
Date Submitted: June 06, 2019

Proceeding name: BCUC Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry

Participant contact information

Organization or individual name: Beecher Bay (Sc'ianew) First Nation

City: Sooke

Province: British Columbia

Email: ruths.fn640@yahoo.com

Phone number: 250-478-3535

For organizations only - representative contact information

Name: Ruth Sauder, CAO, BBFN

Organization (if different from above): same

City: same

Province: British Columbia

Email: ruths.fn640@yahoo.com

Phone number: 250-478-3535

Also representing (if applicable):

Additional information

Please state your reasons for intervening in this proceeding:

Beecher Bay First Nation is doing a land development, Spirit Bay, on a segment of our main reserve (IR #1). Part of the business plan was to run a private Geothermal utility. We sought a ruling in advance which left us with the BCUC's decision: Spirit Bay Utilities Ltd. Application for an Exemption Pursuant to Section 88(3) of the Utilities Commission Act or Declaration Pursuant to Section 72 ~ Project No.3698880

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:

Currently the BCUC's decision regarding our planned geothermal utility at Spirit Bay has put part of our project into limbo and has added millions of dollars of cost to our development. Establishing the ability to run our own regulated utility would allow us to do better and more efficient infrastructure and development for our community. FN's tend to be small, off grid communities. Everyone, including large governments would be assisted by allowing us to be far more self sufficient in meeting our energy needs by operating our own utilities.

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

The need to have equivalency with local governments in operating our own utility. The additional cost of running public utilities into small remote FNs communities. The importance of bringing self sufficiency and decision making back to indigenous communities.

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: