



**ORDER NUMBER**  
**G-107-23**

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

and

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority  
Application for Orders Regarding the John Hart Dam Seismic Upgrade Project

**BEFORE:**

W. M. Everett, KC, Panel Chair  
E. B. Lockhart, Commissioner  
A. Pape-Salmon, Commissioner

on May 5, 2023

**ORDER**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On December 20, 2021, the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro) filed an application with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), pursuant to section 44.2(1)(b) of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), including a schedule of statement of capital expenditures (Expenditure Schedule) BC Hydro has made or anticipates making during the period addressed by the schedule for implementation of the John Hart Dam Seismic Upgrade Project (Project) and seeking, pursuant to section 44.2(3) of the UCA, BCUC acceptance of the Expenditure Schedule as being in the public interest (Application);
- B. The Project is located at the existing John Hart Dam and Reservoir and John Hart Generating Station (John Hart Facility) on the Campbell River within the City of Campbell River boundaries on Vancouver Island. BC Hydro submits the proposed Expenditure Schedule will address deficiencies in the John Hart Facility related to its resistance to earthquake loading and operational reliability of its Spillway Gates Systems, and vulnerability to potential flow imbalance between the John Hart Dam and the upstream facility at Ladore Dam that could lead to the overtopping of the John Hart Dam;
- C. By Orders G-17-22, G-110-22, G-160-22, G-218-22, and G-277-22, the BCUC established and amended the regulatory timetable for the review of the Application, which included, among other things, public notice, a workshop, and two rounds of Information Requests (IRs);
- D. On October 25, 2022, BC Hydro filed an Updated Project Cost Estimate;
- E. By Orders G-313-22 and G-362-22, the BCUC established and amended a final regulatory timetable providing for a third round of IRs, and final and reply arguments;

- F. Wei Wai Kum & We Wai Kai First Nations, Residential Consumer Intervener Association, Commercial Energy Consumers Association of British Columbia, and British Columbia Old Age Pensioner's Organization et al. registered as interveners in the proceeding;
- G. By Order G-17-22 (Confidentiality Order) the BCUC ordered, among other things, that certain specified information in the Application (Confidential Information) be held confidential by the BCUC pursuant to Section 18 of the BCUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure on the basis it is: (i) commercially sensitive in nature and that significant harm or prejudice to BC Hydro's competitive or negotiating position could reasonably be expected to result if the Confidential Information is made public; (ii) contains security-sensitive and cyber-security information; and (iii) contains personal information on BC Hydro Project personnel; and
- H. The BCUC has considered the Application, evidence and submissions in this proceeding and finds, as set out in the Decision issued concurrently with this order, that the Expenditure Schedule filed in the Updated Project Cost Estimate is in the public interest and the following determinations are warranted.

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to section 44.2(3) of the UCA the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. BC Hydro's Expenditure Schedule as detailed in its Updated Table 5-2 of Appendix 2A to the Updated Project Cost Estimate and as described in the Application is accepted as being in the public interest.
- 2. BC Hydro is directed to file John Hart Dam Seismic Upgrade Project reports as outlined in Appendix A to the Decision.
- 3. BC Hydro is directed to comply with all the directives outlined in the Decision issued concurrently with this order.
- 4. BC Hydro is directed to inform the BCUC once the Confidential Information is no longer required to be kept confidential pursuant to the Confidentiality Order.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

W. M. Everett, KC  
Commissioner