bcuc
British Columbia
Utilities Commission

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August 22, 2019

Sent via email/eFile

BC HYDRO F2020–F2021
REVENUE REQUIREMENTS EXHIBIT A-12

Re: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority – F2020–F2021 Revenue Requirements Application – Project No. 1598990 – Community Input Sessions

You are invited to attend a British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) Community Input Session to provide feedback on British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority's (BC Hydro) Fiscal 2020 to Fiscal 2021 (F2020–F2021) Revenue Requirements Application (Rate Application).

On February 25, 2019, BC Hydro filed its F2020–F2021 Rate Application with the BCUC. In the Application, BC Hydro has asked for approval for a number of requests which would result in the following rate changes:

i. A net bill increase of 1.76 percent, effective April 1, 2019, and

ii. A net bill increase of 0.72 percent, effective April 1, 2020.

On March 1, 2019, the BCUC gave interim approval to BC Hydro for a net bill increase of 1.76 percent, effective April 1, 2019. The Panel is currently reviewing the Rate Application along with all the evidence and will decide whether those rate changes should be made permanently. We note that BC Hydro will file an update on August 22, 2019 which may further alter these requested rates.

As part of the BCUC's review, evidence has been collected through an exchange of written questions and answers between the Panel, BC Hydro and interveners. There are currently 15 interveners who are actively participating in the review of this application. All of the evidence collected to date can be found on the application's proceeding page on the BCUC website.

Community Input Sessions

The BCUC will be holding a series of Community Input Sessions, that you are invited to attend. These sessions will be held in BC Hydro's service areas where members of the public are encouraged to participate and share their thoughts with the Panel on the application. Community Input Sessions are an opportunity:

- for the BCUC to inform the public on our review process;
- to explain the scope of BC Hydro's Rate Application; and
- for the public to provide feedback that is specific to this Rate Application to the Panel.

The following Community Input Sessions have been confirmed:

LOCATION	DATE (2019)	TIME	VENUE
Vancouver	**Thursday, September 5**	4 pm – 6 pm 7 pm – 9 pm	**Allwest Reporting** 12th floor, 1125 Howe Street Vancouver, BC **Room:** Allwest Hearing Room
Kamloops	**Saturday, September 7**	10 am – 12 pm 1 pm – 3 pm	**TRU Conference Centre** Thompson River University 2nd Floor Campus Activity Centre 805 TRU Way Kamloops, BC **Room:** TRU Grand Hall See campus map
Prince George	**Saturday, September 14**	10 am – 1 pm	**UNBC Conference Centre** University of Northern British Columbia Bentley Centre, 3333 University Way Prince George, BC **Room**: 7–172 See campus map
Fort St. John	**Sunday, September 15**	1 pm – 4 pm	**Pomeroy Hotel** 11308 Alaska Road Fort St. John, BC **Room:** Scotty Room
Victoria	**Saturday, September 21**	10 am – 12 pm 1 pm – 3 pm	**Sandman Hotel** 2852 Douglas Street Victoria, BC **Room:** Orchid Room

Registration

Anyone wishing to attend and participate is encouraged to register in advance via email to Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com or by telephone at 1-800-663-1385. If you would like to speak at a Community Input Session, you are required to register with the BCUC. Anyone who registers at the door will be heard on a first come first served basis. Observers are also welcome to attend and are encouraged to register in advance.

Details of the Community Input Sessions

Publishing submissions: Oral submissions made at these Community Input Sessions, along with the name of the person making the submission, will be transcribed and form part of the public record. All submissions will be published on the application's proceeding page. Sessions will be live audio streamed but will not be videotaped.

Registered speakers: Speakers will be called in the order that they registered. Documents submitted to the Panel during Community Input Sessions will be added to the evidentiary record and will be made publicly available on the BCUC website. General distribution of evidence or other materials will not be permitted during these sessions.

General conduct: In addition to any other matters of conduct the Panel may establish at the Community Input Sessions, Panel members may ask questions of a speaker, and all attendees are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner.

Anyone wishing to provide a written letter of comment on the application instead of making an oral submission may do so by filling out the Letter of Comment Form.

If you have any questions about this invitation, please feel free to contact the BCUC at the information provided below. More information about BC Hydro's application is also included in the enclosed fact sheet.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By Amanda Duncan for:

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION
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Enclosure:

- Fact Sheet – About the BC Hydro Fiscal 2020-2021 Rate Application

About the Application

On February 25, 2019, BC Hydro submitted its Fiscal 2020–2021 Rate Application to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC). The Rate Application contains several requests, including a request for a net bill increase of 1.76% effective April 1, 2019.

The BCUC has approved BC Hydro's rate requests on an interim basis effective April 1, 2019. Any difference between the approved interim rates and permanent rates will be refunded to or recovered from BC Hydro's customers with interest at the time that the Panel makes its final decision on the Rate Application.

The BCUC is responsible for reviewing the Rate Application by conducting an open and transparent public review process to determine if the requests should be approved.

