

Ref.: 93799

Mr. W. J. Brad Bennett Chair Board of Directors BC Hydro 18th Floor, 333 Dunsmuir Street Vancouver, BC V6B 5R3

Dear Mr. Bennett:

This Mandate Letter confirms your organization's mandate, provides Government's annual strategic direction and sets out key performance expectations for the 2016/17 fiscal year.

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, thank you for your leadership and the contributions made by the BC Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) over the past year, and congratulations on the efforts made towards the following achievements:

- Completing all 50 recommendations from the 2011 Government Review, including the reduction of operating costs by \$391 million over three years.
- Implementing the 10-Year Plan to keep electricity rates low and predictable, ensuring customers continue to have among the most competitive rates in North America.
- Delivering an ambitious capital plan, including advancing the Site C Clean Energy Project.
- Working closely with First Nations to build a better, more transparent and collaborative relationship.

Last year, the Government established a common set of principles for British Columbia Public Sector Organizations (PSOs). The intent of the Taxpayer Accountability Principles (TAP) is to strengthen accountability and promote cost control. These principles instill a common frame of reference to inform decisions and ensure that the actions taken and services provided meet public policy objectives established by the Government on behalf of the citizens of British Columbia. All PSOs are expected to understand the responsibility they have to the citizens of this province and how it is complimentary to the fiduciary duty to their organizations.

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One of Government's core values is respect for the taxpayer's dollar. It is critical that PSOs operate as efficiently as possible, in order to ensure British Columbians are provided with effective services at the lowest cost possible. This requires constant focus on maintaining a cost-conscious and principled culture through the efficient delivery of services that stand the test of public scrutiny and help develop a prosperous economy in an environmentally sustainable manner. The foundation of this work is the Government's commitment to controlling spending and balancing the budget.

Government provided the following mandate direction to BC Hydro under the *Hydro and Power Authority Act*:

Provide reliable, affordable, clean electricity throughout British Columbia, safely. To achieve this mandate, BC Hydro is directed to take the following strategic actions:

- Continue to implement the 10-Year Plan to keep electricity rates low and predictable by optimizing resources and advancing its Revenue Requirements and Rate Design Applications.
- Deliver your overall capital plan portfolio on time and on budget to maintain the reliability of the system, support British Columbia's economic growth and meet the needs of customers.
- Deliver the Site C project on time and on budget and ensure First Nations and local communities have the ability to participate in economic development opportunities arising from the construction of the project.
- Work with Clean Energy BC to identify further opportunities for clean energy producers in British Columbia.
- Improve customer satisfaction by providing timely and responsive service and exploring innovative energy conservation solutions such as load curtailment rates.
- Implement the five-year safety plan to ensure the safety of your workforce and the public.

To achieve this, several actions as detailed in the 2014 TAP Transition Letter, are to continue to be implemented and refined, such as: on-going orientation, the joint strategic engagement plan, and the evaluation plan. For detailed information about TAP directives, please refer to the following link, <u>Taxpayer Accountability Principles</u>.

In addition, it is expected that your organization will continue to be diligent in ensuring familiarity with and adherence to statutory obligations and policies that have broad application across the public sector. Please refer to the following link for a summary of these accountabilities, <u>PSO Accountability Summary</u>.

Government is committed to continuing to revitalize the relationship between the Government and PSOs. This strong focus on increased two-way communication supports and ensures a common understanding of Government's expectations. Timely communication of any issues which may affect the business of BC Hydro and/or the interests of Government is critical to building trust and the effective delivery of public services, including information on any risks to achieving financial forecasts and performance targets.

Each Board member is required to acknowledge the direction provided in the Mandate Letter by signing this letter. The Mandate Letter is to be posted publicly on your organization's website and a copy signed by all Board members provided to the ministry and made available to the public upon request.

I look forward to our regular meetings focusing on strategic priorities, performance against the TAP, key results and working together to protect the public interest at all times.

Sincerely,

Bill Bennett Minister

Attachment

Brad Bermett Chair, BC Hydro

Bill Adsit Director BC Hydro

John Knappett Director BC Hydro

Tracy Redies Director BC Hydro

Jamie Brown Director BC Hydro

Valerie Lambert

Director BC Hydro

John Ritchie Director BC Hydro

James Hatton Director BC Hydro

Date: March 14/16

Janine North Director BC Hydro

Jack Weisgerber Director BC Hydro

pc: Honourable Christy Clark

Premier

Mr. John Dyble Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary

Ms. Kim Henderson Deputy Minister and Secretary to Treasury Board Ministry of Finance

Ms. Cheryl Wenezenki-Yolland Associate Deputy Minister Ministry of Finance

Ms. Elaine McKnight Deputy Minister Ministry of Energy and Mines

Mr. Bill Adsit Director BC Hydro

Mr. Jamie Brown Director BC Hydro

Mr. James Hatton Director BC Hydro

Mr. John Knappett Director BC Hydro

Ms. Valerie Lambert Director BC Hydro

Ms. Janine North Director BC Hydro Ms. Tracy Redies Director BC Hydro

Mr. John Ritchie Director BC Hydro

Mr. Jack Weisgerber Director BC Hydro

Ms. Jessica McDonald Chief Executive Officer BC Hydro