
Date Submitted: May 22, 2019

Proceeding name: BCUC Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry

Participant contact information

Organization or individual name: Canadian Geothermal Energy Association (CanGEA)

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For organizations only - representative contact information

Name: Zach Harmer

Organization (if different from above):

City: Calgary

Province: Alberta

Email: policy@cangea.ca

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Also representing (if applicable):

Additional information

Please state your reasons for intervening in this proceeding:

The Canadian Geothermal Energy Association (CanGEA) is a pan-Canadian association dedicated to advancing the development of geothermal heat and electricity projects across the country. Considering geothermal energy is within the scope of the types of energy utilities that will be covered within this proceeding, CanGEA believes that we will be

able to provide useful information and expert witness testimonial relating to geothermal heat and/or electricity utilities under different regulatory and ownership models.

Please state how you are directly or sufficiently affected by the Commission's decision in this matter; or describe your experience, information, or expertise relevant to this matter that would contribute to the Commission's decision making:

CanGEA is the collective voice of Canada's geothermal energy industry, as such, CanGEA will bring geothermal energy information and expertise relevant to the Indigenous Utilities Inquiry that will contribute to the Commission's decision making. Background and Experience: CanGEA was founded in 2007 with the goal of unlocking Canada's tremendous geothermal energy potential. Since CanGEA's inception, CanGEA been in an instrumental actor in several significant industry changes, such as enabling geothermal electricity and heating project to be eligible for federal funding programs and tax incentives, authoring the Canadian Geothermal Code for Public Reporting, and creating and hosting the Canadian National Geothermal Database that features geothermal favourability maps for BC, AB, Yukon and Nunavut. More recently, CanGEA participated in the BCUC Site C Inquiry, where our 3 submissions and oral testimony led to geothermal energy being included in the alternative energy portfolio. In addition to CanGEA's experience in participating in and advancing geothermal (and geothermal related) policy initiatives, CanGEA also has access to a vast network of global leading geothermal experts and developers. CanGEA is a partner of the Global Geothermal Alliance, an affiliated organization of the International Geothermal Association, and regularly contributes to and participates in geothermal energy conferences around the world. CanGEA is led by our Chair, Alison Thompson, who is a member of the International Geothermal Association's expert pool and sits on the Resources & Reserves Committee. Beyond her role at CanGEA, Ms. Thompson is President and CEO of Borealis GeoPower; a Canadian geothermal energy development company. Borealis GeoPower has applied as an Interested Party for the Indigenous Utilities Inquiry.

Please list the key issues you intend to address in the proceeding:

In the proceeding, CanGEA will leverage our expertise along with our global network in order to provide information on geothermal utility projects (heat-only, electricity-only, and electricity and heating project) from around the world, with a focus on municipally- and indigenous-owned projects. An example of a global case study that CanGEA will expand on is the New Zealand-based Tauhara Number 2 Trust, which is a Maori-owned trust fund that operates several geothermal electricity projects and a variety of geothermal heating projects (<https://www.tauharano2.co.nz/rml-commercial/rotokawa-reservoir/>). In addition to the preparation of case studies, CanGEA can coordinate with expert witnesses from our network to present their views and experiences to the Commission regarding indigenous- or municipally-owned geothermal utilities. CanGEA will also provide information on the unique nature of geothermal energy projects in relation to other renewables, such as the 2-for-1 value that a geothermal electricity project offers (i.e. electricity and/or heat). The goal of CanGEA's participation is to ensure that geothermal energy as a utility is adequately represented and understood in the proceeding.

For administrative purposes only

Do you intend to participate fully, including attendance at hearings and submission of evidence or information requests, if applicable?: Yes

Do you intend to request PACA funding? This does not impact your ability to participate: Yes

Have you or your organization web-registered as an intervener or interested party in the past 12 months?: No

If yes, please provide your username: