Dear British Columbia Utilities Commission,

I urge you to carefully consider the impact any decisions or actions regarding this issue will have.

I am writing to urge you to recommend that the Site C Dam be rejected. The project has serious financial and environmental problems, and runs counter to the goal of seeking reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

I am very concerned about the creation of sustainable jobs in British Columbia.

Borrowing $10 billion for Site C restricts opportunities to borrow for projects that would create a diversity of sustainable jobs throughout the province. BC needs investment in schools, hospitals, daycare centres and affordable housing. These projects would provide fair-wage construction jobs throughout BC.

Energy costs are a major factor in attracting business to BC. It is evident that Site C would not produce electricity at an attractive rate unless it is subsidized by the residential rate payers. Terminating Site C and building a renewable portfolio of wind and geothermal would save BC ratepayers $.7 to $1.6 billion.

The environmental impacts are not justified. The project’s environmental assessment concluded that the dam would “cause significant adverse effects on fish and fish habitat...birds and bats...rare plants, and sensitive ecosystems.” Given that there are alternatives, these impacts can not be justified.

The project does not have the consent of the Treaty 8 First Nations. This project will have a devastating impact on the treaty and Aboriginal rights of Treaty 8 First Nations. The project will eliminate these First Nations’ ability to continue their way of life and will severely curtail their treaty-protected constitutional rights to hunt, fish, trap, harvest and carry out their practices on their land.

The Site C Dam is clearly not in the public interest. Please recommend to the BC Government that this project be canceled.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Marcus