacity is
11 technically possible. It should be noted, however, that if the rate charged varies depending on
12 vehicle capacity (power drawn), AddÉnergie’s understanding is that Measurement Canada
13 would still need to be involved in creating a certification standard for the station.

14 AddÉnergie submits that the Commission may also wish to consider that, (1) in the case of DCFC
15 public charging, the major user complaint as use increases tends to relate delays waiting for
16 other users to vacate a charging space and (2) that commodity electricity costs tend to be
17 relatively small portion of overall station costs compared to the costs of building, maintaining
18 and operating a DCFC public charging station, all of which costs have limited or no relationship
19 to vehicle charging capacity. Any rate charged to consumers should, therefore, take into
20 account incentives to vacate stations and costs that do not change based on vehicle capacity, as
21 well as any vehicle capacity-based charges (assuming such are permitted).

22 7.2 Please explain whether AddÉnergie systems would be able to differentiate EV
23 charging rates based on vehicle capacity.

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1 **Response**

- 2 AddÉnergie's technologies are able to differentiate EV charging rates based on a number of
- 3 vehicle capacity metrics including state of charge variation and also power drawn during
- 4 charging.

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1 **8.0 Reference: Exhibit C20-2, p. 7 Exhibit C1-2, p. 7**

2 **Measurement Canada**

3 On page 7 of Exhibit C20-2, AddÉnergie states: “that as of March 6, 2018, Measurement
4 Canada has not certified any commercially available DCFC device to bill on the basis of
5 energy (kWh) or time-related demand (kW).”

6 On page 7 of Exhibit C1-2, BC Hydro states:

7 The introduction of a new standard is expected to take some time, and in BC Hydro’s
8 view a Measurement Canada approved DC standard is several years away.

9 8.1 Has AddÉnergie sought Measurement Canada certification for DCFC devices it
10 manufactures or imports in order for owners or operators to bill an energy-based rate?

11 **Response**

12 AddÉnergie regularly engages with Measurement Canada and is not aware of a certification
13 process suitable for currently available DCFC. AddÉnergie will continue to engage with
14 Measurement Canada on this point.

15 8.1.1 If so, please provide a status update on such processes.

16 **Response**

17 Not applicable.

18 8.1.2 If not, does AddÉnergie have any plans to file a request in the future?

19 **Response**

20 We do not have plans to file immediately because we are not aware of a process appropriate
21 for DCFC and has plans to file if a certification process is developed. In the meantime,
22 AddÉnergie will continue to engage with Measurement Canada on an ongoing basis regarding
23 development of an appropriate certification process.

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1 8.2 Please explain what difficulties exist in certifying DCFC billing devices for commercial
2 use purposes. Is it unique to EV charging stations?

3 **Response**

4 The existing standards are tailored toward AC meters and are not readily applicable to
5 embedded measurement devices for DC billing devices. The DC system is not a separate meter,
6 whereas an AC meter is tamper-proof and contained in a separate system. The DC system is a
7 chip set on the circuit board that does more than measure power.

8 Additionally, the AC-meter certification process is subject to a stringent calibration check to
9 ensure there is no deviation from the initial manufacturing conditions over the lifespan of the
10 system. To apply the same system to DCFC will bring a substantial increase in operational costs
11 that is likely to render the economics of DCFC even less favourable.

12 8.2.1 Are AC Level 2 chargers certified by Measurement Canada to charge by energy?

13 **Response**

14 AddÉnergie is not aware of any AC Level 2 chargers certified by Measurement Canada to charge
15 by energy at this time.

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1 **D. HYDROGEN FUEL CELL TECHNOLOGY**

2 **9.0 Reference: Exhibit C20-2, p. 2; Exhibit C19-2, p. 2 Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV)**

3 On page 2 of Exhibit C20-2, AddÉnergie states:

4 AddÉnergie Technologies Inc. (AddÉnergie) was founded in 2009 and is a North
5 American leader in electric vehicle (EV) charging solutions with operations in British
6 Columbia, Québec, Ontario and California. AddÉnergie delivers an average of over
7 100,000 charging sessions per month, including 10,000 fast charging sessions, and has
8 manufactured over 4,500 charging stations, including 150 fast chargers. AddÉnergie
9 owns and operates FLO, which we understand to be Canada's largest EV charging
10 network, and which has more than 30,000 users.

11 On page 2 of Exhibit C19-2, British Columbia Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum
12 Resources states that “The Province is active in promoting the uptake of zero emission
13 vehicles (ZEVs), including battery- electric, plug-in hybrid, and fuel cell vehicles.”

14 9.1 Please discuss whether AddÉnergie has any involvement in FCEVs and/or FCEV
15 fueling infrastructure.

16 **Response**

17 AddÉnergie does not currently have any involvement in FCEVs and/or FCEV fueling
18 infrastructure.