



FOR GENERATIONS

**Joanna Sofield**

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February 15, 2010

Ms. Erica M. Hamilton  
Commission Secretary  
British Columbia Utilities Commission  
Sixth Floor – 900 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Dear Ms. Hamilton:

**RE: British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC)  
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro)  
F2005/F2006 Revenue Requirements Application  
BCUC Order No. G-96-04  
Decision, October 29, 2004, Page 45, Directive No. 17, Page 218**

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Pursuant to BCUC Directive No. 17 of the October 29, 2004 Decision concerning BC Hydro's F2005/F2006 Revenue Requirements Application, BC Hydro attaches its Fiscal 2010 Third Quarter Deferral Account report for the nine-month period ending December 31, 2009. This report contains year-to-date information on the Heritage Deferral Account (HDA), the Non-Heritage Deferral Account (NHDA), the Trade Income Deferral Account (TIDA), and the BCTC Deferral Account (BCTCDA).

For further information, please contact Guy Leroux at 604 623-3696.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Sofield".

Joanna Sofield  
Chief Regulatory Officer

Enclosure

**BC Hydro**

**Deferral Account Report**

**For the Nine Months Ended**

**December 31, 2009**

**(F2010 Q3)**

February 2010

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**F2010 Q3 Deferral Account Report**

Schedule A

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority  
 Summary of Deferral Accounts  
 For Nine Months Ended December 31, 2009  
 (\$ in millions)

Line No.	Particulars (1)	Opening Balance at April 1, 2009 (2)	Changes (Schedule A-1) (3)	Amortization (4)	Interest (5)	Ending Balance at December 31, 2009 (6)
1	Heritage Deferral Account (HDA)	\$328.9	\$22.6	(\$21.0)	\$16.9	\$347.4
2	Non-Heritage Deferral Account (NHDA)	74.4	60.0	(4.7)	5.1	134.7
3	Trade Income Deferral Account (TIDA)	(79.9)	156.9	5.1	1.3	83.4
4	BCTC Deferral Account	9.7	11.2	(0.6)	0.1	20.4
5	Total	<u>\$333.1</u>	<u>\$250.7</u>	<u>(\$21.2)</u>	<u>\$23.3</u>	<u>\$586.0</u>

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In the October 29, 2004 BCUC Decision, the Commission approved the creation of four deferral accounts to capture the differences between forecasts used in setting rates and actuals. The forecast used in this deferral account report is the F2010 test year forecast as approved by the BCUC F09/F10 RRA Decision dated March 13, 2009.

The transfers into the HDA of \$22.6 million are largely related to an increase in market electricity purchases due to lower water inflow levels.

The increase in the NHDA of \$60 million is large due to the impact of lower customer load and increased purchases from Powerex. This is partly offset by lower deliveries from IPPs.

The TIDA increased as a result of trade income being below forecast for the nine months ended December 31, 2009. The shortfall in trade income is largely attributable to the impact of lower spreads in the market and the impact of the U.S. to Canadian dollar exchange rate.

Revenues collected via the Deferral Account Rate Rider (DARR) are used to amortize (reduce) the deferral account balances. The reduction is allocated to each deferral account based on the proportion of the ending F2009 deferral account balances.

Interest is calculated on the ending monthly balance (before interest) in each deferral account. The interest rate used is 6.55 per cent, which is BC Hydro's weighted cost of debt for the prior fiscal year-end as agreed to in the F07/F08 RRA NSA.

Due to minor rounding some totals may not add.

**F2005/06 RRA**  
**BCUC Order G-96-04 - Decsion 2004/10/29 Pg. 45, Directive No. 17, Pg 218**  
**F2010 Q3 Deferral Account Report**

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority  
 Summary of Deferral Account Additions  
 For Nine Months Ended December 31, 2009  
 (\$ in millions)

