

Dear Commission Secretary,

I am writing to express my support for Net Metering and my opposition to BC Hydro's application to Amend Net Metering Service (Project No. 1599004).

Over the past 15 years, thanks to Net Metering rates and engaged citizens working to shape the energy grid of the future, communities and individuals have invested their time and savings to create local solar installations across B.C.

Net Metering enables new sources of clean power, creates jobs, adds resiliency to our grid and proves that distributed power generation can work.

Our Net Metering community is growing and organized. We will not stand by and allow BC Hydro to roll back our potential to grow and share clean solar power. As a regulator mandated to protect the public interest, please reject the punitive sizing restrictions and rate reductions proposed by BC Hydro's amendment application, and ensure that the broader community is consulted about the future of our shared clean energy grid.

As a net-metering customer since May 2012 I'm extremely disappointed and upset by BC Hydro's attempt to reduce the rate paid to homeowners for their renewable energy production. My wife and I invested in solar thermal and solar PV in order to reduce our carbon footprint at a very high cost and long ROI without any government subsidy. Any excess electricity from our 28 solar panels goes to our immediate neighbours and doesn't require long transmission lines or the need for mega projects like the Site C dam. All the infrastructure costs for this clean energy was paid for by us and didn't require any tax payer input. The more distributed renewable energy produced locally means less energy that BC Hydro is required to produce and offers community resilience and local employment. BC Hydro should focus it's efforts to increase regional energy resilience instead of trying to penalize our attempts to diversify our energy supply. Please deny BC Hydro's request.

Regards,

Sincerely,

Ron Watts


In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, to submit a letter of comment concerning an application currently before the Commission, I, Ron Watts, acknowledge that all letters of comment are published with the author's name as part of the public evidentiary record, both in print copy and on the Commission's website.