



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BC Coalition for Affordable Dependable Energy condemns Metro Vancouver plan to intervene in BC Hydro hearings as waste of taxpayer dollars – urges Mayors and Councillors to reject staff recommendation at Friday Board meeting

Metro Vancouver has more than enough work to do on affordability, cutting own budget

VANCOUVER – The BC Coalition for Affordable Dependable Energy [BC CADE] is calling on Metro Vancouver’s Board to reject a staff recommendation to be voted on Friday that it intervene in BC Hydro hearings at the BC Utilities Commission, saying it is a waste of taxpayer dollars and far outside Metro’s responsibilities.

“Mayors and councillors on the Metro Vancouver Board meeting on Friday can send a clear message that it is listening to taxpayers by rejecting the staff recommendation to be an intervenor in BCUC hearings into BC Hydro’s Integrated Resource Plan and saving money,” says Bill Tieleman, Director of the BC Coalition for Affordable Dependable Energy, one of BC’s largest coalitions, representing over 300,000 people through its business, labour and community members.

“Hasn’t Metro Vancouver got enough problems with the massive \$3 billion cost overrun on the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant and enough work to do on improving affordability and cutting its own budget?” Tieleman asks. “Why would Metro Vancouver step way outside its jurisdiction and involve staff, lawyers and consultants in BC Hydro’s months-long process? It’s mind boggling.”

In fact, Tieleman noted, staff have already filed Metro Vancouver’s application to be an intervenor with BCUC but say they could drop out if the Metro Board votes against participating.

BC Hydro’s 2025 Integrated Resource Plan is scheduled to run until the end of May 2026 and Tieleman says Metro Vancouver getting involved is another example of municipalities and regional governments overstepping their jurisdiction into areas well-covered by both the provincial and federal governments.

“This scope creep into issues more and more removed from traditional municipal responsibilities like street repairs, garbage collection and zoning is why so many cities and towns in B.C. are raising taxes far beyond inflation – it’s creating new work and

hiring new staff that taxpayers never asked for,” Tieleman said. “It’s time Metro Vancouver’s Board sent a strong signal that it has got the message by rejecting this recommendation.”

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Background

The BC Coalition for Affordable Dependable Energy [BC CADE] is a coalition bringing together businesses, business organizations, labour unions, and others to support choice on affordable, dependable energy. Coalition members include:

- BC Chamber of Commerce
- Canadian Federation of Independent Business – BC Branch
- Surrey Board of Trade
- Greater Vancouver Board of Trade
- Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association of Canada
- BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association
- Restaurants Canada
- BC Craft Brewers Guild
- BC Asian Restaurant Cafe Owners Association
- International Union of Electrical Workers Local 213
- UA Local 170
- BC Building Trades
- Mott Electric
- Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating
- The Limona Group
- South Asian Business Association
- Northwest Stoves
- Align West Homes
- Alliance of Beverage Licensees BC
- Concorde Distributing
- Jackson Grills
- Ready Propane
- Napoleon Grills & Fireplaces
- Continental Fireplaces & HVAC
- Valor Radiant Gas Fireplaces
- Pioneer Fireplace
- Maxquip

- Regency Fireplace Products
- Heat Savers
- Burden Propane
- Urban Fireplaces
- Quadra Homes
- Isle of Mann Property Group
- Patriot Homes