

**BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
**IN THE MATTER OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION ACT**  
**R.S.B.C. 1996, CHAPTER 473**

**And**

**British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority**  
**British Columbia Utilities Commission Inquiry**  
**Respecting Site C**

**KAMLOOPS , B.C.**  
**September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

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**COMMUNITY INPUT PROCEEDINGS**  
**KAMLOOPS**

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**BEFORE:**

<b>D.M. Morton,</b>	<b>Commision Chair/Panel Chair</b>
<b>D.A. Cote,</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>K.A. Keilty,</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>R.I. Mason,</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>

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**KAMLOOPS, B.C.**

**September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**(PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 6:03 P.M.)**

1  
2  
3  
4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay, good evening, ladies and  
5 gentlemen. Thank you for joining us as we embark on  
6 our Site C Inquiry Community Input sessions around the  
7 province. We started our schedule of sessions  
8 yesterday in Vancouver, and we were very pleased by  
9 both the level of public interest and the effort that  
10 went into many of the presentations that we heard.

11 My name is Dave Morton and I'm the panel  
12 chair of the Site C Inquiry and I'm also the Chair of  
13 the British Columbia Utilities Commission. With me  
14 today are my fellow panel members, Karen Keilty on my  
15 left and Richard Mason on my right.

16 These community input sessions are part of  
17 the second important phase of the Site C Inquiry. As  
18 you know, we've spent the last six weeks collecting  
19 data and analysis from many parties interested in and  
20 affected by BC Hydro's Site C Project. The quality  
21 of these submissions was commendable. Many people  
22 committed a great deal to producing a quality  
23 submission within the short timeframe that was  
24 provided.

25 This affirms what we already know, that  
26 there are experts and affected parties who can bring

1 us insights into the many complexities of evaluating  
2 the economic impact of the Site C Project.

3 We have the task of making findings in this  
4 inquiry and we recognize that our findings are better  
5 with your input. The Order in Council that directed  
6 us to inquire into this project specifically requires  
7 us to consider the cost implications on BC Hydro  
8 ratepayers of three scenarios: continuing the  
9 project; suspending the project; and terminating the  
10 project.

11 My panel members and I recognize that there  
12 are many other implications of the project beyond cost  
13 implications. However, these implications are not  
14 within the scope of us to inquire into.

15 Considering this, we ask that in the  
16 interests of all parties in the room you try to keep  
17 your submissions within the scope of our inquiry into  
18 the Site C.

19 Submissions made here today as well as  
20 those made in writing that are outside the scope of  
21 the BCUC's review will not be considered in our final  
22 report to government on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The scope of  
23 submissions during this phase of the inquiry is to  
24 provide feedback on the BCUC's preliminary report.  
25 There are copies of the Executive Summary of that  
26 report at the table at the back, and the full report

1 is available on our website or by making a request  
2 through our office if you're unable to access the  
3 internet.

4 I'd like to address a number of  
5 housekeeping items. First of all, you've heard from  
6 Mr. Bemister of Allwest Reporting. He will help  
7 organize the speakers and look after other logistics  
8 and his team is also recording and transcribing these  
9 sessions. The live audio can be streamed from our  
10 website at SiteCInquiry.com, and following these  
11 sessions, all presentations will be transcribed and  
12 posted with the rest of the inquiry documents.

13 There is some tea and coffee at the side of  
14 the room. Please help yourself, and if you need to  
15 enter or exit the room, please do so quietly so as not  
16 to disrupt the session.

17 We have a list of speakers. I think it  
18 should be appearing on the screen over to my left, and  
19 when your name appears, please come up to one of the  
20 two podiums and we will proceed with you, the next  
21 speaker in line, when the previous speaker is  
22 finished.

23 Other than stating your name, please  
24 refrain from including any personal or confidential  
25 information as this will become a matter of public  
26 record. Please also refrain from using profane or

1 offensive language in your presentation, and if you  
2 do, this and any other disruptive behaviour would  
3 result in the early close of the session.

4 You have a maximum of five minutes.  
5 Yesterday in Vancouver we had a fair number of  
6 speakers and we had to keep pretty strictly to that  
7 timeline. I noticed that we have a little more time  
8 tonight, so if you do have more you want to say, we  
9 may be able to allow it, but we do ask that you please  
10 be as brief as possible, and if someone has already  
11 said what you would like to say, please just endorse  
12 what the other person has said without repeating it.  
13 And don't find it necessary to repeat it.

14 Before you begin speaking, please state  
15 your first name and spell your last name so that it  
16 can be picked up in the transcript.

17 With that, we are ready to open this  
18 session in Kamloops, B.C. on September 24<sup>th</sup>, and the  
19 first speaker, Patrick Mitchell.

20 Are you here? If you could please come and  
21 spell your last name and then begin your presentation.  
22 Thank you, sir.

23 **Proceeding Time 6:06 p.m. T02**

24 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MICHELL (#0042):**

25 MR. MICHELL: Patrick Michell, last name spelled M-I-C-H-  
26 E-L-L. I am from the Kanaka Bar Band, approximately

1 14 kilometers south of Lytton on Highway 1.

2 For approximately 8,000 years, the  
3 community that was there was powered by the wind, the  
4 sun, the water, and biomass. That energy source still  
5 exists today. My community has a 50 megawatt run of  
6 the river hydro project located on Kwoiek Creek. The  
7 water potential of Kwoiek Creek watershed is 80  
8 megawatts, but was specifically designed to just  
9 produce that which was necessary to meet the 2006  
10 call.

11 During the five stages of that project,  
12 that project was created over 30 full time jobs during  
13 the feasibility and development stage, 120 jobs during  
14 the construction phase which was two years, and during  
15 the operations phase, there are two full-time plant  
16 operators, but the revenues that are received by my  
17 community from sale of the electrons to BC Hydro has  
18 produced 30 additional full-time jobs for the Fraser  
19 Canyon region.

20 Kanaka Bar has also used the revenues from  
21 the first sale to create three new additional solar  
22 projects. One is 6 kilowatts, one is 4 kilowatts, and  
23 one is 750 watts. The projects themselves were  
24 specifically designed to underperform. It has reduced  
25 the main building's hydro bill by 76 percent per  
26 annum, and the second building by 80 percent per

1        annum, and the third project is off the grid. It's a  
2        small scale solar project that is designed with  
3        battery storage to fuel a warehouse. Within the next  
4        60 days, we'll be putting another 6 kilowatt solar  
5        project, which will actually be sold -- the surplus  
6        electrons will be sold to BC Hydro and should become a  
7        net profit for the community.

8                Kanaka Bar has seven creeks with year-round  
9        water, and is estimated generating capacity is 30  
10       megawatts. Because of the unique feature of Kanaka  
11       Bar, what we find here is that we're able to generate  
12       from early spring until late fall. If you check the  
13       records now, my current project, we're currently still  
14       generating at 100 percent capacity. So, while the  
15       rest of British Columbia is experiencing drought,  
16       Kanaka Bar is experiencing water.

