


From: kimborden@northwestel.net 
Subject: Comments on YUB Board Order 2025-04
Date: March 20, 2025 at 11:49 AM
To: yub@utilitiesboard.yk.ca



Request for Clarification on Electric Rate Setting and Concerns Regarding Additional Increases

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the recent rate increases for electricity in Yukon and the complexities surrounding the rate-setting process. As a non-commercial ratepayer, I have found the information on rate structures and calculations difficult to fully understand, and I feel that the process is not easily accessible or transparent to the average consumer.

While I am aware that utility companies, such as ATCO Electric Yukon, are entitled to make a profit, I have concerns about the legitimacy of the profits reported by ATCO and the lack of clarity surrounding these figures. From a consumer's perspective, it is difficult to reconcile the record-high costs of electricity with the profits made by the company, especially when these profits appear to be flowing out of the territory.

My primary concern is the significant impact that rising electrical costs are having on the financial stability of many Yukoners, particularly those who are already struggling to meet the costs of day-to-day necessities. With the recent increase in rates, I worry that some residents will find it increasingly difficult to afford their monthly bills, putting a strain on their overall financial well-being. I believe that Rider J has already had this impact on many Yukon non-commercial rate payers thereby making an additional increase an already destabilizing financial burden.

Additionally, I would like to seek clarification on a specific part of the rate-setting language. A response from ATCO Electric Yukon has indicated that the company has accumulated approximately \$10 million in "over-earnings" since 2016, which has raised concerns regarding the fairness of the current pricing model. Moreover, I am seeking further explanation of the following excerpt:

"Board Order 2023-23 approved an interim refundable rate adjustment rider increase of 10% (Rider J) effective January 1, 2024, to coincide with the removal of the Rider F charge, as well as separate interim refundable Fixed Charge amounts for VCG Group and for Hecla Yukon (previously Alexco). To mitigate customer bill impacts, YEC seeks approval of final 2023/24 GRA rates effective August 1, 2024, to coincide with the removal of YEC's 2021 GRA true-up rider."

Specifically, I am seeking confirmation that as a non-commercial ratepayer, I am not being asked to subsidize any revenue shortfalls resulting from inactive or failed mining projects. It is well-known that the mining industry in Yukon operates on a boom-and-bust cycle, and I am concerned that the costs associated with such fluctuations might be unfairly passed on to regular consumers like myself.

I appreciate your attention to these matters and would be grateful for any clarifications or explanations you can provide regarding the rate-setting process and the current rate increases. **I would also like to ensure that my concerns are officially recorded.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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