



ORDER NUMBER
G-19-18

IN THE MATTER OF
the *Utilities Commission Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

British Columbia Utilities Commission
An Inquiry into the Regulation of Electric Vehicle Charging Service

BEFORE:
D. M. Morton, Commissioner

on January 23, 2018

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. By Order G-10-18 dated January 12, 2018, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) established an inquiry to review the regulation of electric vehicle charging service (Inquiry) pursuant to section 82 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA);
- B. In the covering letter attached to Order G-10-18, the Commission provided a list of potential regulatory issues that may form the scope of the Inquiry;
- C. The Commission considers that establishment of a regulatory timetable for the Inquiry is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 82 of the UCA, the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. A regulatory timetable is established for the Inquiry, attached as Appendix A to this order.
- 2. Interveners who wish to participate in this Inquiry are to register with the Commission by completing a Request to Intervene Form, available on the Commission's website at <http://www.bcuc.com/Registration-Intervener-1.aspx> by Friday, February 16, 2018, and in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure at <https://www.ordersdecisions.bcuc.com/bcuc/orders/en/127520/1/document.do>.
- 3. Registered interveners may file evidence by Friday, March 2, 2018, based on the preliminary scope of the Inquiry and/or on any other matters that may assist in the effective and efficient review of the Inquiry, attached as Appendix B to this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 23rd day of January 2018.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D. M. Morton
Commissioner

Attachments

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Inquiry into the Regulation of Electric Vehicle Charging Service

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2018)
Intervener and interested party registration	Friday, February 16
Deadline for registered intervener filing written evidence	Friday, March 2
Further process	To be determined

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Inquiry into the Regulation of Electric Vehicle Charging Service

PRELIMINARY SCOPE OF THE INQUIRY

On January 12, 2018, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) has established an Inquiry into the regulation of electric vehicle (EV) charging service (Inquiry). The rate design and rates for EV charging, including the services provided by EV charging stations, are currently in an early development stage in BC and other entities may emerge over time to provide EV charging service. The Inquiry will explore the potential regulatory issues, including the level of regulation necessary in the EV charging stations market, the rates for EV charging service, and any other matters that should be considered by the Commission.

In order to proceed with the Inquiry, the Commission has identified the following preliminary scope as follows:

Scope A: Basis for regulation

1. Do EV charging stations operate in a competitive environment in BC or are they a natural monopoly service?
2. Are the customers of EV charging stations captive or do they have a choice?
3. Should the Commission regulate the services provided by EV charging stations? What are benefits and detriments to such regulation?

Scope B: Rate design and rate setting

4. Should the rate design of EV charging stations be established under a public utility's traditional cost of service model or some other model? And within that context, what are the customer pricing options (e.g. energy-based rate vs. time-based rate)?
5. Should the EV charging station service rate be based on a public utility's existing wholesale or commercial retail rate or some other rate?
6. Should public utilities include EV charging stations in their regulated rate base or through a separate non-regulated entity?
7. If public utilities provide EV charging services within their regulated business, is there a risk of cross subsidization from other rate classes to support this new service and if so, is the proposed rate design potentially unduly discriminatory?

Other matters

8. Any other matters that may assist in the effective and efficient review of the Inquiry.

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

British Columbia Utilities Commission Inquiry into the Regulation of Electric Vehicle Charging Service

On January 12, 2018, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) has established an independent Inquiry into the regulation of electric vehicle (EV) charging service. The services provided by EV charging stations are currently in an early development stage in BC. Other entities may emerge over time to provide EV charging service.

The independent Inquiry will explore the potential regulatory issues, including the level of regulation necessary (if any) in the EV charging stations market, the rates for EV charging service, and any other matters that should be considered by the Commission.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

There are a number of ways to participate in a matter before the Commission:

- **Submit a letter of comment**
- **Register as an interested party**
- **Request intervenor status**

For more information, or to find the forms for any of the options above, please visit our website or contact us at the information below.

www.bcuc.com/RegisterIndex.aspx

All submissions received, including letters of comment, are placed on the public record, posted on the Commission's website and provided to the Panel and all participants in the Inquiry.

NEXT STEPS

Intervenor registration - Persons who are directly or sufficiently affected by the Commission's decision or have relevant information or expertise and that wish to actively participate in the Inquiry can request intervenor status by submitting a completed Request to Intervene Form by Friday, February 16, 2018.

GET MORE INFORMATION

All documents filed on the public record are available on the "Current Proceedings" page of the Commission's website at www.bcuc.com.

If you would like to review the material in hard copy, or if you have any other inquiries, please contact Patrick Wruck, Commission Secretary, at the following contact information.

British Columbia Utilities Commission



Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 2N3



E: Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com



P: 604.660.4700