17               We are currently -- the trees at Kanaka  
18       Bar, point one direction, that means they are flagged.  
19       So, we are collating the wind data right now, and our  
20       hope is to have our first wind tower up within the  
21       next year, so that coming to Kanaka Bar, you'll be  
22       able to see wind, sun, solar, and we plan to power our  
23       greenhouses using biomass. Four renewable energy  
24       projects, four types located in one area. Each one of  
25       these projects is specifically designed to be  
26       transferable to the community four kilometers to the

1 north of me, and six kilometers to the south of me,  
2 and out. You will see like the City of Fort St. John,  
3 they use Hydro. They are generating electricity using  
4 their sewage. Yesterday I was reading in the Kamloops  
5 paper, the City of Kamloops itself is looking at using  
6 its effluent to generate electricity.

7 So, for the purpose of this Commission,  
8 there is a reasonable, realistic, meaningful  
9 alternative to Site C. It's called a diversification.  
10 My community has had incredible tangible, and  
11 intangible returns on investment. We have no suicide,  
12 we have 100 percent employment, we have 100 percent  
13 graduation of our children now. Not through any of  
14 the other sectors, but through the renewable energy  
15 sector.

16 This technology as I was saying is  
17 transferable to anywhere, it's not just a First  
18 Nations thing. The City of Kamloops, municipalities.  
19 Even fee simple owners can do this, can participate,  
20 so we can all add into the grid. I invite the  
21 Commission to examine a book called -- it's *Waking the*  
22 *Frog* by Tom Rand, where he predicts a systemic ending  
23 of the import/export market by the end of 2050. So,  
24 starting about 2032, he said how do you quantify  
25 negative GDP, right? So, we have this situation  
26 called climate change that is going to be producing an

1 economy of tomorrow.

2 Recently I heard Eric Denhoff on the  
3 Province of Alberta announce that they're pursuing  
4 energy sovereignty. So, even if we generate surplus  
5 electrons, there will be no opportunity to recoup the  
6 costs of the construction of Site C, to sale to  
7 Alberta. And the current president of the United  
8 States is saying that he is going to be putting up  
9 fiscal walls, not physical walls, where he will be  
10 charging import/export tariffs. So, the market, the  
11 load growth that much of Site C was predicated on  
12 seems to be off. I am just a layperson, but if there  
13 is no export opportunity, if British Columbians don't  
14 need the electricity, why are we building this  
15 project?

16 So, in my closing remarks with 1:02 left,  
17 apparently the light shines on your guys' way, I just  
18 wanted to say that there is this opportunity through  
19 diversification. It is smaller, but through small, we  
20 can ride the ups and hills and downs. My community  
21 has set a goal to be energy self-sufficient within  
22 five years, and we are doing it through a new build  
23 home efficiency. We are renovating all of our homes  
24 right now, to maximize energy efficiency. We are  
25 teaching the community demand-side management, so  
26 we're reducing everybody's household consumption.

1           Again, a load growth decrease, right? And then  
2           finally using this energy to produce their own.

3                       So, those are my remarks for this  
4           Commission, there is an alternative out there, it is  
5           realistic, and it is meaningful. Thank you.

6                                       **Proceeding Time 6:12 p.m. T3**

7           THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

8                                       Okay, Mr. Bell?

9           **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BELL (#0043):**

10          MR. BELL: Good evening. My name is Warren Bell, B-E-L-  
11          L. I am a family physician from Salmon Arm, down the  
12          road from here. I was very impressed by the last  
13          speaker and he raised an issue that I think is  
14          relevant to what I'm going to be saying and that is  
15          that it would be useful if the Commission were to  
16          consider the costs of energy sources that have not  
17          been accessed in terms of looking at the total  
18          economic picture.

19                       The two largest winds projects in this  
20          province were cancelled during the heyday of promotion  
21          of Site C because both the proponents felt that so  
22          much energy was going into that particular project  
23          that there was nothing left over for them to deal  
24          with.

25                       In early July I went to Fort St. John to be  
26          part of the Paddle for the Peace, which is an event,

1 sort of a cultural event and a social event. And  
2 while I was there I read an issue of the *Alaska*  
3 *Highway News* and the entire issue was really centred  
4 around matters that relate to Site C, to energy, to  
5 social values.

6 And in the process of reading the newspaper  
7 I came across a very innocuous looking ad. It's the  
8 only ad in the -- only piece in the entire paper that  
9 was impossible to translate because it was inscrutably  
10 grey and had a title saying, "Notice of Intention to  
11 Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land," which sounds  
12 somewhat like something you might do in your kitchen,  
13 but not necessarily something you would do that  
14 related to a major energy project.

15 At any rate, because there was no  
16 information the paper I looked up the ad. And it took  
17 a while because it was sequestered in a number of  
18 obscure websites. It turned out this ad was about a  
19 project to scout out terrain for a powerline from the  
20 south bank power house, which is part of the Site C  
21 project, running south to supply sites where fossil  
22 fuel energy would be generated. Now, this was  
23 prepared for BC Hydro, so although it was done by a  
24 private engineering firm, it was essentially their  
25 baby.

26 And in the introduction under Project

1 Overview there's a paragraph that I think outlines why  
2 there is an Achilles' heel to this particular -- to  
3 the Site C project. It goes as follows:

4 "The Peace Region electrical load is  
5 forecast to increase in the next 30 years,  
6 primarily driven by unconventional gas  
7 production..."

8 Not the 450 homes that would require electricity in  
9 B.C. as is posited on the BC Hydro site, but by actual  
10 power supplied to the fossil fuel industry,

11 "...and most prolifically in the Dawson Creek  
12 and Groundbirch area. Gas producers have  
13 expressed an interest in using electricity  
14 rather than gas for upstream gas production,  
15 processing, and compression facilities."

16 Now, that's fairly bland language, but  
17 Hydro has on a number of occasions indicated various  
18 purposes for the dam. But this ad, in this obscure  
19 and rather banal format I think illustrates what the  
20 underlying purpose really has been for a long time.  
21 It's been part of a grander project to support LNG,  
22 not to create so-called clean energy. And by the way,  
23 as I'm sure you know, large dams are not as clean as  
24 they are supposed to be.

25 The second paragraph in this overview  
26 states as follows:

1           "The Peace River electrical project is not  
2           part of the Site C Clean Energy Project and  
3           it is not required for Sire C to proceed.

4           However...

5           and this is the important point I think,

6           "...before this project can be put in service,  
7           both the Southbank substation and the first  
8           of the two 500 kilovolt transmission lines,  
9           all of which are being constructed as part  
10          of Site C, need to be in service."

11                   So what this project here -- this is the  
12          front page, and this a map of where it goes. I know  
13          you're not -- I'm not presenting this to you because  
14          you don't look at written material, but it's quite  
15          clear that this is intimately bound up with the  
16          function of Sire C. And I think that's of  
17          considerable relevance because the subtitle for Site C  
18          has always been "Clean Energy Project" and yet, to  
19          feed into the LNG industry means that it's really  
20          serving a separate function.

