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October 3, 2018 File No.: 0400-30; 5590-20

Via email: ted.olynyk@bchydro.com

Ted Olynyk, Manager BC Hydro Community Relations Vancouver Island – Sunshine Coast Office

Dear Ted:

Re: Net Metering Program

Thank you for taking the time during the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention to meet with us to discuss BC Hydro's net metering program.

We understand that BC Hydro is amending the solar net metering service to curb the amount of energy net-metered customers can sell to BC Hydro. We are still unclear as to the guiding principles that informed this decision. As we mentioned at the meeting, we've heard from constituents that changes to net metering program are deterring solar panel purchases in the Islands Trust Area.

The Islands Trust Council's **Policy Statement** includes the following policies:

Trust Council holds that local trust committees and island municipalities should be consulted and involved in the decision-making process regarding provision of utilities, transportation services or facilities that might affect land use in their local planning areas. (Policy 5.3.1)

Trust Council holds that economic opportunities should be compatible with the conservation of resources and protection of community character. (Policy 5.7.1)

Trust Council holds that public participation should be part of the decision-making processes of all levels of government. (Policy 5.8.1)

As I mentioned at the meeting in keeping with the spirit of those policies, we would appreciate more information about the principles and rationale for changing the solar net metering program.

Thank you for considering this request. We look forward to continued dialogue into the future.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Luckham, Chair Islands Trust Council

pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca

cc: Islands Trust Area MLAs

Salish Sea Renewable Energy Cooperative

Island Trust Council Bowen Island Municipality Islands Trust website