

Fred James

Chief Regulatory Officer Phone: 604-623-4046 Fax: 604-623-4407

bchydroregulatorygroup@bchydro.com

December 24, 2020

Ms. Marija Tresoglavic
Acting Commission Secretary and Manager
Regulatory Support
British Columbia Utilities Commission
Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Dear Ms. Tresoglavic:

RE: British Columbia Utilities Commission

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) COVID-19 Emergency Response and Wildfires Mitigation Plans

Supplemental Response to BCUC STAFF IR 1.3.2

BC Hydro writes to provide its supplemental response to Commission STAFF IR No. 1.3.2. This supplemental response reflects information received from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources, Operations and Rural Development (**FLNRORD**), which was required in order to perform the analysis requested in the IR.

For further information, please contact Chris Sandve at 604-974-4641 or by email at bchydroregulatorygroup@bchydro.com.

Yours sincerely,

Fred James

Chief Regulatory Officer

bh/tl

Enclosure

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3.0 Reference: T&D WILDFIRE HAZARD STRATEGY Attachment 3, pp. 2-3

Attachment 3 of BC Hydro COVID-19: Emergency Response and Wildfires Mitigation Plans submission consists of BC Hydro's T&D Wildfire Hazard Strategy. On page 3 of Attachment 3, under Asset Count, Condition, and Performance, 2015-2017 statistics are provided. These statistics are reproduced, in part, below:

Number of Wildfires Involving Transmission or Distribution Assets 2015-2017

	2015		2	016	20	17	
Cause	Т	D	Т	D	Т	D	Total
Trees	0	29	0	35	2	27	93
Landslide	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Wires Down	0	1	1	1	4	4	11
Other Utility	6	7	2	2	4	9	30
No Cause Found	2	7	1	4	2	2	18
Line taken OOS to fight wildfire	1	0	2	0	1	1	5
Wind	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Animal	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
MVA	0	. 0	0	0	0	. 1	1
Total	10	46	6	42	13	44	161

1.3.2 Please provide the same statistics as shown above, if available, for years 2018 and 2019.

ORIGINAL RESPONSE:

As explained in BC Hydro's response to BCUC Staff IR 1.3.1, data is required from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources, Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), to perform the required analysis. BC Hydro has requested the required data for 2018 and 2019 from FLNRORD, however the data has not been received at the time of this filing. Upon receipt of the data BC Hydro can compare the data with our outage data and provide an updated analysis to the BCUC.

Since March 2020, BC Hydro has begun to track fires caused by our system or inadvertently caused by work activities on the system (either on, or under the powerlines), and this data will also support this type of analysis in future.

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SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE:

BC Hydro has received information from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources, Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD) and compared the data with our outage data to provide the analysis as summarized in the table below. In this analysis we have provided detailed information on the Defective Equipment (DE) category, which identified the causes for Defective Equipment that result in outages.

Since March 2020, BC Hydro has begun to track fires caused by our system or inadvertently caused by work activities on the system (either on, or under the powerlines), and this data will also support this type of analysis in future.

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Number of Wildfires Involving BC Hydro Transmission or Distribution Assets - 2015 to 2020

	20	15	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020		Totals		
Cause (Note 1)	Т	D	Т	D	Т	D	Т	D	Т	D	Т	D	Т	D	Total
Trees	0	29	0	35	2	27	0	14	2	5	0	8	4	118	122
Landslide	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
DE - Wires Down	0	1	1	1	4	4	1	3	1	2	0	2	7	13	20
DE - Arcing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	3
DE - Pole top Fire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
DE - Broken Cross arm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
DE - Broken Structure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
No Cause Found	2	7	1	4	2	2	0	1	1	2	1	0	7	16	23
Line taken Out of Service to fight wildfire	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	4	3	7
Wind	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Animal	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	3
MVA	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Other Utility (non-BC Hydro)	6	7	2	2	4	9	3	3	2	2	1	1	18	24	42
Total	10	46	6	42	13	44	4	26	7	13	3	13	43	184	227

Note: DE = Defective Equipment (with sub-cause reason for outage provided), T = Transmission system, D = Distribution system