

Date Submitted: April 18, 2021

Proceeding name: BC Hydro Public EV Fast Charging Rate

Are you currently registered as an intervener or interested party: No

Name: Sunshine Coast Electric Vehicle Association

City: Sechelt

Province: British Columbia

Email: info@SCEVA.org

Phone number: [REDACTED]

Comment:

Please see attached letter. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Has Attachment:

True



Sunshine Coast Electric Vehicle Association

www.SCEVA.org

April 18, 2021 – BY EMAIL

British Columbia Utilities Commission
commission.secretary@bcuc.com

Re: BC Hydro Public EV Fast Charging Rate

The Sunshine Coast Electric Vehicle Association (SCEVA) and its organizers have campaigned for more than 10 years to encourage the adoption of Electric Vehicles as a part of creating a more sustainable and environmentally responsible society. Our mission includes promoting the adoption of Electric Vehicles on the Sunshine Coast and beyond as well as advocating to government agencies and other decision makers on matters of importance to our members.

BC is leading Canada in EV adoption with a reported 54,000 electric vehicles currently registered traveling our roads. At SCEVA, we are proud of our contribution to this success (we have possibly the highest adoption rate of EV's per capita in Canada.)

Another major factor in the successful adoption of EVs has been the initiatives and good work done at CleanBC supported by the Provincial government along with early adopters, manufacturers and numerous EV Associations. In addition, we acknowledge and appreciate the important role that BC Hydro has played with their early commitment to and active rollout of charging infrastructure including their DCFC network.

However, we have recently learned of BC Hydro's application to being charging a fee to use their DC chargers based on a "per minute" metering system. We are writing because SCEVA has grave concerns about impacts of this approach. We respectfully suggest that, while charging a fee for the charging infrastructure will be appropriate eventually, doing so as soon as May 1st, 2021 is ill advised.

As we understand it, until Measurements Canada approves a DC metering device, BC Hydro and other electricity suppliers have two options – to charge fees using time-based fee / per minute metering devices or to continue to not charge for such services. We recommend that the latter (no fees, for now) is the most appropriate for the reasons noted below:

- 1) Charging based on time / by the minute is grossly inequitable to EV owners. The type of EV and the State of Charge (SOC) of a particular vehicle's battery means some will receive a much larger amount of energy than other owners – yet pay the same fee. This is inequitable and has the potential to be a disincentive to the further adoption of EVs which is contrary to the initiatives and published goals of the Provincial Government and many other organizations.

info@SCEVA.org



- 2) The revenue that BC Hydro will receive from per minute fees will be insignificant compared with the potential disincentives to EV owners and potential buyers.
- 3) Further, once Measurements Canada approves a DC metering device, BC Hydro will need to retrofit its DC chargers with the new metering devices, at substantial cost to the taxpayer, to treat all users equitably.

Where therefore ask that you:

- 1) join us and others to advocate to Measurements Canada for them to expedite approval of one or more per kWh metering devices. (We note that such are widely used throughout the world so this should not be a burden for them.)
- 2) Encourage BC Hydro to continue to build out its DCFC network to encourage more people to adopt EV's. More EV owners mean more utilization of the charging infrastructure and a faster return on the costs of such infrastructure once DC metering is approved.
- 3) Not permit BC Hydro to implement their time-based / per minute charging approach.

We thank you for your time and consideration of our request.

Respectfully,
SUNSHINE COAST ELECTRIC VEHICLE ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Henderson".

Director

cc: BC Hydro
BC Sustainable Energy Association
Honourable Nicholas Simons, MLA
Various EV Associations