21                   I'm sure you're all aware of the dismal  
22          economics of LNG at present in British Columbia.  
23          Texas refineries have much greater access to closer at  
24          hand supplies and it's unlikely that we'll be able to  
25          do very well if we try to sell fossil fuel energy into  
26          the larger market. So it seems that building a

1 project that will essentially serve a market that is  
2 either more abundant or certainly not extraordinary  
3 active I think is an economic boondoggle or heading  
4 straight into one.

5 So I believe it's important to take what  
6 you heard from Mr. Michell before me and the comments  
7 that I have added here to say this this is heading in  
8 a direction that economically seems to me pretty much  
9 a dead end. Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir. And if you would like  
11 to submit that material you are welcome to. On the  
12 website you can upload --

13 MR. BELL: On the -- yes. Thank you very much.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

15 MR. BELL: I know that. Thank you.

16 **Proceeding Time 6:18 p.m. T04**

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Inselberg.

18 **SUBMISSIONS MR. MR. INSELBERG (#0044):**

19 MR. INSELBERG: Alex Inselberg, I-N-S-E-L-B-E-R-G. I  
20 reside in Enderby, North Okanagan, I am a self-  
21 employed consultant. I work in forests, oils, and  
22 vegetation ecology. I have about 35 years of field  
23 experience throughout B.C.

24 After being sidelined by the former B.C.  
25 Liberal government, it is encouraging to see the BCUC  
26 once again fulfilling its critically important

1 mandate. Looking at the financing questions the BCUC  
2 has been asked to advise the B.C. Government on, and  
3 in particular the answers the BCUC has been  
4 meticulously delivering on, I would like to voice the  
5 following concern.

6 It doesn't appear that the value of the  
7 natural capital and associated ecosystem services are  
8 being given any consideration in the financial  
9 discussions. An informal analysis suggests that some  
10 1,300 kilometres of biologically rich, productive  
11 lowland, river rhine valley forests and wetlands  
12 associated with former river valleys have been  
13 destroyed in B.C. by reservoirs.

14 Site C would consume another 107 kilometers  
15 of this kind of habitat, including the Lower Halfway  
16 and Moberly rivers. These amount to undisclosed,  
17 unaccounted for losses. Corridors with the locally  
18 largest trees, and overall most productive ecosystems,  
19 those with exceptional capacity for carbon fixation,  
20 that is greenhouse gas consumption. Greatest  
21 biological diversity, best wildlife habitat, as well  
22 as the most desirable pathways for transportation,  
23 recreation, and settlements. Site C flooding would  
24 further wipe out spring calving grounds for moose,  
25 deer and elk, and remove prime habitat for a range of  
26 wildlife species including grizzly bears, wolves,

1           ungulates, and bull trout, plus many bird species,  
2           such as osprey, eagles, and trumpeter swans.

3                       The massive financial losses associated  
4           with the destruction of these natural ecosystems, and  
5           their valuable ecological services must not be ignored  
6           if economic reviews are to be objective. With their  
7           unnaturally wildly fluctuating shorelines, potential  
8           for methylmercury bio accumulation toxicity, lack of  
9           shoreline aquatic vegetation and related fish habitat,  
10          hydroelectric reservoirs offer few of the valuable  
11          ecological services afforded by natural lakes, which  
12          reservoirs are often mistakenly equated for.

13                      Site C, 107 kilometres long, adding Site C  
14          to this well submerged financial loss of the  
15          biologically rich productive lowland, river rhine  
16          valley forests and wetlands associated with our former  
17          river valleys, again, 1,300 kilometres long, in a  
18          rough estimate. So, now we add 107 kilometres from  
19          the Peace, amounts to a loss in total of 1,407  
20          kilometres of that kind of habitat. That is  
21          equivalent to more than the longest river in British  
22          Columbia, the Fraser River, which has its headwaters  
23          near Mt. Robson, and of course flowing to Vancouver.  
24          It is only 1,375 kilometres long.

25                      Looking at the natural capital, and the  
26          valuable ecological services submerged by the inferior

1 ecological services of reservoirs, we are paying  
2 dearly for a lose-lose financial exchange.

3 Thank you.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Inselberg.

5 **Proceeding Time 6:23 p.m. T5**

6 Mr. Dodds, please.

7 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DODDS (#0045):**

8 MR. DODDS: Good evening. My name is Dennis Dodds, D-O-  
9 D-D-S, and I want to look at the numbers. These  
10 megaprojects are impressive when you look at the big  
11 numbers and the devastation of life around them. What  
12 I looked at was, what was the alternative to Site C  
13 and how would that be accomplished.

14 In regards to making power, what I  
15 perceived was a solar panel project, where BC Hydro  
16 went and advertised and took 9 million dollars, they  
17 put it in a fund to finance solar panels for  
18 residents. A 2,000 watt unit feeding back into the  
19 grid for six hours a day would net 3.8 -- or 3.6  
20 megawatts a day out of 9 million dollars.

21 If we took the 9 billion dollars, what the  
22 dam is going to cost, and did that, it would produce  
23 more power than the dam itself would do. So the solar  
24 panel system would become cheaper because, one, no  
25 maintenance, or very little maintenance. Once they  
26 are up and running they are 99 percent maintenance

1 free feeding back into the grid.

2 They don't disturb wildlife. They don't  
3 disrupt water flow anywhere. So in the end, the cheap  
4 alternative would be to look at a domestic solar  
5 system feeding into the grid off a building such as  
6 this. Residential, warehousing. You look at the  
7 Lower Mainland and how many flat rooves are down there  
8 that have nothing on them.

9 Now, if they become solar farms feeding  
10 power back into the grid and using it, the benefit  
11 would be the power bill for the average resident would  
12 disappear, because in the long-run two kilowatts of  
13 power is roughly what that house uses per day.

14 I looked at my numbers, my power bills, and  
15 that -- and I've got a small windmill project that I  
16 did because it was cheaper than putting a power pole  
17 in and paying Hydro. So I use it for my shop, running  
18 my tools and all that, and it cost me roughly a  
19 thousand dollars in the end.

20 The solar panel idea, it would cost \$5,000  
21 for 2 kilowatts of power, the inverter and the labour  
22 to install it, and if everybody in British Columbia  
23 did that, that's 1.8 million homes. That would be  
24 more than enough power for the future and it's  
25 expandable.

26 So on that note there, we don't need Site C

1       which disrupts wildlife, farms, families. Nobody  
2       takes into consideration what those people have to go  
3       through when they are forced to move, or the animals  
4       which try to go for higher ground which is not  
5       suitable for them. And then we have the bears that  
6       move into the communities because the lowlands around  
7       the rivers are gone, and over 200 bears have already  
8       been put down this year because we've encroached on  
9       their habitat. So we have to stop and think about  
10      what we're doing before we do it. We're here to look  
11      after this earth, not wreck it.

12                               Thank you.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON:       Thank you, sir. Thank you.

14   **Proceeding Time 6:27 p.m. T6**

15                               Mr. Blake?

16 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BLAKE (#0046):**

17 MR. BLAKE:    Hi, I'm Barry Blake. B-L-A-K-E. I've spent,  
18                oh, 13 years working on various dams in the province  
19                and living all over the province here as a millwright.  
20                And I should be telling you to build it for my  
21                workmates, but I can't see that -- there's so many  
22                other different things that we can do.

