

**Date Submitted:** June 28, 2019

**Proceeding name:** BCUC Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry

## **Participant contact information**

**Organization or individual name:** First Nations Leadership Council

**City:** Vancouver

**Province:** British Columbia

**Email:** jaime.sanchez@bcafn.ca

**Phone number:** 250-713-1129

## **For organizations only - representative contact information**

**Name:** Jaime Sanchez

**Organization (if different from above):** BC Assembly of First Nations

**City:** Vancouver

**Province:** British Columbia

**Email:** jaime.sanchez@bcafn.ca

**Phone number:** 250-713-1129

**Also representing (if applicable):** Merle Alexander, merle@millertiterle.com

## **Additional information**

**Please state your reasons for intervening in this proceeding:**

The First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) is composed of three organizations: the BC Assembly of First Nations, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit. The mandate and work of the FNLC is collectively directed by Nations' governments through resolutions of the three political organizations. In addition to the mandates provided by Nations' governments through resolutions, the FNLC is authorized by participating Nations to work as an "advocacy body," providing a strong and cohesive voice for the purpose of

improving the quality of life for Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia. As a representative of BC First Nations, we have a vested interest in the Indigenous Utilities Inquiry.

**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:**

Many of our members may meet, or may have subsidiaries that meet, the emerging definition of an "Indigenous utility", generating or providing power to their community and beyond. We are impacted by the concerns regarding Indigenous utilities being regulated as public utilities, and wish to have a voice in changes to regulation that will impact our members' ability to actualize self-governance and energy independence. In addition, we have the capacity to analyze policy and consider the ramifications of different approaches based on our many years of advocacy and working together with the Province.

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

Reviewing the regulatory frameworks and possible alternatives in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; ensuring regulation upholds Title and Rights; the relevance of Indigenous legal orders to proposed regulation; economic, social, and environmental viability for our Nations' economic development projects; self-governance; and renewable energy and climate commitments.

## **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:**