

**BY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION**

July 9, 2020

Ms Marija Tresoglavic
Acting Commission Secretary
British Columbia Utilities Commission
Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Dear Ms Tresoglavic:

**Re: Project No. 1599027
British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC or Commission)
An Inquiry into the Regulation of Municipal Energy Utilities (Inquiry)
City of Abbotsford (Abbotsford)
Submission on Restart of Proceeding**

Abbotsford writes in response to your letter dated June 22, 2020 seeking intervenor submissions on a potential Inquiry restart date of Tuesday, September 1, 2020. In particular, participants have been asked to comment on the proposed regulatory timetable set out in your letter.

Abbotsford agrees with and supports the City of Richmond's request, as outlined in its submission dated July 8, 2020, to defer the restart of the Inquiry until 2021, at which time the Commission can invite again submissions on the resumption of the Inquiry.

Having regard to the exploratory nature of the Inquiry, which was initiated by the Commission rather than in response to any specific application or direction by Government of BC, Abbotsford is particularly concerned that the Commission's potential (and unsolicited) recommendations to the Government of BC be informed by meaningful participation by affected stakeholders including the municipalities and regional districts whose energy services are the subject of the Inquiry.

In these circumstances, it is not in the public interest to draw upon the significantly constrained financial and personnel resources of local government intervenors in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in the absence of any clear indication of PACA funding availability.

For further information, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Aniz Alani
Director, Property, Risk Management and Legal Services
Acting Director, Legislative Services