23                               A safer, cleaner, cheaper way of doing it  
24                would be geothermal or using the tide waters. In the  
25                right spots you can -- a lot of new things are  
26                happening where we can make a lot of better changes

1 here. Not just solar or nuclear. I think we've got a  
2 long way to go yet.

3 Thanks.

4 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

5 **Proceeding Time 6:29 p.m. T07**

6 Mr. Brumell?

7 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BRUMELL (#0047):**

8 MR. BRUMELL: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, my name  
9 is Tony Brumell, B-R-U-M-E-L-L. I am not going to  
10 take five minutes like the last gentleman did, and I  
11 don't know if what I'm going to say is within your  
12 purview or within your mandate to listen to, but I'm  
13 going to say it anyways.

14 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead.

15 MR. BRUMELL: I listened to something the other day on  
16 the news that just made me see red. It was a  
17 gentleman on the radio named David Black. David Black  
18 says that he is so concerned about the values and the  
19 income and the jobs and so on for the people who are  
20 now working on Site C. He says that this is going to  
21 disrupt their lives to an unacceptable level. I had  
22 wanted to say that Mr. Black has got to be one of the  
23 biggest hypocrites that has been born in this province  
24 in a long time. He is apparently perfectly willing to  
25 throw out the values and needs of the people who have  
26 lived on that land for thousands of years.

1 Farmers, ranchers, who have raised  
2 families, raised food, gone out hunting, et cetera, et  
3 cetera, and this man thinks that these newcomers are  
4 more important. I hope you will not be influenced by  
5 that particular kind of hypocritical remark.

6 I am not going to go through the 150-some  
7 odd items that you are going to hear over, and over,  
8 and over again. We've all been there, we've all done  
9 this before. Other items such as the Deloitte report,  
10 which essentially says this project is simply not  
11 sustainable as far as, in the way I can interpret it  
12 anyways. You're all aware of the environmental  
13 destruction, water destruction, and again you've heard  
14 all of this before.

15 When BC Hydro obfuscates, and incorrectly  
16 states its needs for the future, I have no answer for  
17 that except that you guys are the BCUC, and you are  
18 the ones that have to look into that.

19 Some other thoughts that I have not heard  
20 here tonight, and I like Mr. Warren, Mr. Bell's  
21 presentation, it was absolutely top notch. And the  
22 others have been fine. Mine is not all that  
23 objective, it is a subjective presentation.

24 We all live because of our emotions. We do  
25 things because of those things that are emotion or are  
26 subjective in nature. Recently, of course, B.C. has

1 in fact, as policy in B.C. government, has now adopted  
2 the *U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous*  
3 *People*. That must apply here, absolutely must apply.  
4 Prior to that, of course, was the whole idea of  
5 reconciliation. Reconciliation must not simply be an  
6 empty word, it has to be acted on.

7 This project has been approved through  
8 skullduggery of many different ways, without actually  
9 getting the permission of the Nations of people who  
10 live in that area.

11 I'll end there with a thought that  
12 objectivity is not the only value to be considered,  
13 but the subjective and emotional values are the stuff  
14 that lives, cultures, and history are made of, and I  
15 hope you will consider this in your deliberations.

16 Thank you.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Brumell. Thank you.

18 **Proceeding Time 6:32 p.m. T8**

19 Sorry, Mister -- I may get the  
20 pronunciation wrong. Mr. Pochay?

21 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. POCHAY (#0048):**

22 MR. POCHAY: My name is Danny Pochay. P-O-C-H-A-Y. I  
23 live here in Kamloops. I do not represent any  
24 organization. I represent myself and probably many  
25 other retirees on fixed incomes who can no longer  
26 afforded to heat their homes electrically.

1 I personally had a home built in 1968 at  
2 Gold Medallion standard, which is electric heat,  
3 paying 1 cent a kilowatt. Today my average price is  
4 12 cents a kilowatt. Last winter my home, I burned  
5 15,000 kilowatts of power. So those against the  
6 project are probably wondering I'd be here supporting  
7 the project, because obviously this project is  
8 probably going to raise Hydro rates more.

9 But one of my reasons I'm here is that I'd  
10 like government to quit meddling in the operation of  
11 BC Hydro. Previous governments divided Hydro up into  
12 two Crown corporations, which found after a few years  
13 wasn't prudent, changed them back. The same  
14 government entered into many agreements, run-of-the-  
15 river, which are independent power producers paying  
16 far more money than Hydro produces power for.

17 Hydro is now losing billions of dollars in  
18 IPPs. As an example, Capital Power Corporation  
19 receives millions of dollars a year, never produces  
20 any power. It's sitting there waiting for an  
21 emergency. The government has also forced BC Hydro to  
22 spend billions of dollars to install smart meters. It  
23 is a known fact that the government has their hand in  
24 every government corporation's pocket taking money and  
25 driving up the costs.

26 There are those who have all the answers.

1           Go for green energy: wind generation and solar. Let's  
2           look at wind. Roughly 35 percent more costly than  
3           Hydro. Noisy and must be installed in a windy area,  
4           usually far off the grid. Solar panel is a joke. BC  
5           Hydro knows that and that's why they don't really  
6           support it. All's one has to do is look at Ontario  
7           Hydro. They are in such a mess and part of it is  
8           because they paid people over 80 cents a kilowatt to  
9           put it on their homes. They're still paying over 50  
10          cents a kilowatt. They're in such dire straits the  
11          people can't even afford to buy power from them  
12          anymore.

13                    And solar -- gentleman talked about solar  
14           Let's face it, it only works when the sun shines. You  
15           can't store it. You can feed it back in the grid.  
16           Hydro will pay you 9 cents a kilowatt hour. They  
17           slowly deteriorate over a period of time and nobody  
18           knows what they'll produce after 25 years. B.C., the  
19           warmest place in B.C. or the sunniest place has about  
20           2500 hours of sun. If you go south to Yuma they got  
21           4,000 hours. It may be feasible there. But it also  
22           costs about three times as much as Hydro.

23                    So British Columbia is blessed with the  
24           best renewable energy source available. Clean and  
25           reliable, water is the only way to go. I guess in  
26           summation I am saying quit meddling, let the

1 professionals do their job, and quit dreaming of  
2 alternatives. Build the Site C and get rid of the  
3 IPPs.

4 Thank you.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

6 **Proceeding Time 6:37 p.m. T9**

7 John Kenney.

8 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KENNEY (#0049):**

9 MR. KENNEY: Good evening. A bit of impromptu decision  
10 to come up here this evening, but why not, eh?

11 I'm going to just share a few thoughts from  
12 my perspective as a citizen of British Columbia this  
13 evening, but just to give you a bit of background,  
14 academically I'm trained as an environmental  
15 management, natural resource and energy economics. So  
16 I know a little bit about this stuff.

17 What I would offer, and actually building  
18 off the previous speaker, is that I don't actually  
19 disagree with the position of having government not  
20 interfere with BC Hydro's mandate. BC Hydro's mandate  
21 is to provide safe, reliable and affordable power.  
22 Now, you have the decision to figure out how to  
23 potentially influence that over the coming decades and  
24 generations to come.