Rate Changes* and Deferral Account Rate Rider

Fiscal 2020 – BC Hydro is applying for a permanent general rate increase of 6.85% for fiscal 2020, effective April 1, 2019. However, the overall net bill increase for fiscal 2020 would be 1.76% due to the requested reduction of the Deferral Account Rate Rider (DARR).

Fiscal 2021 – BC Hydro is applying for a permanent general rate increase of 0.72% for fiscal 2021, effective April 1, 2020***.

The DARR is a percentage that is applied to customer bills to recover additional and unpredictable energy costs. BC Hydro applied to reduce the DARR from 5% to 0%, effective April 1, 2019, because there is a surplus in the account which helps reduce the overall increase in rates.

Sample resident bills with proposed rate changes, applicable for those under the Residential Inclining Block Rate.

Before interim rate May 1 – May 31, 2018		**Proposed changes F2020**** May 1 – May 31, 2019		**Proposed changes F2021***** May 1 – May 31, 2020	
Basic Charges		Basic Charges		Basic Charges	
31 days @ $0.1956/day	**$6.06**	**31 days @ $0.209/day**	**$6.48**	**31 days @ $0.2105/day**	**$6.53**
Energy Charges		Energy Charges		Energy Charges	
Step 1: 688 kWh @ $0.0884/kWh	$60.81	Step 1: 688 kWh @ $0.0945/kWh	$65.01***	Step 1: 688 kWh @ $0.0952/kWh	$65.49***
Step 2: 212 kWh @ $0.1326/kWh	$28.12	Step 2: 212 kWh @ $0.1417/kWh	$30.05***	Step 2: 212 kWh @ $0.1427/kWh	$30.26***
Subtotal	**$95.00**	**Subtotal**	**$101.54**	**Subtotal**	**$102.28**
Rate Rider / DARR 5%	**$4.75**	**Rate Rider / DARR 0%**	**$0.00**	**Rate Rider / DARR 0%**	**$0.00**
Total Rate Charges (before tax)	**$99.75**	**Total Rate Charges (before tax)**	**$101.54**	**Total Rate Charges (before tax)**	**$102.28**

** The requested rate changes for fiscal 2020–2021 are subject to change following an update to be filed by BC Hydro on August 22, 2019.*
*** Current BC Hydro Rates have been approved on an interim basis, effective April 1, 2019. Interim rates are the same as the proposed rates for Fiscal 2020 in the chart above.*
**** Due to rounding, numbers may not be exact.*

BCUC Review Process

Panel Appointed

February 26, 2019

Regulatory Timetable Established

March 1, 2019

BC Hydro Workshop

BC Hydro held a public workshop on March 15, 2019, to introduce and present their Application.

Intervener Registration

Persons who wished to actively participate in the proceeding or who would be directly or sufficiently affected by BCUC's decision or had relevant information or expertise, requested intervener status by March 21, 2019.

Procedural Conference

BCUC held a procedural conference on June 24, 2019. BC Hydro and interveners provided feedback on the process and regulatory timeline and replied to other interveners' submissions, if desired.

Community Input Sessions

The BCUC is hosting Community Input Sessions to explain the scope of BC Hydro's Application and for the Panel to hear public feedback on the Application, which will be considered when preparing its report.

Community Input Sessions

September 5	September 7	September 14	September 15	September 21
Vancouver	**Kamloops**	**Prince George**	**Fort St. John**	**Victoria**

Oral Hearing

On January 20, 2020, BCUC will hold an Oral Hearing where the Panel and interveners will ask BC Hydro and each other questions, based on the evidence they have submitted.

BCUC Decision

The BCUC Panel will review the Application, as well as all of the feedback provided by the public and evidence submitted by interveners and BC Hydro, and it will then make a final decision on the application.

How to Participate

The BCUC is committed to conducting open and transparent review processes, where members of the public have an opportunity to participate and assist the Panel in its decision-making process. We want to hear from members of the public, and ensure their voices are considered in our processes. We take public input seriously and work hard to ensure ratepayers' interests are given fair consideration.

Members of the public can participate in a proceeding by:

Attending or presenting at a Community Input Session:

If you'd like to speak or make a presentation, register via email to **Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com** or call 1.800.663.1385.

Submitting a letter of comment:

Contribute views, opinions, and impact or potential impact, about an application under consideration by the BCUC by submitting a letter of comment online.

Registering to be an interested party:

Receive automatic notification of all information filed on the public evidentiary record when you're registered as an interested party.

Request intervener status:

Applications for those wishing to participate as interveners were accepted until March 21, 2019. There are 15 interveners participating in the BC Hydro Fiscal 2020–2021 Rates Application proceeding.

About the BCUC

The BCUC is an independent 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, intra-provincial pipelines and the reliability of the electrical transmission grid.

At the BCUC, our role is to find a balance between the needs of ratepayers and the needs of the organizations we regulate.

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