Schedule A-1

Line No.	Particulars (1)	Actual (2)	RRA (3)	Variance (4)	Ref. (5)
1	<b>Heritage Deferral Account</b>				
2	Cost of Energy - Total Heritage	\$ 342.6	\$ 312.5	\$ 30.1	
3	Notional Water Rental (Displaced Hydro)	8.9	(2.8)	11.7	
4	Mark to market (gains)/losses on derivatives	(13.3)	-	(13.3)	
5	Significant unplanned major maintenance costs	0.3	-	0.3	Note 1
6	Skagit Valley Treaty & Ancillary revenue	(11.2)	(13.7)	2.5	
7	Amortization of unplanned deferred capital cost per				
8	BCUC Order No. G-53-02	4.3	5.0	(0.7)	
10	Transfer of GMS3 related cost of energy opportunity costs	(8.3)	-	(8.3)	Note 2
11	Variable cost related to thermal generation	0.2	-	0.2	
12	Total	<u>\$ 323.6</u>	<u>\$ 301.0</u>	<u>\$ 22.6</u>	
13					
14	<b>Non-Heritage Deferral Account</b>				
15	Cost of Energy - Total Non-Heritage	\$ 470.5	\$ 453.0	\$ 17.6	
16	Notional Water Rental (Displaced Hydro)	(8.9)	2.8	(11.7)	
17	Unrealized value of monthly gas requirements	(0.3)	-	(0.3)	
18	FX (gain) / loss on Powerex trade account	(3.3)	-	(3.3)	Note 3
19	Subtotal	<u>\$ 458.0</u>	<u>\$ 455.8</u>	<u>2.3</u>	
20	Domestic revenue variance			57.8	
21	Total			<u>\$ 60.0</u>	
22					
23	<b>Trade Income Deferral Account</b>				
24	Powerex Net Income (Loss)			\$ (39.2)	Note 4
25	Excess below threshold for deferral account transfer			39.2	
26				-	
27	Less: Trade Income from RRA Decision			156.9	
28	Total			<u>\$ 156.9</u>	
29					
30	<b>BCTC Deferral Account</b>				
31	BCTC Asset Management Fee:				
32	Transmission Assets	\$ 69.3	\$ 69.3	-	
33	Generation Related Transmission Assets	6.2	6.2	-	
34	Substation Distribution Assets	12.0	11.0	1.0	
35	Net NITS and PTP Charges:				
36	Total NITS and PTP Charges	433.4	443.9	(10.5)	
37	Less: Intersegment Revenues - NITS	(332.1)	(342.5)	10.3	
38	Less: Intersegment Revenues - PTP	(45.0)	(45.4)	0.4	
39	Less: Charges Included in HDA and TIDA	(32.5)	(34.8)	2.3	
40	External PTP Revenues	(6.2)	(6.2)	0.0	
41	Subtotal	<u>\$ 105.0</u>	<u>\$ 101.6</u>	<u>\$ 3.4</u>	
42	Reconciling Difference from F2009			(0.5)	Note 5
43	Adjustment of F09 deferral baseline to the approved RRA			8.3	Note 6
44	Total			<u>\$ 11.2</u>	

**Note 1:** Unplanned major maintenance costs of \$0.3 million was deferred to address the cracking and deterioration of the concrete lining in the Kootenay Canal to mitigate leaks that affect the KCL plant operation. Maintenance costs incurred to date relating to the repair of the Kootenay Canal's concrete lining totals to \$1.8 million, \$1.5 million of which had been deferred in the previous fiscal year.

**Note 2:** Per the March 13, 2009 F09/F10 RRA Decision, BC Hydro was directed to transfer out of the HDA any unplanned maintenance costs as well as opportunity cost of energy associated with the GMS3 repairs into the GMS3 regulatory account. For the nine months ended December 31, 2009, \$8.3 million related to the cost of energy opportunity cost was transferred from the HDA into the GMS3 regulatory account.

**Note 3:** Net FX gains include losses related to internal cashflow hedges on gas transactions with Powerex.

**Note 4:** Powerex loss reported for regulatory purposes is net of the \$3.2 million YTD corporate overhead allocation from BC Hydro to Powerex in accordance with Directive 9 the F09/F10 RRA Decision.

**Note 5:** The reconciling difference of \$0.5 million between the BCTC deferral addition of \$6.7 million shown on Schedule B Line 44 of the F09Q4 Deferral Report and the \$6.2 million shown in BC Hydro's F2009 Annual Report was captured in F10Q1.

