



# Provincial Cabinet Minister Meeting

**Honourable Bill Bennett**

**Ministry of Energy & Mines**

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**Date:** September 23, 2014 @ 4:20 PM

**Location:** Alpine Room E, Westin

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## **PURPOSE**

Joint meeting with Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy & Mines and the District of Ucluelet to discuss:

- 1) Wave energy
- 2) Liquid Natural Gas

## **BACKGROUND**

The District of Ucluelet has been pursuing Wave Energy as an environmentally and economically green direction for the past 12 years.

Initially, in 2002, BC Hydro undertook the initiative, until political changes took them out of the picture. Despite this Ucluelet proceeded to pursue alternate power initiatives with interested proponent. The stumbling block came two years ago when BC Hydro's assessment of their power sources for the foreseeable future determined that it could be met without offering feed-in-tariffs to new green proponents.

While BC Hydro's energy sources are considered environmentally sound, relative to other power sources in Canada and the world, Ucluelet still believe that Wave Energy, proven in numerous countries to far outweigh the efficiencies of solar and wind power, is the answer to the growing issue of greenhouse gas and climate change.

We continue to seek opportunities to test and confirm our belief. As is being demonstrated in the Bay of Fundy, that the ocean offers a unique power source. We believe Ucluelet, is an ideal source of powerful wave energy, and a BC Hydro cable all the way across Vancouver Island on our doorstep is the perfect test site for such an undertaking.

The proposed closure of the Coast Guard Station, and associated economic impact to our community also offers a transition point whereby the land and facilities already in existence, make an ideal location for such a plant.

- We also wish to express our support for the development of an LNG plant in adjacent communities. We are confident that the location of an LNG plant in this area will provide enormous economic spin-off benefits to the area, and indeed Vancouver Island.

## **CONCLUSION**

We are looking for the Minister to provide staff assistance to seek funding sources and buy-in from BC Hydro to make Ucluelet the test site for a new and innovative energy source, which can be fed into Hydro's power grid.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Ministry staff to work with District staff to pursue this alternate green energy opportunity.



November 14, 2014

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Forwarded to: Council, Andrew  
 Physical  Electronic

Ref.: 86849

His Worship Bill Irving  
Mayor of the District of Ucluelet  
PO Box 999  
Ucluelet, BC V0R 3A0

Dear Mayor Irving:

I am writing to thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and your councillors at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention in Whistler on September 23, 2014, during which we discussed tidal and wave energy policy in British Columbia.

The Government is committed to working with the clean energy sector to ensure that there are opportunities for new developments in the Province, including the Clean Energy Strategy in BC Hydro's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) focusing on smaller projects and First Nations' participation. The IRP also calls for BC Hydro to renew cost-effective Electricity Purchase Agreements (EPAs). A small wave energy plant could potentially apply for an EPA through the Standing Offer Program (SOP), but it is not clear that it would be able to provide power at SOP prices. BC Hydro's IRP identified wave energy as the single highest cost potential energy source.

Thank you for bringing Kinder Morgan's interest in the Coast Guard Station as a spill response hub for oil tankers to my attention. By copy of this letter, I have informed Honourable Rich Coleman, Minister of Natural Gas Development and Minister Responsible for Housing and Deputy Premier. We will also follow up with the University of Victoria regarding their plan to launch monitoring buoys off Ucluelet.

It was a pleasure to meet with you and your councillors in Whistler.

Sincerely,

Dave Nikolejsin  
Deputy Minister

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pc: Honourable Rich Coleman  
Minister of Natural Gas Development and  
Minister Responsible for Housing and  
Deputy Premier

Honourable Bill Bennett  
Minister of Energy and Mines and  
Minister Responsible for Core Review

Mr. Steve Carr  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Natural Gas Development

Mr. Les MacLaren  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Electricity and Alternative Energy Division  
Ministry of Energy and Mines