

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Site C Submissions BCUC:EX](#)
Subject: Letter of Comment
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 8:05:35 PM

Thank you for providing the opportunity for citizen comment on topics within your terms of reference. This Letter addresses Questions (d): what portfolio of generating projects and demand-side management initiatives could provide similar benefits; and (e) what is forecast peak demand for capacity and energy.

My Comments are as follows:

1. The Commission will need to seek robust independent information (i.e. not the Applicant's) on these topics. BC Hydro stopped investigating alternative options in 2009, and since then has only addressed them in ways that make the Site C project appear to be the only option. At the same time, the Applicant's demand forecasts are highly questionable, with fundamental assumptions changing rapidly. I urge the Commission to rigorously examine Hydro's staff and consultants on these topics and listen to others' views. . Addressing Question (d) rigorously within your time-line will be a challenge.
2. Your terms of reference address the same issues as were raised when BC Hydro pursued its original Site C application in the 1980s. At that time, the necessity of Site C was promoted, and the ability of conservation measures to provide the Province's power needs was ignored or scoffed at, and demand was forecast to need Site C and other projects to prevent imminent brown-outs in the Lower Mainland. We all know how that has turned out--the PowerSmart program, and some modest rate-structuring changes, have provided ample power for the province, with surplus to export for another three decades.
3. Demand-side management projects bear very close examination by you and your consultants for their feasibility and cost-effectiveness. Opportunities for "Smart Grid" technology are now feasible with proven technology. The load anticipated to serve electric cars can be shifted to over-night charging, encouraged by an off-peak rate. The PowerSmart program for residential and industrial customers can now be advanced to enter the digital age. Customers will inevitably harness the technology in their smart appliances and hand-held devices to create their individual in-home demand management programs. An updated, digital PowerSmart program can speed up this process through social marketing and incentives. Likewise, the PowerSmart approach can be used to help commercial and industrial customers increase their conservation savings.

Thank you very much for considering these comments. I appreciate the challenge before you and wish you well as you rise to meet it.

Best wishes,

Irwin Henderson
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