25 What I do know from my experience is that  
26 there are alternatives. There are retrofits. BC

1 Hydro can continue to retrofit its existing generation  
2 fleet. The integrated resource plan demonstrates that  
3 there are many, many megawatts of capacity still to be  
4 had that are cheaper than Site C.

5 The geothermal potential in British  
6 Columbia is quite significant, a resource that's never  
7 really been tapped. Technology is emerging still,  
8 fair enough, but you know, technologies do change and  
9 the resource is there and it would provide the firm  
10 capacity that is needed in this provide that Site C is  
11 apparently supposed to provide.

12 Renewables, I spent a lot of time talking  
13 about and thinking about and supporting renewal energy  
14 projects throughout British Columbia, Alberta now, and  
15 even in Saskatchewan. And I know for a fact that  
16 companies are investing real dollars into large  
17 renewable energy projects that have a much less  
18 levelized cost of energy relative to Site C. Just  
19 look to the east in Alberta and Saskatchewan and you  
20 will see what is happening. And I think it's  
21 remarkable.

22 Now, this might seem *faux pas* to some, but  
23 we do have an abundance of natural gas in this  
24 province. There was a vision at one point from the  
25 former government, the liberals, to export LNG to Asia  
26 and elsewhere in the global markets. That idea is

1 busting in front of our face. So that LNG boom is  
2 essentially gone. And we know that natural gas in  
3 North America is likely to remain cheap for quite some  
4 time, and there are some innovative ways you could  
5 deliver electricity through the use of natural gas  
6 cheaper than Site C.

7 And then there are emerging technologies.  
8 I think we can all agree that, you know, the debate on  
9 how much solar can provide into the grid and how  
10 battery storage, how well and effective it is on a  
11 levelized cost basis. You know, I think there are  
12 actually examples of where emerging technologies are  
13 becoming disruptive technologies. There is many  
14 jurisdictions in North America where there are many  
15 legal battles happening right now where a company or  
16 two has left -- for example, Solar City, are  
17 disrupting the traditional grid and the vertical  
18 utility model that we have traditionally relied on.  
19 There is a new model out there and it's happening and  
20 it's real. And if you don't believe me, look up some  
21 court cases.

22 But in reality we can debate the levelized  
23 cost of energy, how much capacity is Site C going to  
24 provide relative to renewables and all that good  
25 stuff, but I think that actual solution -- and you  
26 guys have the decision -- or the opportunity to

1 provide recommendations directly to the government of  
2 British Columbia right now.

3 What I would offer as something that you  
4 include in that, if you do decide to recommend an  
5 opposition of Site C, or -- basically an opposition of  
6 Site C, is that let the market decide. Do a call for  
7 power. See what the private sector can do. Take  
8 government out of the equation and let capital flow  
9 where it's supposed to flow in the most cost effective  
10 way and through a properly structured call for power,  
11 I truly do believe that B.C. still will be able to  
12 have safe, reliable and even more affordable rates for  
13 power.

14 Thank you.

15 @@

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir, thank you.

17 **Proceeding Time 6:42 p.m. T10**

18 That brings us to the end of the list, but  
19 we do have time available if there is anyone else that  
20 has any comment that they'd like to make? Sir?

21 MR. BRUMELL: I was just wondering if there would be any  
22 value in having a bit of a roundhouse discussion,  
23 seeing as most of the speakers have made our  
24 presentation and with such a dismal turnout. We're  
25 90,000 people, for us to show up with about 20 people,  
26 is not acceptable to me, it just drives me nuts. So,

1 I'm wondering is there a point or could gain something  
2 by having a bit of a roundhouse discussion on some of  
3 these other issues that haven't been brought up?

4 I mean we know Site C is -- 30 percent of  
5 that power is simply going to be wasted. And this  
6 long transmission line is going to bring power into  
7 whatever major cities. Or are they going to be  
8 fracking with half of that power as well? There are  
9 many other things that I think have not come to light,  
10 and we might be able to gain something by doing so.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Sir, I don't know about a roundhouse  
12 discussion, but if there is anyone that would like --  
13 that hasn't spoken that would like to, or if anyone  
14 that has spoken felt that they needed more time to  
15 make another point, or would like to comment on  
16 something else that someone else has said, we are  
17 happy to invite anyone to do that. So, sir, if you  
18 would like to comment on other people's comments, that  
19 would be fine.

20 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BRUMELL (#0047) (Continued):**

21 MR. BRUMELL: Well, I don't know if my memory is good  
22 enough to do that. But I mean, this whole idea that  
23 Site C has simply been -- government has run roughshod  
24 over indigenous people, and ranchers who have owned  
25 ranches in that area for a hundred years or better.  
26 Indigenous people of course for thousands of years.

1 Have had virtually no factual input on this thing, and  
2 the input they have had, has been so incredibly  
3 negative. I mean, there are demonstrations all over  
4 the place. I have talked to people from West Moberly  
5 and so on who have come in to town. Gentlemen who  
6 have been chiefs, and hereditary chiefs for 30 and 40  
7 years brought to tears in front of an audience saying  
8 "we are losing our base, our living base, our  
9 historical base, our spiritual base." Now, maybe a  
10 lot of people here in the city don't understand what  
11 the spiritual base is, but all you have to do is go  
12 and sit beside a body of water like that, and you'll  
13 understand very quickly what a spiritual base really  
14 is.

15 The loss, the fact that this is 30 percent,  
16 at least 30 percent inefficient tells me that we are  
17 barking up the wrong tree here. We really are.  
18 Considering all the forests and so on that will have  
19 to be cut down to bring this transmission, new  
20 transmission lines into the major centres. Even right  
21 now, BC Hydro, because of the difference between peak  
22 power and load draw power, they are grounding  
23 gigawatts of power every year, or every month. I'm  
24 not sure what the numbers are. Huge amounts of power,  
25 just simply being grounded because it is not being  
26 used. And it is not being sold in many areas.

1 I have talked to people in Westcoast  
2 Environmental Law, and Western Canada Wilderness, and  
3 other organizations that say we have enough energy  
4 right now to convert every vehicle in this province to  
5 electrical, simply because they will be charging in  
6 non-peak hours. That tells me that we don't need Site  
7 C. We have to pay some kind of -- I don't know  
8 whether obeisance is the right word, but we have to  
9 understand that this whole idea of reconciliation is  
10 not just something, a word out there, it actually is  
11 supposed to mean something.

12 And of course, the United Nations  
13 declaration. It is policy. I mean, it is now policy  
14 in British Columbia, to pay attention, and to follow  
15 the recommendations of the United Nations declarations  
16 for indigenous people.

17 There are so many other ways of producing  
18 hydro power, and electrical power. From wind, to  
19 tidal, to wave, to solar, to hydrothermal, to  
20 geothermal. You name it. I mean, hydrothermal is a  
21 new one, nobody has even heard about that. Compressed  
22 air, you know you can produce 40,000 cubic feet of  
23 compressed air with some of the underground mines that  
24 we've had, and a water flowing into it? It is  
25 extraordinary technology, and nobody knows about it.

