

November 27, 2023

Whitehorse and via Videoconference

YUKON UTILITIES BOARD

ATCO Electric Yukon

2023-2024 General Rate Application

PROCEEDINGS AT HEARING

(VOLUME 1)

1	BOARD:	Rick Buchan	Chair
2		Lesley McCullough	Vice Chair
3		André Fortin	Panel Member
4		Bonnie King	Panel Member
5		Mel Johnson	Panel Member
6	BOARD STAFF:	Giuseppa Bentivegna	Board Counsel
7		Dwayne Ward	Consultant
8		Lorrie Mullen	Consultant
9		Colleen Henry	Executive secretary
10		Sharon Kerr	Registrar
11	PANEL MEMBERS:	Jay Massie	
12		Beth Rogers	
13		Tony Martino	
14		Tony Badry	
15		John Trogonoski	Concentric
16		Larry Kennedy	Concentric
17	INTERVENORS:	John Landry	Legal Counsel YEC
18		Florian Boulais	
19		John Maissan	
20		Roger Rondeau	Yukon UCG
21		Lane Tredger	Yukon NDP Caucus
22		Jason Epp	YEC
23	OTHER:	Tim Myers	Legal Counsel AEY
24		Erin Anderson	Legal Counsel AEY
25		Kelsey Fletcher	Court Reporter

1 Proceedings at hearing
2 of
3 November 27, 2023
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25 Job No. AB6318751

1 Yukon Utilities Board Hearing November 27, 2023

2 (PROCEEDINGS COMMENCED AT 9:34 A.M.)

3 THE CHAIR: Order. Please be seated.

4 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Good morning everyone. My name is Rick
5 Buchan. I'm the chair of the Yukon Utilities Board,
6 and I call this hearing to order. On behalf of the
7 Yukon Utilities Board, I'd like to begin these
8 proceedings by acknowledging that this hearing is
9 taking place on the shared traditional territories of
10 the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än
11 Council. We recognize and honour the stewardship of
12 these lands by the people of these First Nations and
13 their ancestors over countless generations. May we
14 reaffirm and honour our relationship with one another
15 and respect these precious lands and their inhabitants,
16 and the privilege for those of us who live here to
17 enjoy this special place.

18 The Yukon Utilities Board is comprised of five
19 members, each of whom has been appointed for a
20 renewable term of three years. In addition to myself,
21 the other board members, and I'll ask each to raise
22 their hands to identify themselves, but to my left is
23 vice chair of the board Lesley McCullough, and to her
24 left is Mel Johnson. To my right, Bonnie King, and to
25 her right is André Fortin.

1 It's also my pleasure to introduce the board's
2 support team assisting with this hearing who are all
3 seated at the table to my left. I'd ask each of you
4 when I mention your name to just raise a hand so that
5 people can identify you. First, I'm pleased to
6 introduce the board's executive secretary, Colleen
7 Henry, who -- without whom this board cannot function.
8 And Sharon Kerr, who will be the -- serving as the
9 registrar for this hearing.

10 If you have any practical or logistical questions
11 related to the hearing that are not answered following
12 your careful review of the procedural letter dated
13 November 7th, which can be found on the YUB website
14 under the section relating to this proceeding, you can
15 reach Colleen by phone or text at area code
16 867-335-2839 or by email at the board's email, which is
17 yub@utilitiesboard.yk.ca. Again, this information is
18 all available on the procedural letter that I just
19 mentioned on the board website.

20 Also assisting the board throughout this hearing
21 is our team of supporting professional consultants.
22 Giuseppa Bentivegna is our legal counsel. And our
23 regulatory and depreciation consultants Dwayne Ward and
24 Lorrie Mullen. The court reporters recording and
25 transcribing the hearing are from Veritext Legal

1 Solutions, and I believe the person's name is Kelsey
2 Fletcher, who you will not see raising her hand since
3 she's at a distance.

4 Once the transcripts have been completed they will
5 be posted to the public record on the board's web page
6 for this proceeding. Parties wishing to access the
7 Realtime feed should contact the court reporters to
8 gain access to that facility, and again, Ms. Henry can
9 provide the contact information.

