

To: Yukon Utilities Board

Letter of Comment regarding the Whitehorse Diesel - Natural Gas Conversion Project

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I am a Whitehorse resident and YEC customer. My home is heated with a combination of electric and wood heat.

1) The proposed plan contradicts both Yukon Government and City of Whitehorse goals for reducing our greenhouse gas emissions (see City of Whitehorse Local Action Plan to Reduce Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions for City Operations and the Community and Yukon Government Climate Change Action Plan). There is a clear public mandate in both the City and the Territory to limit our greenhouse gas emissions. YEC is a public utility.

- Total GHG emission factors are greater for natural gas than diesel (AECOM report)
- LNG is not an appropriate back-up solution. It requires a large investment of public funds that will lock us into dependence on fossil fuels. This can only hinder the development of other energy sources and the improvement of demand side management

2) Yukon residents rely on YEC to provide us with energy into the future. Fossil fuels are neither an economically nor an environmentally sustainable option in the long term. This project is a huge financial commitment yet we cannot predict the long term cost of natural gas. Public money will be invested into a strategy that does not provide long term security to Yukoners.

I do not support the proposal by YEC to generate back-up power with a natural gas facility. I would prefer to see YEC replace the existing diesel generators with new, efficient ones. I would like YEC to use all available resources to develop renewable energy sources and undertake to reduce the use of diesel at peak times. Strategies to reduce peak loads are common in other jurisdiction and many have been in use for decades.