

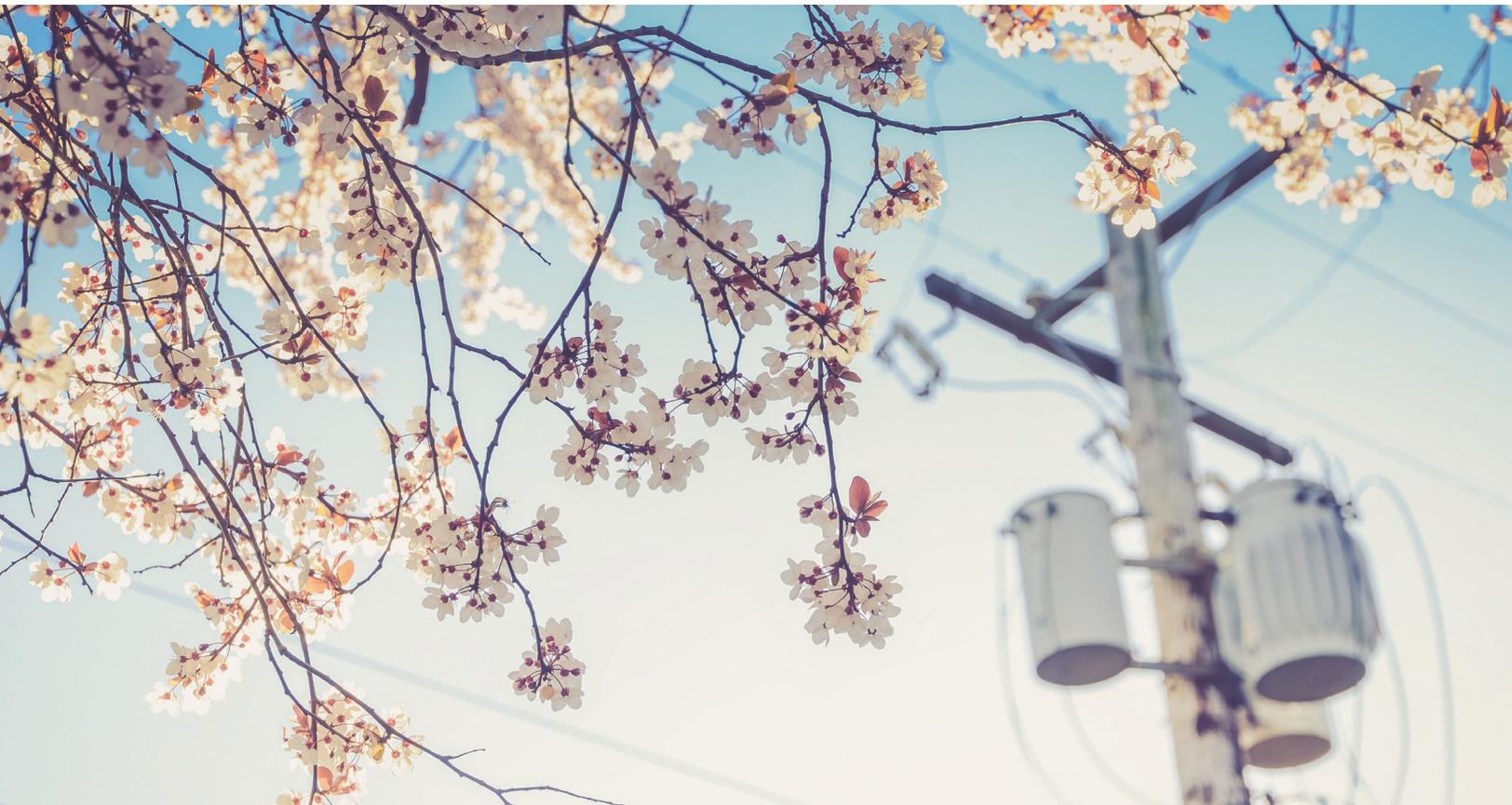


About the Application

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 decrease of -0.99% 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 31 days @ \$0.1956/day..... \$6.06	Basic Charges 31 days @ \$0.209/day..... \$6.48	Basic Charges 31 days @ \$0.2069/day..... \$6.41
Energy Charges Step 1: 688 kWh @ \$0.0884/kWh..... \$60.81 Step 2: 212 kWh @ \$0.1326/kWh..... \$28.12 Subtotal..... \$95.00	Energy Charges Step 1: 688 kWh @ \$0.0945/kWh..... \$65.01* Step 2: 212 kWh @ \$0.1417/kWh..... \$30.05* Subtotal..... \$101.54	Energy Charges Step 1: 688 kWh @ \$0.0936/kWh..... \$64.39* Step 2: 212 kWh @ \$0.1403/kWh..... \$29.75* Subtotal..... \$100.56
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)..... \$100.56

* Due to rounding, numbers may not be exact.

** 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.

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.



Community Input Sessions

September 5
Vancouver

September 7
Kamloops

September 14
Prince George

September 15
Fort St. John

September 21
Victoria



Oral Public 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.

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 2N3

Phone: 604.660.4700
BC Toll-free: 1.800.663.1385
Fax: 604.660.1102
Email: commission.secretary@bcuc.com