

Date Submitted: August 11, 2019

Proceeding name: Nelson Hydro 2019 Rural Rate Application

Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party: Yes, Interested Party

Name (first and last): Max Yanke

City: Nelson

Province: British Columbia

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Comment:

Given that the Nelson Hydro rate increase evidentiary record has been re-opened one can make another submission. Please find attached my submission. New recent information the Commission may not be aware of

Nelson hydro has asked for an extension, my question, could one submit another submission?

BCUC response “Given that the evidentiary record has been re-opened you may make a submission”

This is information I suspect the Commission would not be aware of.

The rural rate increase COSA study showing higher Vegetation Management cost rurally was part of the reason to increase rates.

Two RFT's for this from Nelson hydro were cancelled.

RFT's for [Vegetation Management](#) on the city Bid Opportunities such as 2019-T-17 and 18 cancelled.

A third party told me Johnstone Rd. (rural) had recent vegetation management work done, they did not know who did that work.

I subscribe to city bid opportunities. There were no bid opportunities seen for this.

There are several RFT's awarded to replace 400 hydro poles. [For example](#) A contractor told me there were 600 poles needing replacement, the news item states 600 poles.

As stated in the RFT documents “solely based on Telus stressed schedules, work to be completed by dates specified in order for Telus to meet their schedule”

A [newspaper item](#) says the city will save \$600,000.

The accelerated pole replacement apparently to accommodate Telus Project Falcon \$2.04M \$1.42M from Telus, leaving \$.62M from Nelson hydro.
The news states Telus will pay 70 percent rather than their typical 50%.

Nelson hydro manager as quoted by the newspaper says “but we need clarification now on this part”

Later he states “this is a beautiful financial arrangement for Nelson”.

This doesn't make sense to me.

My question, is Nelson behind on its pole replacements, this seems like a lot of poles to replace in one year.

The article continues the capital project was reviewed and approved but new circumstances require the plan to be modified. What is the information requiring the modification?

There is also “small copper work to accommodate Project Falcon”. Something that has to be done now that would have been done later.

City council meetings once broadcast live on YouTube are no longer being shown.

I feel very uncomfortable with my ability to get any answers from this city management or city council members. This appears to me to be a management problem for work that should have been done in past years.

Replacing 600 poles, cancelling Vegetation Management and concrete work and stating the Telus project is somehow a windfall to the city doesn't make sense to me.

Nelson hydro has already submitted to the Commission the Community Solar Garden was fully funded by those opting in, this was never the case.

Nelson hydro's response to the Commission asking if they were involved in NelsonFibre replied “this was another budget”, doesn't answer the question. News items indicated Nelson hydro was doing Nelson Fibre work.

Respectfully submitted

Norm Yanke
Nelson BC