



**ORDER NUMBER**  
**G-126-23**

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

and

British Columbia Utilities Commission  
Establishment of a Two-Year Pilot of a Cybersecurity Framework for Public Utilities

**BEFORE:**  
David Morton, Commissioner

on June 2, 2023

**ORDER**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. The British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) has general supervision of all public utilities pursuant to section 23 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA). Further, pursuant to section 38 of the UCA, a public utility must provide and maintain its property and equipment in a condition that enables it to provide service to the public that the BCUC considers is in all respects adequate, safe, efficient, just and reasonable;
- B. The BCUC has observed increasing frequency and severity of cyber-attacks globally and within Canada and the significant costs to recover from cybersecurity incidents;
- C. The BCUC has developed a framework to address cybersecurity risk for public utilities (Cybersecurity Framework). The Cybersecurity Framework is flexible and scalable based on size and risk of the public utility and makes use of existing industry guidance for regulatory efficiency;
- D. By Order G-385-22, dated December 23, 2022, the BCUC established a comment process regarding a proposed two-year pilot of the Cybersecurity Framework (Pilot) and established a regulatory timetable;
- E. The regulatory timetable included an opportunity for public utilities to file letters of comment regarding the establishment of the Pilot, the proposed Cybersecurity Framework, and the proposed annual cybersecurity declaration for public utilities; and
- F. The BCUC has reviewed the letters of comment received and considers that the following determinations are warranted.

**NOW THEREFORE** for the reasons provided in the decision issued concurrently with this order, the BCUC orders the following:

1. The Pilot is established for two calendar years with an effective date of January 1, 2024.

2. The Cybersecurity Framework for Public Utilities Version 1.1A attached as Appendix A to the Decision is adopted as the final cybersecurity framework for the Pilot.
3. The Annual Cybersecurity Declaration for Public Utilities Version 1.1A attached as Appendix B to the Decision is adopted as the final annual declaration for the Pilot.
4. Public utilities must file the Annual Declaration for Public Utilities Version 1.1A, attached as Appendix B to the Decision, as per the filing instructions in the declaration.
5. Public utilities must file progress reports with the BCUC on September 1, 2023, and November 1, 2023, attesting to their plans and preparedness to meet the Pilot effective date of January 1, 2024.
6. In addition to the annual reporting requirements outlined in directive 4, public utilities must also file the Annual Declaration for Public Utilities Version 1.1A on or before January 1, 2024, confirming implementation of the Cybersecurity Framework.
7. All cybersecurity information filed by public utilities with the BCUC will be held confidential as disclosure of such information could be harmful to public safety.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this                      2<sup>nd</sup>                      day of June 2023.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

D. M. Morton  
Commissioner