10 Lastly, I wish to acknowledge our very important
11 technology provider Upstream Events, who will be
12 managing both the on-the-ground logistics and the
13 online communication arrangements.

14 So today is the start of the public hearing for
15 the 2023/24 general rate application brought by Yukon
16 Electric Company Limited, which carries on business
17 under the name of ATCO Electric Yukon, which we will be
18 referring to by its customary acronym, AEY. The board
19 has scheduled this hearing for four days and we expect
20 it to be concluded by Thursday, November 30th.

21 As I mentioned, to just provide a point of
22 reference for the proceedings, again, refer to and
23 perhaps print off, if you can, the procedural letter on
24 the -- under the correspondence section on the board's
25 website, and the letter is dated November 7th, 2023.

1 This hearing is being conducted in person and is
2 also available to out-of-town interveners and observers
3 by the Zoom videoconferencing platform. The daily
4 schedule will be that we start at 9:30 A.M. each day
5 and we'll run until approximately 4:30 P.M. There will
6 be two 20-minute breaks, morning and afternoon, at
7 roughly around 10:45 A.M. and 2:45 P.M. And there will
8 be a one and a half hour lunch break between
9 approximately noon and 1:30. The times will be
10 approximate, simply to accommodate breaks being made at
11 convenient points in the process of the evidence being
12 taken.

13 Just as a measure relative to health precautions,
14 while the COVID pandemic has largely subsided in the
15 territory, it is still prevalent in the community.
16 Therefore, we ask that you kindly observe appropriate
17 public health practices aimed at reducing the risk of
18 contagion, things like extra social distancing and so
19 on. Masks of course are no longer mandatory, but you
20 won't be faulted for wanting to wear one if you wish.

21 Now, just as to some appropriate courtesies during
22 these hearings, first off, please ensure that the --
23 any sound notifications on your electronic devices,
24 cell phones, tablets and so on are turned off so we
25 don't have any distracting interruptions. For those

1 interveners participating by way of Zoom, please ensure
2 that your microphone is muted at all times except when
3 you are called on to speak. And, again, this is
4 probably limited to the participants, but please, those
5 of you who are on Zoom, do your best to reduce any
6 distracting background noises when you are speaking.

7 These hearings, as you can observe, typically
8 involve a lot of people, many of whom are high-priced
9 professionals, I can say, plus all of the support staff
10 and the board members and so on. The costs of these
11 proceedings typically to a greater or lesser degree
12 find their way into the utilities rate base, and so it
13 behooves everyone to try to minimize unnecessary costs
14 by being prepared, including being technologically
15 prepared. It's important for people to be on time for
16 the hearing sessions; better yet come a bit early. We
17 request that interveners, when questioning witnesses,
18 be -- restrict their questions to matters that are
19 relevant to the proceedings and ensure that when you're
20 making submissions, that your submissions are supported
21 by the evidence on the record.

22 We don't wish to have to exercise its authority
23 that the board can sanction the waste of time by -- by
24 parties or interveners by -- and it may be reflected in
25 cost awards.

1 The subject matter of this year's GRA proceeding,
2 filed by AEY, the application itself was filed on
3 July 7th, 2023, followed by its depreciation parameter
4 information on September 11, 2023. And finally, its
5 omissions and updates on October 30th, 2023, all of
6 which are on the record. From its original
7 application, AEY is requesting an order approving its
8 2023 and 2024 revenue requirements in the amount of
9 \$60.992 million for 2023 and \$68.906 million for 2024.

10 In addition, AEY is seeking approval for
11 continuation of the currently approved deferral
12 accounts, and addition of new deferral accounts as
13 outlined in section 1.8 of the application. Approval
14 of a 2023 interim refundable rate rider, rider R, for
15 implementation on August 1st, 2023, as detailed in
16 section 13 of the application. That -- that
17 application was approved for implementation on
18 January 1st, 2024, as detailed in section 13, and such
19 further and other relief as the board may determine may
20 be appropriate. So the board has already made a
21 determination on the interim refundable rate rider R as
22 set out in board order 2023-22, which was issued on
23 September 15, 2023.

