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October 2, 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: Project No. 1599117 British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC or Commission) British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) Long-Term Resource Plan Filing Date

BC Hydro writes in response to the BCUC's letter of October 1, 2020 which, in response to BC Hydro's request to suspend this proceeding, requested further submissions from BC Hydro to:

- Clarify whether, as a result of the suspended engagement efforts, BC Hydro considers that the proposed filing date for the 2021 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) of September 2021 is now in jeopardy; and
- File an updated estimate of the 2021 IRP timeline, if the schedule has been affected.

BC Hydro is continuing to move forward with the technical analysis required to develop the 2021 IRP. While this work continues, the suspension of engagement efforts does impact the schedule for filing the 2021 IRP because BC Hydro cannot develop a draft IRP for further consultation until the first phase of consultation is complete. Accordingly, unless BC Hydro's planned engagement efforts are reduced, it will not be possible to meet a September 2021 filing date.

BC Hydro appreciates the BCUC's interest in receiving an updated estimate of the 2021 IRP timeline as soon as possible. Unfortunately, we feel that any estimate provided, without knowing the outcome of the election and any expectations a new government may have, would be speculative and unreliable. Accordingly, BC Hydro considers that the best way forward is for BC Hydro to submit an updated schedule after a government has been sworn-in and a Cabinet has been appointed. At that time, the BCUC could consider further submissions from interveners and determine whether BC Hydro's updated schedule is reasonable.

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

Yours sincerely,

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