



March 28, 2019

Sent via eFile

BCUC INDIGENOUS UTILITIES REGULATION INQUIRY EXHIBIT A-3

Re: British Columbia Utilities Commission – Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry – Project No. 1598998 – Establishment of Regulatory Timetable

By Order G-62-19 dated March 19, 2019, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) established the Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry (Inquiry).

Community Input Sessions

The BCUC will be holding a series of Community Input Sessions in British Columbia to hear comments on the issues raised in the Inquiry. The dates and locations of these sessions will be forthcoming. Community Input Sessions are an opportunity for the public to speak directly to the Inquiry Panel. They also provide an opportunity for the Panel to effectively gather public input for consideration on the matters that are within the scope of this Inquiry. Making a submission at a Community Input Session is equivalent to providing a written submission.

Members of the public who wish to make written submissions can do so by submitting a [Letter of Comment Form](#) via the BCUC website.¹

Interveners

The terms of reference for the Inquiry are outlined in section 3 of Order in Council No. 108 dated March 11, 2019, and restated in BCUC Order G-62-19 dated March 19, 2019. The regulatory timetable for the Inquiry is attached as Appendix A to Order G-71-19.

Those who wish to participate in the Inquiry as registered interveners are to register with the BCUC by **Monday, July 15, 2019**, by completing a [Request to Intervene Form](#) on the BCUC website.² The form must also be completed in accordance with the [BCUC Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).³

Registered interveners may file evidence by **Monday, July 15, 2019**, based on the terms of reference for the Inquiry and/or on any other matters that may assist in the effective and efficient review of the Inquiry.

About the BCUC

The BCUC is an independent regulatory agency of the Government of British Columbia that is responsible for regulating BC's energy utilities, the Insurance Corporation of BC's compulsory automobile insurance rates,

¹ BCUC Letter of Comment Form (2019), retrieved from: <https://www.bcuc.com/forms/letter-of-comment.aspx>

² BCUC Request to Intervene Form (2019), retrieved from: <https://www.bcuc.com/forms/request-to-intervene.aspx>

³ BCUC Rules of Practice and Procedure (2019), retrieved from:
<https://www.ordersdecisions.bcuc.com/bcuc/orders/en/127520/1/document.do>

intraprovincial pipelines, and the reliability of the electrical transmission grid. We work hard to ensure British Columbians get value from their utilities with safe, reliable energy services and fair energy and basic auto insurance rates, while ensuring the entities we regulate have the opportunity to earn a fair return on their capital investments.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary

PS/ad
Enclosure



ORDER NUMBER
G-71-19

IN THE MATTER OF
the *Utilities Commission Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry

BEFORE:

D. M. Morton, Panel Chair
C. M. Brewer, Commissioner
A. K. Fung, QC, Commissioner

on March 28, 2019

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On March 11, 2019, by Order in Council (OIC) No. 108, made pursuant to section 5(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), the Lieutenant Governor in Council requested the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) advise the Lieutenant Governor in Council respecting the regulation of indigenous utilities in accordance with the terms of reference set out in section 3 of OIC No. 108 (Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry);
- B. Section 3 of OIC No. 108 also provides that the BCUC must submit reports to the minister responsible for the *Hydro and Power Authority Act*, as follows:
 1. An interim report describing the BCUC's progress to date and the BCUC's preliminary findings must be submitted no later than December 31, 2019;
 2. A final report describing the results of consultations undertaken by the BCUC and the BCUC's findings and recommendations must be submitted no later than January 31, 2020;
- C. By Order G-62-19 dated March 19, 2019, the BCUC established the Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry;
and
- D. The BCUC considers that the establishment of a regulatory timetable for the Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE the BCUC orders as follows:

1. A regulatory timetable is established for the Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry, attached as Appendix A to this order.
2. Interveners who wish to participate in the Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry must register with the BCUC by completing a [Request to Intervene Form](#), available on the BCUC's website, by Monday, July 15, 2019, and in accordance with the [BCUC Rules of Practice and Procedure](#).
3. Anyone who wishes to receive electronic notification of filings for this proceeding must register as an interested party by completing the [Interested Party Registration Form](#) available on the BCUC's website.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 28th day of March 2019.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D. M. Morton
Commissioner

Attachment

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2019)
Notice of Community Input Sessions	To be determined
Intervener and Interested Party Registration Deadline	Monday, July 15
Written Evidence Deadline	Monday, July 15
Further Process	To be determined



We want to hear from you

INDIGENOUS UTILITIES REGULATION INQUIRY

On March 28, 2019, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) established a process and regulatory timetable for its inquiry exploring the regulation of Indigenous utilities in British Columbia. The Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry (the “Inquiry”) will explore and seek feedback on a number of important questions, including:

- What are the characteristics of an “Indigenous Utility” with respect to:
 - The ownership and operation of the utility;
 - What services are provided;
 - Who the services are provided to; and/or
 - The location or area served by the utility?
- Should Indigenous utilities be regulated or not? And if so, how?
 - If they should be regulated, should they be regulated by the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) or another mechanism?
 - If unregulated, how will the interests of Indigenous utility ratepayers be protected?

Currently, under the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) most utilities with a connection to an Indigenous community are regulated by the BCUC as public utilities. Indigenous peoples, all levels of government, utility owners and operators, the public and other organizations will have an opportunity to participate in the Inquiry.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- ⚡ **Submit a letter of comment**
- ⚡ **Register as an interested party**
- ⚡ **Request intervener status***
- ⚡ **Attend a Community Input Session****

IMPORTANT DATES

- ***Monday, July 15, 2019** – Deadline to register as an intervener with the BCUC
- ****TBD** – Dates and locations of the Community Input Sessions will be available shortly and posted on the BCUC website

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on getting involved, please visit our website (www.bcuc.com/get-involved) or contact us at the information below.

Additional information on the Inquiry can be found at www.bcuc.com on our “Current Proceedings” page.

CONTACT US

British Columbia Utilities Commission
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Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 2N3



Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com



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www.bcuc.com