**Note 6:** Adjustment is the result of a change in the F2009 baseline to comply with the approved RRA.

**Schedule A-2**  
**Deferral Account Rules**

The following “rules” are used by BC Hydro for providing clarity in determining the deferral account transfers. These rules are derived from BC Hydro’s interpretation of the evidence and testimony provided during the F2005/F2006 Revenue Requirement Application proceeding and in response to BCUC Directive No. 19 of the October 29, 2004 Decision, and updated for the F07/F08 RRA NSA and Directives included in the F09/F10 RRA Decision.

## Heritage Deferral Account (HDA)

*Commission Decision, October 29, 2004, Page 41:*

### Commission Findings

***The Commission Panel approves the HDA as proposed by BC Hydro, and approves BC Hydro's forecast of the cost components of the HPO for F2005 and F2006.***

Variances between the forecast and the actual cost for the following components of the Heritage Payment Obligation will flow through the HDA:

1. Cost of energy.<sup>1</sup>

This item is expanded in greater detail below to provide clarification on the methodology used to determine variances:

- Gains/losses on energy derivatives and financial instruments used to minimize energy costs are included as part of total energy costs.
- The total Heritage Energy (including Skagit/Seattle City Light commitments) is limited to 49,000 GWh in terms of the Heritage contract. If the Heritage Energy including 100 per cent of market electricity purchases exceeds the Heritage Energy limit, the excess purchases are transferred to Non-Heritage Energy in order to reduce the Heritage Energy volumes to the Heritage Contract limit.
- Cost of energy variances resulting from changes to compensation and mitigation costs, water rental remissions, or Skagit energy transportation contracts are eligible for deferral. These are price variances as they do not vary with volume.
- All load curtailment costs are to be included as part of the Heritage Payment Obligation and variance between Actual and Plan is to be included in the HDA.<sup>2</sup>

2. Variable costs related to thermal generation.<sup>1</sup>

3. Significant unplanned major maintenance costs greater than \$1 million related to single event equipment or infrastructure failure or caused by weather related events.<sup>1</sup>

4. Significant unplanned major capital expenditures having an incremental annual impact on the Income Statement greater than \$1 million related to single event equipment or infrastructure failure or caused by weather related events.<sup>1</sup>

5. Amortization of unplanned deferred capital costs pursuant to Commission Order No. G-53-02.<sup>1</sup>

6. All net revenues from surplus hydro electricity sales.<sup>3</sup>

7. Skagit Valley Treaty revenues and ancillary services revenues.<sup>3</sup>

8. An interest charge/credit<sup>4</sup> is to be calculated on the ending monthly balance in each deferral account. The interest rate used is BC Hydro's weighted cost of debt for the prior fiscal year-end.

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<sup>1</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision Directive 11, amended by the F09F/10 RRA Decision, Directive 31.

<sup>2</sup> Per F09/F10 RRA Decision, Directive 30.

<sup>3</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision, Directive 11.

<sup>4</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision Directive 18, amended by the F07/F08 RRA Negotiated Settlement Agreement.

**Non-Heritage Deferral Account (NHDA)**

*Commission Decision, October 29, 2004, Page 41:*

**Commission Findings**

***The Commission Panel approves all elements of the NHDA, except the distribution emergency restoration costs elements, item 4, because it can be forecast with some confidence, unlike unplanned major capital expenditures and unplanned major maintenance expenditures, and because of risk/reward considerations. Given the denial of item 4 of the NHDA, item 3 of the NHDA is to be as set forth in Final Argument. The Commission Panel approves BC Hydro's forecast of the NHDA non-HPO cost of energy for F2005 and F2006.***

Variances between the forecast and the actual cost for the following components of the Non-Heritage Cost of Energy will flow through the NHDA:

