September 14th, 2017

Mr. John Morton  
Chair and CEO  
BC Utilities Commission  
Vancouver, BC

Dear Mr. Morton,

We are writing in support of the site C hydro electric project, currently under review. We are supporting this project because it offers rural BC opportunities for industrial investment that would otherwise be uneconomical or at best would produce power with diesel generators.

In the Cariboo-Chilcotin, we have the potential for a number of mines to come on line that will require large amounts of power. We also have communities in this area that do not have access to green energy. Both the west Chilcotin and the Bella Coola valley are supplied by diesel generators and 3 phase power is not available at all. This limits industrial activity such as sawmills.

In the budget speech that Minister Carole James gave, she mentioned a move towards more green energy industry and less greenhouse gas producers. In order to do this we will need the energy produced by Site C to substitute for the reduced use of fossil fuels.

Every time you read articles on the future, the move to electricity is mentioned as a way to stave off global warming. This is all going to take some time, but we don’t want to reach a crossroads that says we can’t meet our carbon reduction commitments, because the power is not available.

We are very fortunate to be able to produce power with hydro generation, which is clean energy versus the alternatives. It is steady and reliable. In order for the dozen or so wood products mills and mines in this area to compete on competitive markets, they require reasonably priced electricity. It is vastly important to us in this area that you look upon site C as viable way of achieving economic stability for rural BC and for the urban areas as well.

Thank you

Yours truly,

G.W. [Bill] Carruthers  
Chairperson, Share the Cariboo-Chilcotin Resources society, a group dedicated to the wise use of land and resources to achieve community stability.