



**ORDER NUMBER
G-178-21**

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

and

Nelson Hydro
Cost of Service Analysis and Rate Design Application

BEFORE:

R. I. Mason, Panel Chair
A. K. Fung, QC, Commissioner
T. A. Loski, Commissioner

on June 7, 2021

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On November 27, 2020, Nelson Hydro filed a Cost of Service Analysis (COSA) and Rate Design Application (RDA) with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) (Application);
- B. Nelson Hydro is owned and operated by the City of Nelson and is exempt from regulation under the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) to the extent it is serving customers within its municipal boundaries. Accordingly, the BCUC's review of the Application pertains solely to Nelson Hydro's non-municipal, or rural, ratepayers;
- C. In the Application, Nelson Hydro requests approval of the following:
 - 1. Proposed return on equity for the Rural service area at 9.25% to be used for future rate applications;
 - 2. Nelson Hydro's Policies approved by City Council relating to the non-municipal portion of the utility (i.e. the Allocation Factors Policy, Generation Rates Policy, Debt Policy, and Deferral Account Policy);
 - 3. The COSA; and
 - 4. Proposed rate changes to Rural residential rates effective September 1, 2021 (to be phased-in over a three-year period with follow-up adjustments effective September 1, 2022 and September 1, 2023);
- D. By Order G-117-21, dated April 21, 2021, the BCUC established a further regulatory timetable which included a second round of BCUC and intervener information requests (IRs) with responses due back from Nelson Hydro on June 22, 2021;
- E. By letter dated June 3, 2021, Nelson Hydro requested an extension to file its responses to the second round of intervener IRs. Nelson Hydro submits that due to limited staff resources and the number of IRs that Nelson Hydro has received, an extension to July 6, 2021 for responses to intervener IRs is requested, with no change to the deadline for responses to the BCUC IRs; and

F. The Panel has reviewed the extension request and considers that an amendment to the regulatory timetable is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE the BCUC amends the regulatory timetable established by Order G-117-21. The amended regulatory timetable for the review of the Application is attached as Appendix A to this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 7th day of June 2021.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

R. I. Mason
Commissioner

Attachment

Nelson Hydro
Cost of Service Analysis and Rate Design Application

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2021)
Nelson Hydro response to BCUC IRs No. 2	Tuesday, June 22
Nelson Hydro response to Intervener IRs No. 2	Tuesday, July 6
Further process	To be determined