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VIA EMAIL

bhydroregulatorygroup@bhydro.com

June 17, 2014

Ms. Janet Fraser
Chief Regulatory Officer
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
16th Floor, 333 Dunsmuir Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 5R3

Dear Ms. Fraser:

Re: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
2015 Rate Design Application -
Pre-Application Workshops-Participant Assistance/Cost Awards

On May 29, 2014, BC Hydro requested confirmation from the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) that the pre-application workshops for the BC Hydro 2015 Rate Design Application (2015 RDA) will qualify for participant assistance/cost awards (PACA). BC Hydro states that it will be holding seven to ten workshops prior to filing the 2015 RDA in June 2015 and at the May 8, 2014 workshop participants asked BC Hydro if PACA will be available for the pre-application workshops.

While we understand the potential benefits of funding participation at workshop, under the PACA Guidelines an eligible participant is an individual or an organization who actively participates in a proceeding of the Commission. To grant PACA funding, a number of considerations have to be made by the Commission, including, among others, whether the participant made efforts to reduce costs, the degree to which they are affected by the outcome of the application, and if they contributed to a better understanding of the issues by the Commission.

We cannot undertake the necessary review to assess the aforementioned criteria of PACA application to parties in a pre-hearing workshop, nor do we feel that this circumstance fits within the spirit of the PACA Guidelines.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erica Hamilton".

Erica Hamilton

PWN/cms