

BC Hydro's Distribution/Extension Policy Workshop

Meeting Minutes

Kamloops, BC

February 6, 2007

ATTENDEES

Name	Organization
Neil Ramsay	Civic Engineering Services
Cyndi Bonn	Lower Nicola Indian Band
Stephen Dick	Lower Nicola Indian Band
Phyllis Edwards	Lower Nicola Indian Band
Peter Nixon	Sun Peaks Resort Corporation
Matt Brassard	Urban Systems Ltd
Keith Systems	Urban Systems Ltd

BC HYDRO PROJECT TEAM

Name	Organization & Department
Allan Chung	BC Hydro
Milan Prpic	BC Hydro (by phone)
Jane Christensen	BC Hydro (by phone)

OTHER ATTENDEES – PRESENTERS OR OBSERVERS

Name	Organization & Department
Ron MacDougall	BC Hydro
Alex Horvath	BC Hydro
Fawn Holland	BC Hydro

MEETING OBJECTIVES

The objectives that BC Hydro wanted to achieve through this meeting were to:

- Present the drivers for changes to the BC Hydro extension policy
- Summarize BC Hydro's experience with the existing policy
- Propose a straw model for a new policy
- Obtain comments from BC Hydro's stakeholders

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
2. **Regulatory Framework**
3. **Existing Extension Policy**
4. **Drivers for Change**
5. **Straw Model With Examples**
6. **Feedback**

HANDOUTS PROVIDED AT THE MEETING

Paper copies of the following materials were distributed at the meeting.

Item	Description
Handouts – “BC Hydro Extension Policy Changes - Workshop for Lower Mainland Developers and Consultants” PowerPoint presentation	PowerPoint presentation

PRESENTATIONS DELIVERED AT THE MEETING

The following Power Point presentations were delivered during the meeting; paper copies of some were distributed at the meeting as indicated.

Item	Description
BC Hydro Extension Policy Changes	PowerPoint presentation

Summary

BC Hydro gave a presentation regarding its upcoming Rate Design Application, with a focus on its extension policy.

The objectives that BC Hydro wanted to achieve through this meeting were to:

- Present the drivers for changes to the BC Hydro extension policy
- Summarize BC Hydro’s experience with the existing policy
- Propose a straw model for a new policy
- Obtain comments from BC Hydro’s stakeholders

BC Hydro asked attendees to:

- Share their experiences with the existing policy
- Provide input into the formulation of a new policy

The topics covered included:

- Regulatory Framework
- Terminology
- Existing Extension Policy
- Drivers for Change
- Straw Model with Examples

Feedback

In talking about the infill policy being applied for up to five years for extensions on an extension, the group felt that five years was too short. It was recognized that tracking this issue over time posed an administrative challenge, as developers change frequently. However, the group felt that the new policy still would not give enough time for pioneers to capture the full future benefits of the first “backbone” of development that they are putting in. Some suggested that BC Hydro pay for this.

The group felt that the new policy struck a better balance between heating technologies (gas vs. electric) by removing the implicit bias the current policy has for electrically heated buildings.

The group also had some mixed views on some of the elements of the policy. For instance, it was pointed out that the new policy most likely favoured higher-density developments. But participants were not sure that the \$1,950 up-front contribution was the correct amount and it wasn't clear how this exact number was arrived at. So, while the new policy was simpler, it still seemed confusing.

Finally, some participants were interested to know whether this policy would have a different impact on resorts as opposed to other types of developments, and the answer to this was not clear.