



ORDER NUMBER
G-24-16

IN THE MATTER OF
the *Utilities Commission Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

Corporation of the City of Nelson
Application for Approval of Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 3327, 2016 and
Request for Approval of Solar Garden Fees & Charges Bylaw Amendment Schedule F – No. 3325

BEFORE:

D. M. Morton, Commissioner
H. G. Harowitz, Commissioner
K. A. Keilty, Commissioner
R. D. Revel, Commissioner

on February 25, 2016

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On January 26, 2016, the Corporation of the City of Nelson (Nelson Hydro) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) for approval of Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 3327, 2016 (Bylaw) to increase its electrical rates by 3.80 percent, effective April 1, 2016;
- B. The Bylaw rate schedules include rates pertaining to the provision of electrical service to customers inside and outside of the City of Nelson's municipal boundaries;
- C. The electrical utility rate increase is required due to increases in Nelson Hydro's operating costs, including increases in power purchase costs from its supplier FortisBC Inc. that were approved on a permanent basis by Commission Order G-202-15;
- D. On January 26, 2016, Nelson Hydro also applied to the Commission for approval of the Solar Garden Fees & Charges Bylaw Amendment Schedule F – No. 3325. The purpose of the amendment to Schedule F is to implement the fees and charges for the Community Solar Garden, which are based on full cost recovery; and
- E. The Commission reviewed Nelson Hydro's requests for bylaw amendments and considers that approval is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to sections 59-61 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the British Columbia Utilities Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves the Corporation of the City of Nelson's (Nelson Hydro) Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 3327, 2016 incorporating a 3.80 percent general rate increase to customers outside of its municipal boundaries, effective April 1, 2016.

2. Nelson Hydro must inform customers outside of its municipal boundaries of the rate increase by way of a customer notice included in the next billing.
3. The Commission approves Nelson Hydro's Solar Garden Fees & Charges Bylaw Amendment Schedule F – No. 3325, which implements the fees and charges for the Community Solar Garden based on full cost recovery.
4. Nelson Hydro must provide the Commission with final certified copies of the Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 3327, 2016 and the Solar Garden Fees & Charges Bylaw Amendment Schedule F – No. 3325 within sixty calendar days of the date of this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 26th day of February 2016.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D. M. Morton
Commissioner