

BCUC Approves Standards of Conduct for Non-Public BCTC Information

February 3, 2005

As many of you read earlier in Wattsnew (Standards of Conduct for Non-Public BCTC Information), BC Hydro has established Standards of Conduct to manage our use of confidential information with respect to work done by BC Hydro for BC Transmission Corporation (BCTC) and vice-versa.

The BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) approved these standards of conduct on January 27 without any requests for further information or process, says Regulatory Policy and Strategy Manager Sandra Jones.

"They didn't have any further questions for us, which was good news for both BC Hydro and BCTC," she says. "We can still maintain our excellent working relationship through these standards of conduct, which protects confidential information that might pass between employees during the course of their work. This also shows support for the way we've implemented these standards and are enforcing them."

These Standards of Conduct were introduced in September, 2004 to ensure that all non-public BCTC information acquired by BC Hydro employees and affiliates is not transmitted to anyone else, except as required to perform their jobs for BCTC.

Last fall, a compliance information package was sent to employees who were directly impacted by the adoption of these standards. The impacted employees work mainly in the areas of Engineering, Field Services, Property Services and Aboriginal Relations.

As part of the Compliance Program, these employees will undergo training around the Standards of Conduct in the weeks ahead.

There have been questions from employees on the background of these standards.

"The standards of conduct are basically a confidentiality process," explains Director of Compliance Frederick Metcalfe. "BC Hydro is now working for a third party, BCTC, and we have a contractual requirement to keep their information confidential."

All employees should be familiar with these Standards of Conduct which are posted on the intranet under policies (<http://w3ex/policies/openness/openness18162.html>). Employees are encouraged to remember that integrity, honesty and trust are essential elements of our business success.

Any officer or employee who knows or suspects the Standards of Conduct have been, or are likely to be, breached has a responsibility to report it. A confidential phone line [1 866 364-9376] is also available to report suspected violations or ask questions about the SOC. For further information on the SOC or the related compliance issues, please contact Frederick Metcalfe.