24 I won't take time here to detail the further
25 elements of the application as the board expects the

1 parties and the interests of observers to have already
2 become reasonably familiar with the scope of the
3 application. As I mentioned before, the -- if further
4 details are required, they are available on the board's
5 website in the section relevant to this proceeding.

6 So just by way of general guidance on the website,
7 if you find the -- on the main menu the link to
8 proceedings before the board, and you just drill down
9 through that and it will take you to the record.

10 To save time, the board is dispensing with any
11 oral opening statements. Instead the opening
12 statements received, principally I believe that
13 produced by AEY, is posted on the website, the board's
14 web page. AEY plans to sit three panels for this
15 hearing. The first will be its general panel, which
16 will respond to all questions other than those related
17 to return on equity or ROE and those relating to
18 depreciation. The second panel will respond to the ROE
19 questions, and the final panel will speak to questions
20 on depreciation matters.

21 For each witness panel the board will first hear
22 from the witnesses for AEY, following which interveners
23 may cross-examine AEY witnesses. We ask that all
24 interveners ensure that their questions of each panel
25 are made according to the subject matter expertise of

1 the particular panel and to avoid asking the same
2 questions unnecessarily to more than one panel. Also,
3 the board expects all interveners to pay close
4 attention to the questions asked of the witnesses by
5 interveners who may be preceding them. Once a question
6 has been asked and an answer given, there should be no
7 repetition of the same or substantially the same
8 question by other interveners. If a question you wish
9 to ask has previously been asked and answered by the
10 witness, please move on to new ground. Otherwise you
11 might expect at the very least an objection from
12 counsel for AEY. And if not, you may get the same from
13 the board.

14 We do have a -- as I mentioned before, we have a
15 tight schedule. We've got a number of participants in
16 the form of interveners, and so we are concerned that
17 time be used efficiently. With respect to the order of
18 the interveners, Yukon Energy Corporation will go
19 first, assuming they have questions, and then after
20 Yukon Energy or YEC, we'll proceed in alphabetical
21 order beginning with Mr. Florian Boulais, followed by
22 Mr. John Maissan. After that comes Utilities Consumer
23 Group, Nathaniel Yee. Yukon Energy Corporation --
24 sorry, rather finally the Yukon NDP Caucus. The energy
25 corporation goes first and Yukon NDP Caucus is last on

1 the alphabetical list.

2 Following the interveners' questions of the
3 witnesses, the board's legal counsel or the board
4 members themselves may then ask questions of each
5 witness panel. After cross-examination of each panel,
6 AEY will then have an opportunity to ask questions of
7 their witnesses by way of redirect. And of course,
8 redirect examination should be limited to clarifying or
9 elaborating on the answers that were elicited in
10 response to the questions put to them in
11 cross-examination.

12 The board's practice in these hearings is to have
13 witnesses either sworn or to give solemn affirmation,
14 and these will be administered by the court reporter.
15 I remind all participants conducting cross-examination
16 that their questions to the witnesses must be relevant
17 to the issues in this general rate application.
18 Cross-examination is intended to elicit relevant
19 evidence for the record. It is not an opportunity for
20 interveners to give evidence or make statements or
21 editorialize or to undertake any kind of presentation
22 of any kind.

23 Please reserve any desired commentary for the --
24 your final written submissions at the end of the
25 proceeding, which, again, should be based on the

1 evidence for the most part.

2 A few words about aids to cross-examination, or as
3 they're typically referred to as aids to cross, these
4 are intended to assist the parties questioning a
5 witness about the evidence being given as a sort of
6 reference point. An aid to cross should only be used
7 if it assists in the questioning of the witness.
8 Questions that can be put to a witness directly should
9 be asked without the use of the aid. The party
10 proposing to question the witness should submit a copy
11 of the aid to cross to counsel for the witness at least
12 24 hours before the aid to cross is intended to be
13 used, relied on. This will provide an element of
14 fairness and avoid surprise and will enable the witness
15 to better respond to the question with a bit of
16 foreknowledge.

17 Aids to cross should not be submitted to the board
18 at the time it is sent to the counsel for the witness.
19 Failure to abide by these directions may result in the
20 board disallowing the use of the aid to cross.

