

# Yukon Utilities Board

June 21, 2016

To: YECL 2016-17 GRA Parties

**Re UCG retention of Pacific Economics Group (PEG) and proposed revision to process schedule**

The Yukon Utilities Board (Board) is in receipt of the June 17, 2016 correspondence from the Utilities Consumers' Group (UCG) regarding UCG participating in the YECL 2016-17 General Rate Application proceeding. In that correspondence, UCG makes the following statements:

UCG has also contacted the Pacific Economics Group (PEG) requesting the possibility to retain them to help us determine if it is feasible to benchmark the costs and productivity of ATCO Electric Yukon/Yukon Electric Company Limited. PEG has given us a preliminary review from the data available for the ATCO Electric Yukon/Yukon Electric Company Limited available from the Yukon Utilities Board website and the present application. They contend that the annual report, financial statements, and the key performance indicators provide a good amount of data, but fall short in several areas. Therefore a series of interrogatories and past history data would be necessary to first determine if a benchmarking is possible, comparing AEY with similar sized companies in Canada.

The problem here is that UCG does not have sufficient funds to retain this consultant group which has vast experience in benchmarking electrical utilities throughout North America. We request a letter of comfort that the YUB will entertain this new experience and forward regulatory thinking offered to most other jurisdictions. We would also request the need to alter the schedule in order for this to take place, specifically in the time span between IRs and responses and time to analyze and prepare evidence on this very important aspect of scrutiny.

Prior to the Board responding to the UCG request, the Board invites submissions from Parties by Monday, June 27, 2016. UCG may reply to the submissions by Thursday, June 30, 2016.

Sincerely,



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Executive Secretary

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