



October 25, 2019

**BCUC INDIGENOUS UTILITIES REGULATION INQUIRY
EXHIBIT A-41**

Sent via e-mail

Re: British Columbia Utilities Commission – Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry – Save the Date – Draft Report Workshops

The British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) will host six Draft Report Workshops from November 18 to December 9, 2019, to collect feedback on its Indigenous Utilities Regulation Inquiry (Inquiry) Draft Report. More information about the Inquiry follows, and further details are available on the Inquiry’s proceeding page of the BCUC website at: <https://www.bcuc.com/ApplicationView.aspx?ApplicationId=669>. The Draft Report will include findings and recommendations for the BC Government regarding the regulation of Indigenous energy utilities and will be available for review on November 1, 2019.

The following Workshops have been confirmed, a formal invitation with more information will follow. Please save the date.

LOCATION	DATE (2019)	TIME ¹	VENUE
Prince George	Monday, November 18	10am – 3pm	Coast Inn of the North 770 Brunswick St. Prince George, BC Room: Nechako Room
Kelowna	Thursday, November 21	10am – 3pm	Sandman Hotel 2130 Harvey Ave Kelowna, BC Room: Okanagan Room
Vancouver	Wednesday, November 27	10am – 3pm	Allwest Reporting 12 th Floor - 1125 Howe St. Vancouver, BC Room: 12 th Floor Hearing Room
Nanaimo	Thursday, November 28	10am – 3pm	Coast Bastion Hotel 11 Bastion St. Nanaimo, BC Room: Benson Room

¹ Workshop end times are estimates and subject to change depending on participation.

LOCATION	DATE (2019)	TIME ¹	VENUE
Victoria	Friday, November 29	10am – 3pm	Comfort Inn and Suites 3020 Blanshard St. Victoria, BC Room: Topaz Room
Smithers	Monday, December 9	10am – 3pm	Prestige Hudson Bay Lodge 3251 East, BC-16 Smithers, BC Room: Summit Ball Room

About the Inquiry

On March 28, 2019, the BCUC established an inquiry into the regulation of Indigenous energy utilities in British Columbia. As part of the Inquiry, the BCUC hosted ten community input sessions around BC in June and July 2019² as well as an input session in September to coincide with the BC Assembly of First Nations General Assembly. Written evidence has also been filed by a number of interveners³ and two independent experts commissioned by the BCUC.⁴

The Inquiry Panel sought feedback on a number of important questions, including:

- **What are the characteristics of an “Indigenous Utility”** with respect to:
 - The ownership and operation of the utility;
 - What services are provided;
 - Who the services are provided to; and/or
 - The location or area served by the utility?
- **Should Indigenous utilities be regulated or not?** And if so, how?
 - If they should be regulated, should they be regulated under the *Utilities Commission Act* or another mechanism?
 - If unregulated, how will the interests of Indigenous utility customers be protected?

The Draft Report will be publicly available for review and comment on the BCUC website (bcuc.com), in addition the BCUC will host six Workshops around BC, to provide an opportunity for in-person feedback on the report before it is finalized.

Draft Report Workshops

Each workshop will be facilitated by Dan George, of Four Directions Management Services. The workshops will begin with a BCUC presentation providing an overview of the Inquiry’s Draft Report and an opportunity to ask questions. Participants will then divide into smaller groups to discuss the report and collect thoughts and suggestions with support from BCUC staff and facilitators. Later in the workshop, each small group will select a representative to present a summary of its feedback to the Panel. Individuals will also have an opportunity to address the Panel and add any items that are not captured in the group summary. Lunch will be provided.

² Transcripts from all sessions can be found on the [Inquiry website](#).

³ See: “C” Exhibits on the Inquiry website.

⁴ Exhibit A-8; Exhibit A-13.

Publishing submissions: The oral submissions made at these Workshops, along with the name of the person making the submission, will form part of the public inquiry record, will be transcribed and will inform the Panel's final report to government.

Anyone wishing to participate in person is encouraged to register and send questions in advance via email to Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com or by telephone at 1-800-663-1385.

Written Submissions

Written submissions will also be welcome and may be submitted via email, fax or mail. More information about how to make a written submission and the deadline to do so, will be available shortly.

If you have any questions about this invitation or would like printed copies of the attached documents, please feel free to contact the BCUC at the information provided below.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Ian Jarvis for:

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

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