21 After questioning the witnesses, a party may then
22 ask the board to give the aid to cross an exhibit
23 number, and then the board will decide whether to --
24 whether it will be accepted as an exhibit and provided
25 with an exhibit number. Also if an exhibit number is

1 granted, a copy of the aid to cross should also be
2 provided to the board's executive secretary, Ms. Henry,
3 in electronic format at that time. And, again, for
4 that purpose, you have the board's website -- sorry,
5 email address that I gave earlier.

6 To facilitate efficient marking of exhibits, a
7 list of exhibits has been circulated identifying
8 exhibits received up to this point in time. And this
9 list will be updated daily and circulated daily to
10 participants by email.

11 A word about motions and objections: During the
12 hearing any party wishing to register an objection or
13 make a motion may do so by alerting the chair, either
14 by raising the hand or standing so that you catch our
15 attention. Interveners participating by way of the
16 Zoom video platform should seek acknowledgment by
17 raising the hand icon on the Zoom toolbar.

18 So at this point I will now ask the board's legal
19 counsel, Ms. Bentivegna, to proceed to register the
20 parties to the proceeding.

21 T. MYERS: [Indiscernible] with me is my colleague Aaron
22 Anderson, and we are external counsel to AEY.
23 [Indiscernible].

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're having trouble hearing
25 Ms. Bentivegna. [Indiscernible].

1 G. BENTIVEGNA: I'll try again. Okay, now I can -- now
2 even I can tell. So we had started with AEY, and then
3 I was asking if -- to register Yukon Energy
4 Corporation. But I don't see or hear anyone here, so
5 then we'll proceed on to Mr. Boulais.

6 F. BOULAIS: I am Mr. Boulais, and I'm going to be
7 intervening on my own, for my own.

8 G. BENTIVEGNA: All right. Thank you. And then Utilities
9 Consumers' Group.

10 R. RONDEAU: Do I have to go up there or can you hear me
11 here?

12 G. BENTIVEGNA: I can hear you.

13 R. RONDEAU: I'll go to the microphone. Good morning.

14 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: We can hear you.

15 R. RONDEAU: Good morning, Roger Rondeau for the Yukon
16 Consumers' Group here.

17 G. BENTIVEGNA: Thank you. Then Mr. Yee. Sorry, Mr. Yee,
18 if you can speak up.

19 N. YEE: Hello, is this working now?

20 G. BENTIVEGNA: Yes, we can hear you.

21 N. YEE: Is there any way I can be changed on Zoom to
22 participant level instead of this level, instead of --
23 so that I can have control of the mute, raising hand,
24 and video? Yes, there we go, join as panelist. Okay.
25 Thank you.

1 G. BENTIVEGNA: All right, thank you, Mr. Yee. And then
2 the Yukon NDP Caucus.

3 L. TREDGER: Hi, I'm Lane Tredger on behalf of the Yukon
4 NDP Caucus.

5 G. BENTIVEGNA: Thank you. And then just to be clear, the
6 Yukon Conservation Society advised our executive
7 secretary that they wouldn't be participating. So I
8 just -- in case there's any change, call their name to
9 see if they're going to register.

10 J. EPP: Hi, can you hear me?

11 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Jason Epp.

12 G. BENTIVEGNA: Oh, okay. Sorry, Mr. Epp. So you're for
13 YEC?

14 J. EPP: Yeah. Sorry, I wasn't able to control my mute
15 button like Mr. Yee there. Yes, I am Jason Epp with
16 Yukon Energy Corporation, vice president of finance and
17 chief financial officer, who I'll also potentially be
18 represented by our legal counsel, John Landry of DLA.

19 G. BENTIVEGNA: Thank you. And sorry, I skipped over
20 Mr. Maissan. With the microphone and everything else
21 and people online not being able to unmute,
22 Mr. Maissan.

23 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Last but not least.

24 J. MAISSAN: Thank you very much. John Maissan. I'll
25 represent myself. And if I may ask the gentleman

1 sitting next to me, Mr. Florian Boulais, this is his
2 first participation in a public hearing, and I think he
3 would very much appreciate it if I could switch order
4 with him so that he gets to go after me, and at least
5 gets the flavour for how IRs work and all that
6 cross-examination. That would be much appreciated.
7 Thank you.

