



ORDER NUMBER
G-3-23

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

and

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Complaint filed by Gitga'at First Nation regarding Remote Community Electrification Program Fees

BEFORE:

C. M. Brewer, Panel Chair
A. K. Fung, KC, Commissioner
T. A. Loski, Commissioner

on January 11, 2023

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On April 5, 2022, Gitga'at First Nation (GFN) filed a complaint with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) concerning charges billed by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) (Complaint);
- B. In the Complaint, GFN details that it is a remote community to which BC Hydro extended electrical service under the Province of British Columbia's Remote Community Electrification (RCE) Program, and that in addition to paying Zone II rates as set out in BC Hydro's Electric Tariff, GFN has been charged an annual charge of approximately \$85,000 in relation to an Electricity Service Agreement with BC Hydro, dated 2014 (Electricity Servicing Charge). GFN submits that the Electricity Servicing Charge violates section 63 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, as it is a term or condition of service that was not reviewed and approved by the BCUC;
- C. By Order G-272-22 dated September 29, 2022, the BCUC established a regulatory timetable for the review of the Complaint. The regulatory timetable was subsequently amended by Order G-350-22, dated December 5, 2022;
- D. By letter dated December 16, 2022, BC Hydro requested an extension to the deadline for filing its response to BCUC Information Request (IR) No. 1 (Extension Request);
- E. In the letter, BC Hydro also requested further amendments to the regulatory timetable, including new dates for the filing of GFN and Intervener IRs to BC Hydro, BC Hydro's responses to those IRs, and BCUC IRs to GFN, as well as an opportunity for BC Hydro to submit IRs to GFN (Additional Request);
- F. By Order G-376-22 dated December 19, 2022, the BCUC approved the Extension Request and established a written submission process regarding the Additional Request;
- G. By letter dated December 16, 2022, GFN stated it did not object to the Additional Request;

H. BC Hydro filed its reply submission on January 9, 2023; and

I. The BCUC has reviewed the Additional Request and submissions from GFN and BC Hydro and considers an amendment to the regulatory timetable is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE the BCUC orders that the regulatory timetable established by Order G-376-22 is amended, as set out in Appendix A to this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 11th day of January 2023.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

C. M. Brewer
Commissioner

Attachment

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
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REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2023)
BC Hydro response to BCUC IR No. 1	Thursday, January 12
GFN and Intervener IR No. 1 to BC Hydro	January 23, 2023
BC Hydro responses to GFN and Intervener IR No. 1	February 6, 2023
BCUC IR No. 1 to GFN	February 13, 2023
BC Hydro IR No. 1 to GFN	February 15, 2023
GFN Responses to BCUC and BC Hydro No. 1	March 8, 2023
Letters of Comment	To be determined
Further Process	To be determined