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November 24, 2022

Sara Hardgrave
Acting Commission Secretary and Manager
Regulatory Services
British Columbia Utilities Commission
Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Dear Sara Hardgrave:

**RE: British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC or Commission)
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro)
Fiscal 2022 Annual Report to the Commission
Responses to BCUC Staff Questions No. 1**

BC Hydro writes to provide its responses to BCUC Staff Questions No. 1.

**1.0 Reference: RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CUSTOMERS CHARGING ZERO
EMISSION VEHICLES AT THEIR DWELLING ANNUAL
REPORT
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority F2022 Annual
Report, Appendix C, pp. 2-5
Zero Emission Vehicles**

Page 3 of the Residential Service Customers Charging Zero Emission Vehicles at their Dwelling Annual Report states:

On April 29, 2019, the BCUC approved the Amendments by Order No. G-92-19 and directed BC Hydro to file information regarding its experience resulting from the amended terms and conditions starting in the Fiscal 2020 Annual Report to the Commission.

1.1. Please describe how has British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) communicated to residential service customers the availability of aggregate billing to encourage electric vehicle (EV) charging in multi-unit residential buildings (MURB) since 2019.

RESPONSE:

Since 2019, BC Hydro has communicated the availability of aggregate billing for separately metered EV charging in multi-unit residential buildings (MURBs) when we receive new service connection requests or service alteration requests from the owner of the MURB. BC Hydro's designers explain the metering and billing options to the owner to help them select an option that is more suitable for their own individual circumstances.

In addition, the availability of separate metering and aggregate billing for separately metered EV charging is available on the following bchydro.com webpages:

- Metering and billing options for apartments ([Tracking and Billing for EV Charging Costs \(bchydro.com\)](http://bchydro.com)); and
- Metering options for multiple occupancy buildings" ([Metering options for multiple occupancy buildings \(bchydro.com\)](http://bchydro.com)).

- 1.2. Does BC Hydro consider separate metering and aggregate bills the appropriate solution to meet the MURB EV charging customer demand or are there other challenges that MURB customers are facing?

RESPONSE:

BC Hydro considers the separate metering and aggregate billing to be part of a broader set of options to address the EV charging needs of residential customers living in a MURB. Although separate metering and associated aggregate billing may not be a viable option for all customers living in MURBs, it does provide an option for those customers living in MURBs where existing infrastructure can accommodate the required retrofit and the costs for such retrofits are not prohibitive. New MURB developments designed and built from the ground up can also consider installing separate meters for each parking stall to support residents' EV charging.

- 1.3. Has BC Hydro explored any other options to enable home EV charging in MURBs?

RESPONSE:

BC Hydro continues to seek opportunities to remove barriers to enabling EV charging for customers living in MURBs, including leveraging experience gained through the CleanBC Go Electric programs.

The Province's CleanBC Go Electric EV Charger Rebate and MURB EV Ready programs introduced in 2019 and administered by BC Hydro, offer funding for stratas and rental building owners to create EV ready plans and install electrical infrastructure to provide each residential unit with at least one EV ready parking space featuring an energized electrical outlet or junction box at which Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) can be added in the future, as residents adopt EV's.

In conjunction with these programs, BC Hydro provides stratas and/or MURB building owners with 12 months of their most recent hourly aggregated electricity consumption data to assist with completing electrical capacity assessments. This helps determine available electrical capacity and inform the EV Ready plan design options.

In addition, BC Hydro is actively monitoring Measurement Canada activities in the development of kWh measurement standards for Level 2 EV chargers. This may introduce additional opportunities for residential customers living in MURBs or the stratas to participate in future optional rates BC Hydro plans to offer to support residential EV charging, including EV charging in MURBs.

- 1.4. Please discuss BC Hydro's plans to enable curbside electricity use.

RESPONSE:

BC Hydro currently operates a public EV fast charging network across B.C. with a few of the sites being curbside (such as Downtown Vancouver and Radium Hot Springs). Some municipalities have indicated interest in working with BC Hydro to deploy additional curbside charging. BC Hydro will be considering curbside charging as part of future update to its public EV charging network workplan.

BC Hydro believes Level 2 curbside charging will play a role in filling the needs of future EV owners living in homes without access to non-public EV charging, for example, those living in MURBs with no individualized or shared EV charging equipment or those living in homes that cannot accommodate EV charging or do not have a space for parking.

- 1.5. Has BC Hydro assessed any unintended consequences of enabling aggregate billing when residential service customers are using it for non-EV charging purposes?

RESPONSE:

BC Hydro has not identified any unintended consequences of enabling aggregate billing when customers choose to use it for non-EV charging purposes. Although the amendments approved in Order No. G-92-19 are intended to primarily facilitate

residential EV charging, the amendment to the definition of Dwelling means that the separate metering and aggregate billing should be applied to ancillary loads such as parking stalls, storage areas, parking garages and similar areas or spaces that are used only for the benefit of a Customer. Whether used for EV or non-EV charging purposes, the intended consequence of the aggregate billing amendments was to preserve the stepped structures of rates 1101 and 1107 by treating the consumption from both meters as one single meter and billing the aggregated consumption at a Dwelling with one Step 1 energy charge threshold.

For further information, please contact Shiau-Ching Chou at 604-623-3699 or by email at bchydroregulatorygroup@bchydro.com.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Sandve
Chief Regulatory Officer

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