8 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Thank you, Mr. Maissan, and thank you for
9 volunteering to go first. After YEC that is.

10 G. BENTIVEGNA: There's no one else in the room that I
11 haven't identified, just to be sure, or online that is
12 participating and has registered as an intervener.

13 I don't hear anyone else. Mr. Chair, those are
14 the parties to the hearing.

15 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. All finished, Ms. Bentivegna?

16 G. BENTIVEGNA: Yes. Thank you.

17 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. Thanks. So before we start with
18 the witness's testimony, the board asks that all
19 participants throughout the hearing when referring to
20 IR responses, to use the YEC consolidated -- sorry.
21 That's not YEC. The consolidated responses for
22 round 1, again, which are found in the -- on the
23 board's website. There is, however, no consolidation
24 of the round 2 IR responses, so you'll have to refer to
25 those independently. Using the consolidated IR

1 responses will ensure that everybody is using a common
2 point of reference which will save time and reduce
3 confusion.

4 So, Mark [sic], may I hand the matter over to you
5 to introduce your first panel.

6 T. MYERS: [Indiscernible] screens that are in the room,
7 but we can't see the participants that are joining us
8 virtually. And if that's a technical issue that's
9 better solved at a break, that's fine, given that we're
10 in person -- oh. Now I can see it, so problem solved.
11 Thank you.

12 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Thanks for mentioning that. Oh. And so
13 once we have the panel introduced, then we'll have them
14 sworn.

15 T. MYERS: Thank you. So, again, good morning, Mr. Chair
16 and panel members. As I mentioned, my name is Tim
17 Myers and with me is Erin Anderson, and we represent
18 AEY in this proceeding. As was outlined in ATCO's
19 letter to the board of November 24th, which has been
20 marked exhibit B-13. ATCO will be presenting three
21 witness panels to provide oral evidence at this
22 proceeding. And as you mentioned, sir, those are the
23 general panel followed by the business risk panel and
24 finally the depreciation panel.

25 This morning it's my pleasure to introduce ATCO's

1 general panel. And starting on the end that's closest
2 to the board panel members is Mr. Tony Badry. Next to
3 him is Mr. Jay Massie. Next to him is Beth Rogers, and
4 finally on the far end is Mr. Tony Martino. The CVs
5 for each of these witnesses were included with the
6 filing that's been marked as exhibit B-13, filed on
7 November 24th.

8 At this time I'd ask that the court reporter swear
9 the witnesses or affirm them as they indicate.

10 Mr. Badry, let's start with you.

11 TONY BADRY, a witness called for the YUB Hearing,
12 affirmed.

13 TONY MARTINO, a witness called for the YUB Hearing,
14 affirmed.

15 JAY MASSIE, a witness called for the YUB Hearing, affirmed.

16 BETH ROGERS, a witness called for the YUB Hearing,
17 affirmed.

18 T. MYERS: Thank you, madam court reporter. Starting with
19 you, Mr. Badry, could you briefly provide us with an
20 overview of your role at ATCO and your involvement in
21 this proceeding.

22 T. BADRY: Absolutely. Good morning, everyone. My name is
23 Tony Badry; I'm the manager for ATCO Electric Yukon. I
24 manage day-to-day operations for the company. I'm
25 responsible for the capital and maintenance plans,

1 those areas I'll be speaking to today. I'm a power
2 line technician by trade. I have 23 years in with
3 ATCO, mostly on operational and construction
4 activities, and I've worked in Alberta, Northwest
5 Territories, but most of my career right here in the
6 Yukon.

7 T. MYERS: Thank you, sir. And, Mr. Massie, can you
8 provide us with a brief overview of your role with ATCO
9 and your involvement with this proceeding.

10 J. MASSIE: Certainly. Thank you. Good morning. I'm Jay
11 Massie. I'm vice president of ATCO in indigenous
12 relations. I have an overall business responsibility
13 for AEY, also the two utilities, two north line
14 utilities in the NWT, and I work with two teams in
15 Alberta, one focused on indigenous relations and the
16 other focused on renewable energy projects. I've been
17 here in Whitehorse. I've worked for ATCO Electric
18 Yukon for 34 years. I've been during that time through
19 most of the departments, so in addition to what we've
20 identified as my main responsibilities on the panel,
21 I'll be assisting the panel in whichever manner I can
22 help with at the time.

