

From: Robert Sharp [bobsharp5@hotmail.com]
Sent: March 30, 2014 12:44 PM
To: Yukon Utilities Board; Clara Sharp
Subject: Intervention into the Yukon Energy application

Mr. Bruce McLennan, Chair
Yukon Utilities Board
Box 31728
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 6L3

I am writing the Yukon Utilities Board to express my concerns regarding the Yukon Energy Application for an Energy Project Certificate and Energy Operation Certificate regarding the Proposed Whitehorse Diesel – Natural Gas Conversion Project –

I am of the opinion that the proposed conversion does not serve the public interest and will result in increased costs that I will need to pay for electrical power and I am requesting the Board deny their application. I have four reasons to support this position.

1. Hauling LNG (liquefied methane) from southern suppliers will require additional transportation costs. LNG transport requires specialized tankers and transportation conditions. Hauling LNG represent an additional safety consideration given the volatility of LNG and, given the length and route LNG will need to be transported I believe the costs and risks represent unwarranted investment for this utility that will be required to recover the costs from the consumer (me).
2. Conversion to LNG will decrease the use of diesel in the Yukon. Market processes suggest that this will result in increased costs for diesel in the balance of the Yukon. This will mean increased costs for diesel in the balance of the Yukon, resulting in additional cost for heating my home and driving my car.
3. If the goal of Yukon Energy is to increase the dependability of energy supply to domestic and commercial users then I believe this approach is wrong minded and does not serve the public interest. I built and energy efficient home, provide a back up generator to accommodate significant power interruptions but I have yet to install renewable energy sources to support my domestic uses. I believe that, as a power user and a person who “pays the Yukon Energy” bill that I should be able to expect a prudent operation of the utility. Investing in a smart grid, in non-renewable resources and in providing differential rates (cheaper during low use periods) would provide a far greater benefit to the public that their proposed LNG conversion.
4. I have seen no compelling evidence by Yukon Energy to support the proposition that conversion from diesel to LNG serves the public interests. I am concerned that the conversion proposal may be founded on other considerations. There is currently no local sources of Yukon LNG, but if the conversion proceeds, then the process of exploring for and developing Yukon Natural gas supplies gains credibility. While Yukon Energy denies any such interest in the response to the Don Roberts letter, I worry that such considerations are paramount, just not on the record.

In summary, I am requesting the Yukon Utilities Board deny Yukon Energy’s Application for Diesel – Natural Gas Conversion Project on the basis that it does not serve the public interest.

Robert Sharp