26 And it's dirt cheap. You can put these

1 plants near your market. So yes, you've got a  
2 transmission line, but it is not 200, 300, 400 miles  
3 long, and you're not going to lose 30 percent of your  
4 power.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Sir, there is a couple of people who --

6 MR. BRUMELL: I understand, and I appreciate it. You can  
7 shut me down anytime you need to. Thank you very  
8 much.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you sir, I appreciate your  
10 interest.

11 **Proceeding Time 6:48 p.m. T11**

12 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. WESTIE (#0050):**

13 MR. WESTIE: Stuart Westie, W-E-S-T-I-E. And I just  
14 can't come to a meeting like this and not speak. But  
15 I'm not prepared on anything.

16 Your terms of reference are financial. My  
17 biggest thing on this is that's agricultural land and  
18 it's sacred, and you don't mess with it. Period. And  
19 if we have to go without power, that's the other  
20 alternative.

21 However, I just wanted to speak on one of  
22 the issues I hear politically is if we shut it down  
23 now we'll use jobs. And I would ask you to  
24 investigate that. I can't be sure, I don't understand  
25 the logic of that because whoever is doing the job  
26 that we're paying to destroy the land, couldn't we

1           move them to some other municipality and have them do  
2           something constructive? There's not a municipality in  
3           this province that doesn't need infrastructure help,  
4           even if it's not directly related to power. Or it  
5           could be related to power, but there doesn't have to  
6           be, as I understand it, a loss of jobs as we seek to  
7           generate all sorts of alternative power. There's more  
8           jobs there. So I think that's a bit of a fallacious  
9           argument that I keep hearing raised in favour of the  
10          Site C dam.

11                           That's it. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir. Yes, ma'am. Please  
13 go ahead.

14 **SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HALL (#0051):**

15 MS. HALL: Okay. Hello, my name is Norma Hall. I just  
16 wanted to share a few notes that my husband and I had  
17 gathered from November of 2016 when we attended an  
18 information session on Site C in Kelowna, B.C.

19                           At that session, Dr. Wendy Holm, who  
20 authored a text called *Water and Free Trade*, which I  
21 would ask the B.C. Utilities Commission to visit in  
22 their review of Site C. There's some very important  
23 issues brought up by Dr. Wendy Holm. Dr. Wendy Holm  
24 had shared that she's available to come and speak to  
25 anyone at any time on the matter of Site C, water, the  
26 environment, and the whole thing.

1                   She brought up a few points. Order-in-  
2 Council 48 back in, I think it might have been the  
3 Premier Bennett, I'm not sure, was passed to stop Site  
4 C. Premier Christy Clark, for some odd reason,  
5 declared that she would carry on with that dream of  
6 the former premier. The former premier said that he  
7 was stopping Site C by Order-in-Council 48.

8                   There have been discussions here about the  
9 First Nations' challenges, federal and provincial,  
10 different organizations' efforts to stop building the  
11 project.

12                   There is alluvial soils in the Peace Valley  
13 that are critical when we talk about food security.  
14 Nowadays we are experiencing high drought, high  
15 floods, high fire, earthquakes. There are all kind of  
16 crisis that are going on out there. Well, we have  
17 this valley, the Peace River Valley in place, it's  
18 possible that it can do other things, raising food and  
19 animals. It could start up an agricultural centre.  
20 I can't remember what the other idea was that I heard  
21 someone mention. Rather than build Site C. So Site C  
22 dam would destroy that.

23                   The 8 to 9 million dollars estimated to  
24 build Site C is actually probably in reality going to  
25 cost more like 18 billion dollars. Remember, this  
26 was last November. Could be more than that today.



1 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MICHELL (#0042) (Continued):**

2 MR. MICHELL: This is Patrick Mitchell, M-I-C-H-E-L-L.  
3 Just wanted to -- two points that I wanted to  
4 reinforce one, it was on the load growth.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mm-hmm.

6 MR. MICHELL: Right? I really would like the B.C.  
7 Utilities Commission to really grind down on the load  
8 growth; whether it's for LNG, whether it's for the  
9 export market, but more importantly just reinforcing.  
10 British Columbians are learning demand-side  
11 management. We're going to decrease our demand on BC  
12 Hydro. I just wanted to reinforce that.

13 And then one of the things I didn't hear  
14 spoken to today was reclamation. So one of the things  
15 here is, I want -- whether or not BCUC hears about  
16 this or not, Kimberley Solar Mine. They reclaimed a  
17 mine with solar. And it actually changed the economy  
18 there. If you speak or get information on -- he won  
19 community of the year. So they reclaimed a mine that  
20 was solar, that actually created a new eco-tourism,  
21 right? So with diversification, renewable energy  
22 sectors, you're creating a new economy.

23 So I talked about in my first presentation  
24 about diversification creating stability. But  
25 diversification can also create this new economy. So  
26 you can reclaim a site. If you shut it down

1 completely, you can start recovering the costs through  
2 solar.

3 And I'm not talking the small projects that  
4 I mentioned. We certainly have the capacity to put in  
5 one megawatt solar fields, next year. Right? But I'm  
6 asking -- looking at the Peace River. The last I  
7 heard, the sun shines there too. So you can actually  
8 reclaim the site, the damage that has been done to  
9 date, with solar.

10 So I'm asking to the BCUC to do some  
11 independent looking at reclamation using solar,  
12 through -- and using B.C.'s -- or, sorry, Kimberley  
13 Solar Mine as an example, to see if that is  
14 transferrable to Site C.

15 Thank you.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

17 **Proceeding Time 6:56 p.m. T13**

18 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. POCHAY (#0048) (Continued):**

19 MR. POCHAY: Danny Pochay again. I just want to -- after  
20 hearing some comments here, the former gentleman, he  
21 talked about Solar City. I am assuming Solar City, I  
22 think it is, it's down in the States. He didn't tell  
23 how much per megawatt that system costs to produce.  
24 And like I stated before, they get twice as much sun  
25 as we do. Everybody's on to the solar deal. I say to  
26 those people if it's so good, put it on your house and

1 tell Hydro to disconnect your meter.

2 And as far as the jobs, it's not the jobs  
3 up there. They've already spent millions and millions  
4 of dollars preparing the site and it's also going to  
5 cost millions and millions of dollars to reclaim, to  
6 put it back if this project is stopped.

7 He also talked about going for the private  
8 sector. We know what happens in the private sector.  
9 The private sector is out to make a bundle. And  
10 that's exactly what happened with the IPPs, the run-  
11 of-the-rivers. Hydro is paying way more for a  
12 megawatt of power from those run-of the-river systems  
13 than they can produce with the Hydro, with theirs.

14 Thank you very much.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

16 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BELL (#0043) (Continued):**

17 MR. BELL: Hello, again. My name is Warren Bell. B-E-L-  
18 L-. From Salmon Arm. I'm going to make three quick  
19 points.