23 T. MYERS: Thank you, sir. And, Ms. Rogers, can you please
24 provide the panel with a brief overview of your role at
25 ATCO and your involvement in this proceeding.

1 B. ROGERS: Yes. Good morning. My name is Beth Rogers. I
2 am the director of regulatory for ATCO Electric. In my
3 role I oversee the north of 60 finance and regulatory
4 teams that support ATCO Electric Yukon as well as our
5 north line utilities in the Northwest Territories. I
6 also oversee ATCO Electric distributions, PVR
7 regulation team and the rates revenues teams for the
8 electric utilities. I had the general oversight and
9 the preparation of the application we are speaking to
10 today, and I will specifically be speaking to financing
11 and administrative costs, regulatory policy and general
12 finance and accounting matters over the next few days.

13 T. MYERS: Thank you, Ms. Rogers. And finally,
14 Mr. Martino, can you please provide us with a brief
15 overview of your role at ATCO and your involvement in
16 this proceeding.

17 T. MARTINO: Good morning. My name Tony Martino. I am a
18 senior manager in ATCO's regulatory group based in
19 Edmonton. I have over 26 years' experience working
20 with ATCO working in various roles in finance and
21 regulatories mainly related to ATCO Electric and it's
22 three northern company subsidiaries, our two companies
23 in Northwest Territories, ATCO Electric Yukon.

24 My involvement in this GRA includes general
25 oversight and coordination of the application. During

1 this hearing, however, I will be speaking mainly to
2 sections 2, sales and revenue; section 10, income tax,
3 and section 13, rider calculations including rate and
4 bill impacts.

5 T. MYERS: Thank you, sir. I'll now ask Mr. Massie to
6 adopt the evidence that has been prepared and filed on
7 behalf of AEY.

8 Mr. Massie, were all of the B series exhibits that
9 are referenced in the board's exhibit list prepared by
10 you or under your direction or control?

11 J. MASSIE: Yes, they were.

12 T. MYERS: And are there any corrections to the materials
13 that you would like to make at this time?

14 J. MASSIE: No, not at this time.

15 T. MYERS: And keeping in mind the corrections, updates or
16 clarifications that were made in the update filing of
17 October 30th, are all of the materials referenced in
18 the B series list of exhibits accurate to the best of
19 your knowledge and belief?

20 J. MASSIE: Yes, they are.

21 T. MYERS: And do you adopt those materials as the evidence
22 of ATCO in this proceeding?

23 J. MASSIE: Yes, I do.

24 T. MYERS: Thank you, Mr. Massie.

25 Mr. Chair, as you noted at the outset, ATCO's

1 opening statement was filed on November 24th in
2 accordance with the process that was established by the
3 board. Again, we don't intend to read that into the
4 record, but it is on the record. And with that, sir,
5 this panel is now available for questioning.

6 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Ms. Bentivegna, are you ready to proceed
7 with questions?

8 G. BENTIVEGNA: [Indiscernible].

9 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Sorry, I can't --

10 G. BENTIVEGNA: Mr. Chair, I thought we were starting with
11 Mr. Maissan.

12 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes, of course. Mr. Maissan. Oh, wait.
13 We were going to start with YEC. So is Mr. Landry on
14 and connected for YEC? Is he participating?

15 J. EPP: Actually, Mr. Chair, this is Jason Epp. Yukon
16 Energy has no questions for this general panel.

17 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Epp.

18 J. MAISSAN: Are we ready to proceed?

19 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: We are, if you are. We can carry on.

20 J. MAISSAN: All right. I will open by saying that my
21 comments, or questions rather than comments, haven't
22 really been separated cleanly into the three panels,
23 and sometimes there are overlaps. So I would just
24 request that the panel identify those questions or
25 parts of questions that should be addressed to another

1 panel to go to that panel. Then I will mark them
2 accordingly.

3 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Thank you, okay. All right.