1. Cost of energy - all non-HPO energy costs.<sup>1</sup> This item is expanded in greater detail below to provide clarification on the methodology used to determine variances:
  - Any variances relating to fixed price gas transportation contracts would flow through the deferral accounts as they do not vary with volume;
  - Future Trade: when Powerex purchases energy for future trade the cost of the purchase from the external party and the sale to BC Hydro of this energy is recorded in Powerex and is included as part of Trade Income. The BC Hydro side of the entry is shown as part of domestic energy costs (on consolidation, the Powerex revenue from BC Hydro and the BC Hydro energy costs from Powerex are eliminated). The difference between Actual and Plan on the BC Hydro side relating to energy for future trade flows through the Non-Heritage Deferral Account. The Powerex side of the transaction, which is part of Trade Income, flows through the Trade Income Deferral Account. Similar treatment is made when the energy is returned to Powerex; and
  - Future Trade: when Powerex purchases energy for future trade, the Heritage Payment Obligation (HPO) is charged with a notional water rental charge for the use of this energy. The other side of this entry is shown as part of Non-Heritage energy. These entries are eliminated on consolidation. The difference between the Actual and Plan notional water rentals that is part of the HPO flows through the Heritage Deferral Account. The opposite variance relating to the Non-Heritage side of the notional water rental transaction flows through the Non-Heritage Deferral Account.
  - Gains/losses on energy derivatives and financial instruments used to minimize energy costs are included as part of total energy costs.
2. Significant unplanned major maintenance costs greater than \$1 million related to single event equipment or infrastructure failure.<sup>1</sup>
3. Significant unplanned major capital expenditures having an incremental annual impact on the Income Statement greater than \$1 million related to single event equipment or infrastructure failure or caused by weather related events.<sup>1</sup>
4. Founding Partner Benefits and any CIS Credits under the ABS Contract.<sup>1</sup>
5. Impact of load variance.<sup>2</sup>
  - The Net Cost of Energy deferral amount is calculated by subtracting the Gross Load Variance and adding the Net Load Variance to the Gross Cost of Energy deferral amount. In practice, because Net Load Variance equals Gross Load Variance less Domestic

<sup>1</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision, Directive 12, amended by F09F/10 RRA Decision, Directive 31.

<sup>2</sup> F09/F10 RRA Decision, Directive 31.

**F2005/06 RRA**  
**BCUC Order G-96-04 - Decision 2004/10/29 Pg. 45, Directive No. 17, Pg 218**  
**F2010 Q3 Deferral Account Report**

Revenue Variance, the Net Cost of Energy Deferral simplifies to the Gross Cost of Energy Deferral minus the Domestic Revenue Variance.

6. An interest charge/credit<sup>3</sup> is to be calculated on the ending monthly balance in each deferral account. The interest rate used is BC Hydro's weighted cost of debt for the prior fiscal year-end.

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<sup>3</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision Directive 18, amended by the F07/F08 RRA Negotiated Settlement Agreement.

Trade Income Deferral Account (TIDA)

*Commission Decision, October 29, 2004, Page 42, Section 4.6:*

**Commission Findings**

***The Commission Panel approves the TIDA as proposed by BC Hydro, and approves BC Hydro's forecast of Trade Income for F2005 and F2006.***

- Any variance between the forecast Trade Income and the actual trade income<sup>1</sup> will flow through the TIDA except where Annual Trade Income is below \$Nil and above \$200 million.
- An interest charge/credit<sup>2</sup> is to be calculated on the ending monthly balance in each deferral account. The interest rate used is BC Hydro's weighted cost of debt for the prior fiscal year-end.

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<sup>1</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision, Directive 13.

<sup>2</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision Directive 18, amended by the F07/F08 RRA Negotiated Settlement Agreement.

**BCTC Deferral Account (BCTC DA)**

*Commission Decision, October 29, 2004, Pages 42 and 43, Section 4.7:*

**Commission Findings**

***The Commission Panel approves the BCTC DA as proposed by BC Hydro, and approves BC Hydro's F2005 and F2006 forecast, subject to the adjustments required by this Decision, of the Asset Management/Maintenance Revenue Requirement and the BCTC Revenue Requirement for the purpose of the BCTC TDA.***

- The BCTC Deferral Account relates to two variances:
  - a) variances between BC Hydro's Asset Management/Maintenance Revenue Requirement forecast in BC Hydro's Revenue Requirement and BC Hydro's actual Asset Management/Maintenance charges from BCTC, and
  - b) variances between BCTC's Revenue Requirement forecast charges to BC Hydro in BC Hydro's Revenue Requirement and the BCTC charges to BC Hydro for transmission services.
- An interest charge/credit<sup>1</sup> is to be calculated on the ending annual balance in each deferral account. The interest rate used is BC Hydro's weighted cost of debt for the prior fiscal year-end.

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<sup>1</sup> Per F05/F06 RRA Decision Directive 18, amended by the F07/F08 RRA Negotiated Settlement Agreement.