20 The first point, which is probably well  
21 known to you, is that if you look at a million dollars  
22 spent in renewable energy, the number of jobs created  
23 per unit expenditure is higher for almost all forms of  
24 renewable energy than it is for Hydro, which actually  
25 has a fairly small operating staff. It requires a  
26 fairly minimal staff relative to other kinds of

1 projects and that's been confirmed by the University  
2 of Massachusetts and a Canadian NGO called the Blue  
3 Planet, I believe, and others in other academic  
4 settings have looks closely at the number of jobs  
5 created with renewable energy. It almost always comes  
6 out considerably higher than for fossil fuels industry  
7 and especially large dams.

8 The second point, which the gentleman just  
9 referred to about the cost of run-of-river. I'm sure  
10 you're very well aware and many of the people here may  
11 also be aware that the high cost for run-of-river is  
12 based on a contract that was established during -- two  
13 administrations back by Gordon Campbell, which gave  
14 guaranteed rate to run-of-river producers. And we're  
15 trapped in that rate, and it will run for a number of  
16 years, and that will inflate, artificially inflate,  
17 costs. And so I hope that -- I'm sure that will be  
18 considered as well.

19 My third point is that -- and there's been  
20 some discussion about the impact on local First  
21 Nations. I've just recently written a chapter for a  
22 book on Site C addressing the health impacts of Site  
23 C. And health impacts as a physician are all  
24 monetized, whether ones likes it or not. And the most  
25 expensive care is care that is delivered in crisis and  
26 without adequate sort of background health parameters

1 addressed, in other words, the upstream indicators of  
2 health.

3 And the history of the Treaty 8 area in  
4 which Site C is located is one essentially of  
5 contractual arrangements called treaties, that's what  
6 Treaty 8 was, with local First Nations to allow -- to  
7 in fact -- and the text of some of the documentation  
8 of the time is quite clear, was to allow a development  
9 to take place and to placate indigenous populations so  
10 that they would not become restive when such  
11 development took place.

12 It's the beginning of a long history of  
13 exploitation and we now know thanks to the Truth and  
14 Reconciliation Commission how devastating some of  
15 those impacts were. All of those impacts result in  
16 upstream problems, which result in costs. And the  
17 most expensive kinds of costs are the costs that are  
18 not generated -- they're generated by pre-existing  
19 problems, one of which of course is what they call  
20 adverse childhood experiences, and the entire  
21 indigenous population practically directly or  
22 indirectly has been subject to that.

23 Site C will end up being another wave of  
24 that kind of trauma. And that will generate health  
25 care costs. And there's quite considerable evidence  
26 from the literature that when you have a background of

1 trauma, and especially when it's community-wide, then  
2 you generate vastly more ill health. There's, as I  
3 said, considerable literature evidence.

4 So I would hope that you may be able to ask  
5 for some kind of monetization of the impact, the  
6 negative impact on health of indigenous populations  
7 already hugely impacted by the processes generated not  
8 by just Treaty 8 but by many other engagements between  
9 the settler community and indigenous peoples. Because  
10 that will actually end up being a very significant  
11 long-term cost that will weigh on the health care  
12 system and indirectly result from the process of Site  
13 C going ahead.

14 Thank you.

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Mr. Bell.

16 **Proceeding Time 7:02 p.m. T14**

17 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DODDS (#0045) (Continued):**

18 MR. DODDS: Yeah, Dennis Dodds, D-O-D-D-S. And I'd like  
19 to go back and visit the idea of the solar panels and  
20 the cost.

21 The first numbers I ran, I took the \$9  
22 billion and divided it by the megawatts or gigawatts  
23 that the Site C dam would generate. And then I took  
24 my numbers and the same amount of money, and yes, the  
25 solar came out higher-priced. But if it was set up in  
26 such a way that the home owner financed it through a

1 fund, and it was a two-year payback, that meant that  
2 that money would be available again for more projects  
3 for solar panels.

4 And as it's a system that would -- you  
5 could add to, and I know that there is several houses  
6 in the Kamloops area, and one is a friend of mine, and  
7 he's only got 900 watt solar panel on the roof, and  
8 his power bill was cut by two-thirds. That means --  
9 that's power that's usable by somebody else. So when  
10 he's not using his power, it's being fed back into the  
11 grid.

12 Peak hours are 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The  
13 sun is usually shining. That means it takes the load  
14 off the hydro generating stations that are already  
15 there. It would free up the power from those dams to  
16 be used elsewhere. So in the end the Site C dam could  
17 become, you know, just that. A name.

18 So with a hydro -- I called it the "home  
19 grown power" because each home owner would end up  
20 producing power that goes back into the grid when  
21 they're not using it. You don't need a battery. The  
22 technology of today is unbelievable, that you -- it's  
23 almost like a plug and play system. You put your  
24 panels up, you hook your wires up, and you plug the  
25 inverter into the wall. You phone BC Hydro up and  
26 your meter spins backwards when you're not using the

1 power. And when you need the power, you use the grid  
2 as a battery bank.

3 It's clean. Like I said, it's clean.  
4 Maintenance-free -- 99 percent maintenance free. 25  
5 years, you do the cost, the power costs you absolutely  
6 nothing. And everybody should have at least 2,000  
7 watts of solar panels on their roof and if you want  
8 more, yes, BC Hydro will pay you a certain amount per  
9 watt when you go. But that is neither here nor there.  
10 Because you want cheap power. Free power, in the end,  
11 two years, pay you back. And that's what we should  
12 look at is making that program available to everybody,  
13 wherever there's a roof, so that it's clean and in the  
14 end it becomes free.

15 And BC Hydro can charge whatever they want  
16 to whoever uses the hydro dam power. Thank you.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

18 **Proceeding Time 6:32 p.m. T8**

19 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. KENNEY (#0049) (Continued):**

20 MR. KENNEY: Hi again. I'll start by saying that, since  
21 this is a comment in response to a comment, my solar  
22 panels produce electricity at 14 cents a kilowatt per  
23 hour -- or 14 cents per kilowatt hour, which is less  
24 than my step 2 charges. So if I were consuming about  
25 15,000 kilowatt hours, I would be looking at solar  
26 panels as a more cost effective way of getting

1 electricity to my home, as I have done with my own  
2 dollars and cents.

3 But that's not why I'm back up. I'm back  
4 up to encourage the Utilities Commission to think  
5 about the economics of demand-side management, energy  
6 conservation, and energy efficiency. These are the  
7 most cost effective ways to reduce load, and I can run  
8 -- you know where the literature is, but it is the  
9 often forgotten solution to our electricity challenges  
10 as a province. We do a very poor job talking about  
11 demand side management energy conservation and  
12 thinking about it as an alternative to generation  
13 options.

14 So I hope that the Commission does consider  
15 that in your analysis.

16 Further, I would just like to say that the  
17 economic benefits of potentially not proceeding with  
18 Site C do exist through a cancelation. In particular  
19 the job creation opportunities. And we've heard a lot  
20 this evening about the indigenous communities of  
21 Treaty 8. I have the opportunity to work with a  
22 number of them quite regularly, including West Moberly  
23 and Saulneau First Nations, and I know for a fact that  
24 the two of them have joined in partnership to  
25 establish a joint venture to do just that, reclaim the  
26 land of their treaty territory after being disturbed

1 for hundreds of years now with oil and gas mining,  
2 forestry and so on and so forth. And obviously a  
3 generation of power in their territory.