4 J. MAISSAN: All right. I would like to start and most of
5 my cross-examination will be related to questions of
6 clarification on various interrogatory requests, IRs,
7 so most of the references will be to exhibit B-4, which
8 is a consolidated IR responses. And I will start with
9 a number of IRs asked by the Yukon Utilities Board.

10 So my first question is related to AEY YUB-17,
11 which is found in exhibit 4 on PDF page 109 out of
12 1313.

13 And I'll wait to get acknowledgment that people
14 are there before I start questioning. YUB PDF
15 page 1089 of exhibit B-4.

16 J. MAISSAN: So everything said so far has been by myself,
17 John Maissan, on this question. And I'm ready to
18 proceed to the question if everyone is ready. Everyone
19 is ready. All right.

20 So in response to part B of this question, and
21 given that this is -- we're talking about the public
22 information person, it's the shared position between
23 AEY and two other utilities in Northwest Territories.
24 Can someone please explain why AEY is paying for .6 of
25 this FTE and not something like a one-third share if

1 it's spread between three utilities?

2 J. MASSIE: Yeah, I'll speak to that. So .6 base for those
3 two utilities over there, we look -- a lot of it is
4 based on customers, the amount of customers that are
5 served. So very similar to the CCS project that got --
6 the capital expenditures for that project got split
7 between the three utilities or four utilities in that
8 manner. That's really why. It's 60 percent of the
9 position's time is spent here.

10 J. MAISSAN: Right. So it's -- John Maissan speaking.
11 Allocated on the basis of customers in each utility?

12 J. MASSIE: Yes, Jay Massie speaking. The majority of it
13 is.

14 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. If the -- John Maissan. If the
15 AEY share is .6 and the compensation is 79,000, does
16 that mean that the total compensation package is
17 131,000 for this position? Is that a correct
18 calculation?

19 J. MASSIE: I wouldn't say it would be that exact, Mr.
20 Maissan. I think overall -- so that position works
21 within this account but other accounts also. Just one
22 second.

23 So just as I look under "public information,"
24 right, there's a couple of accounts under there, so the
25 position will be split in between that. There will

1 be -- and in the labour, maybe Mr. Rogers can help me
2 here. The labour will be split between accounts but
3 also, you know, there's the loading, administrative
4 loading of the position that I'll ask for assistance.

5 B. ROGERS: So we're looking at the labour costs. It
6 includes the salary of that employee and the benefits,
7 the flex benefits of that employee, but it also
8 includes the cost of administering the labour for that
9 employee, so there's our payroll service provider costs
10 and things like that are all embedded within that
11 labour cost for the employee.

12 J. MAISSAN: Right. Thank you. My second question -- John
13 Maissan speaking again. My second question is related
14 to AEY, YUB-22, which is found in exhibit 4 on
15 page 1100 out of 1313. And this was clarifying -- this
16 question clarifies what exactly the ROE AEY is --
17 [indiscernible].

18 (DISCUSSION OFF THE RECORD)

19 J. MAISSAN: I apologize for the delay. There was some
20 confusion about page numbering. The page numbers I've
21 provided is from exhibit B-4, the consolidated IRs.
22 And it's the PDF page number that I'm quoting, so this
23 question AEY YUB-22, I wrote down, and I hope
24 correctly, that in the consolidated IR responses, that
25 is page -- PDF page 1100. Does this match what people

1 have? I hear a yes behind me. Is that true? Does
2 that follow?

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

4 J. MAISSAN: Sure.

5 G. BENTIVEGNA: Legal counsel speaking, it's very difficult
6 to remember to say one's name before one speaks so the
7 court reporter knows who is speaking. Giuseppa
8 Bentivegna.

9 J. MAISSAN: Right, that's it. That's there. I see it on
10 the screen beside me.

11 J. MASSIE: In our exhibit B series we have the total PDF,
12 so I think that's the difference in the numbers it
13 looks like. So the whole B series is one PDF, so
14 it's --

15 J. MAISSAN: I see. I'm sorry, yes.

16 J. MASSIE: So it will take us a little longer, but we have
17 it here and if you tell us where to go, we should be
18 able to get there a little bit sooner now that we know.