4 So they are proactively looking at business  
5 development opportunities there and they see  
6 reclamation as a key way to return the land to a  
7 usable state for their traditional purposes, as well  
8 as create new employment opportunities for their  
9 nations. So. I'll close it with that.

10 Thank you.

11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

12 With regard to costs of solar, if anyone --  
13 rather than go on a continued debate on the costs of  
14 solar, I'd suggest that if you do have personal  
15 experiences or calculations of your own that you would  
16 like the Panel to consider, it would be more helpful  
17 if you could submit your calculations and describe  
18 your experiences and submit that on our website so  
19 that way we would be able to take a look and compare  
20 everybody's numbers, rather than continue the back and  
21 forth on that.

22 Go ahead, sir.

23 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. MICHELL (#0042) (Continued):**

24 MR. MICHELL: Yes, Patrick Michell, M-I-C-H-E-L-L. Just  
25 a comment on rates. There's so much myth and  
26 misinformation out there on rates. I spoke my first

1 presentation about selling electricity on a forty-year  
2 EPA to BC Hydro under the 2006 call. The rate was 7.2  
3 cents a kilowatt. All right?

4 BC Hydro is currently selling that back to  
5 British Columbians at 8 cents a kilowatt, rounded  
6 down, per hour, and if you go into Tier 2, it's 13  
7 cents a kilowatt. How is the independent power  
8 producer like myself bankrupting B.C.? If B.C. Hydro  
9 is buying at 7.2 and selling it back to us at 8 cents.  
10 So I'm perplexed about that, that I call a myth.

11 BC Hydro did not buy expensive electricity  
12 from me. They bought it cheap and they are selling it  
13 back to British Columbians.

14 Now, the other rates that are available on  
15 BC Hydro's website, and I don't know them off the top  
16 of my head, is net metering, right? Any project  
17 under a hundred kilowatts is at this rate.

18 Micro SOP, another program that they have.  
19 Anything one megawatt or small is at this rate.  
20 Right? So where that leaves us then is under SOP and  
21 the calls.

22 Mr. Kenney spoke about let the market  
23 decide. When Eric Denhoff recently announced the call  
24 for 400 megawatts of renewable energy, he said, "Let  
25 the market determine the rate." So for me, I just  
26 really wanted to reinforce that the past projects that

1 I'm aware of do not sell electricity at a premium. In  
2 fact, we were able to build and still make that little  
3 bit of profit on top of that. But BC Hydro is selling  
4 that back to British Columbians. So that's all I  
5 wanted to say, and I will take you up and elaborate a  
6 little bit further on the costs of installing the now  
7 four projects that are up so you'll have that  
8 information before the report is due.

9 Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'd appreciate it. Thank you, sir.

11 **Proceeding Time 7:05 p.m. T16**

12 **SUBMISSIONS BY MR. BRUMELL (#0047) (Continued):**

13 MR. BRUMMELL: Tony Brummell again. I'm sorry. I will  
14 do this fairly quickly and I want to go back to this  
15 line loss thing.

16 Number one, when you install solar cells on  
17 your roof, you don't have a transmission line. You  
18 have a zero line loss. That means that if you're  
19 going to replace that power with BC Hydro at Site C  
20 you've got spend thirty percent more.

21 In other words, on a 9.6 or a 10 billion  
22 dollar project, you are putting 3.5 billion dollars  
23 into power that is not ever going to be used. If  
24 that's not a serious argument against Site C, I don't  
25 know where there is one.

26 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, sir.

1 MR. BRUMMELL: Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRPERSON: Ma'am, is there something else you  
3 wanted to add? Is there something you wanted to say?

4 MS. HALL: Yes.

5 THE CHAIRPERSON: Please.

6 **SUBMISSIONS BY MS. HALL (#0051) (Continued):**

7 MS. HALL: This has to do with costs relating to Site C  
8 in kind of a round-about way. And I just wanted to  
9 know, is this a live telecast?

10 THE CHAIRPERSON: It's an audio broadcast on the  
11 website.

12 MS. HALL: It's an audio, okay.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: But it's not being recorded for  
14 posterity here. It's streaming live.

15 MS. HALL: Okay. And I guess then we don't know how many  
16 people are listening in.

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: I don't know. Do we have any way of  
18 knowing? But you will know at some point?

19 MS. HALL: Okay. So financial audited statements for the  
20 Province of B.C. and for the government of Canada have  
21 lines that show what each have expended or expect to  
22 expend in terms of First Nations or indigenous land  
23 claims. So in there will come expenses relating to  
24 Site C. The late Chief Arthur Manuel authored a book  
25 called *Unsettling Canada*. In there he talks about  
26 First Nations and their band financial audited stated

1 where the band should also have a line item in their  
2 audited statements saying how much they have paid in  
3 terms of land claim expenses, how much their losses  
4 are related to land claims as well, and how those  
5 losses -- the description of those losses.

6 One individual stood up here just a few  
7 moments ago discussing health, and the issues around  
8 Site C in creating health problems. So I just wanted  
9 to mention that, and that I think the late Chief  
10 Arthur Manual set a good example in his lifetime, and  
11 he was a very forward futuristic thinking individual  
12 and I am hoping that if we could, amongst the First  
13 Nations, if the B.C. Utilities Commission could find  
14 amongst the 196 or 198 bands in B.C. who are impacted,  
15 which would be the majority or all of them, what the  
16 expenses or the final cost of Site C would be related  
17 to the 198 bands in B.C.

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

19 MS. HALL: Thank you.

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you very much.

21 You have another comment, sir.

22 MR. BRUMMELL: I can carry this on until tomorrow  
23 morning, if you'd like. And I'm wondering if you can  
24 answer a question for me. And it has to do with this  
25 -- the new Northwest Transmission Line that they just  
26 put in. That was in excess of 100 million dollars, I

1 believe, to build that particular line. If we're  
2 going to build -- if BC Hydro was going to have to  
3 build a whole new line, all the way from Site C all  
4 the way down to, you know, the great smoke in the  
5 southwest down here, how much environment is going to  
6 be impacted? How much cost is that new hydro line  
7 going to cost? Or is in fact -- are those lines --

8 THE CHAIRPERSON: Sorry. I'm sorry, this out of scope  
9 of the inquiry. It's not a question I could answer  
10 anyway, but it's really not --

11 MR. BRUMMELL: I'm just thinking it was an additional  
12 cost.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: I'm sorry. I don't know and it's out  
14 of scope of this inquiry, I'm sorry.

15 MR. BRUMMELL: Okay, that's fine. Sure.

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Well, on that note then, I'd  
17 like to thank everyone for coming out and we really  
18 appreciate your comments. We will consider everything  
19 that we've heard tonight and I want to thank you for  
20 your contribution. It's much appreciated. Thanks.

21 **(PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 7:20 P.M.)**

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FORGOING  
is a true and accurate transcript  
of the proceedings herein, to the  
best of my skill and ability.

  
A.B. Lanigan, Court Reporter

September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017