19 J. MAISSAN: Okay. So John Maissan speaking. So my
20 documentation follows the consolidated IRs that I
21 downloaded from the utilities board website. And so
22 please, when I ask a question or refer to an IR, please
23 let me know when you're ready so I don't confuse
24 people.

25 J. MASSIE: We are at YUB-22.

1 J. MAISSAN: Okay. So I wanted to clarify what exactly the
2 ROE is that AEY is requesting. And I heard in your
3 opening statements it's the -- it's the 9.65 percent
4 that BCUC in their generic cost of capital hearing
5 decided was appropriate for a low risk utility, plus a
6 risk premium of 0.75 percent, I believe. And I
7 wondered, is there any -- any change in equity
8 thickness that AEY is requesting?

9 B. ROGERS: Yes, I can confirm that is what the request is,
10 the BCUC on top of the risk premium adder. We are not
11 at this time seeking incremental deemed equity ratios
12 of the previously approved 40 percent. This is
13 probably a discussion that's better served with our
14 cost of capital panel as the second part, but there is
15 considerations to have when looking at risk premiums
16 and the redeemed equity issues and the relationship
17 between those two numbers that we could potentially
18 discuss further in that component of the hearing.

19 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I'm not sure I follow -- John
20 Maissan speaking again. I'm not sure I followed
21 correctly. Did you want me to readdress this question
22 to another panel?

23 B. ROGERS: No. I can confirm for you, yes, we are still
24 asking for the 40 percent equity.

25 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next question is on AEY --

1 sorry. I forgot to say it, John Maissan speaking
2 again. My next question is on AEY YUB-24, which on the
3 B-4 exhibit is PDF page 1105.

4 J. MASSIE: We are there.

5 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. In response to part A to C of this
6 IR, AEY states in part:

7 "The company service territory is
8 characterized by extreme weather
9 conditions to a greater degree than
10 most other electric and gas utilities
11 in Canada."

12 And also later that:

13 "AHEY has reviewed the weather
14 sensitivity of AEY's residential sales
15 compared to its affiliate electric
16 companies'."

17 I guess it is obvious to most of us that AEY as well as
18 its affiliates are subject to some of Canada's coldest
19 temperatures. And I would like to know too -- sorry. I
20 know too that AEY normalizes temperatures using the
21 heating degree days approach, I believe. But I wondered
22 what other weather factors AEY analyzes, if any.

23 T. MARTINO: Tony Martino. I can take that. This response
24 here, we've basically summarized our ATCO Electric
25 Yukon, our two northern companies in Northwest

1 Territories and ATCO Electric Distribution, and
2 basically this is from our data for weather. The
3 coefficients that are depending on the impacts of
4 weather, so we have different weather zones. For the
5 AEY we have the Whitehorse zone and Watson Lake. For
6 ATCO Electric we have several zones that we use in
7 Alberta. And then of course for Yellowknife, it would
8 be the Yellowknife zone and Hay River for NWT.

9 So we have historical data that has the impacts of
10 the weather on use per customer, and when we run that
11 regression, the coefficients that indicate how much the
12 HDDs are impacting use per customer are summarized in
13 this table. And it indicates that the coefficient
14 that's impacted by weather is the highest for AEY.

15 J. MAISSAN: John Maissan asking again, clarifying, the HDD
16 is related to the temperature. So is it based on
17 temperature only, or do you do other weather parameter
18 analyses such as perhaps wind, cloud cover, sunshine
19 hours, anything like that or just the temperature
20 hitting degree days?

21 T. MARTINO: Tony Martino. No, strictly temperature. We
22 don't look at any other weather factors.

23 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I see that Newfoundland Power and
24 Maritime Electric are on the comparator list for AEY.
25 Are both of these utilities not subject to a lot more

1 weather extremes in the form of hurricanes, storms,
2 wind kind of stuff and higher precipitation levels and
3 factors that are more damaging to utility physical
4 infrastructure than AEY?

5 J. MASSIE: Maybe just as a point of clarification, Mr.
6 Maissan, when Mr. Martino talked about only factoring
7 weather, that's in regard to sales. That's sales
8 forecast not business risk. So this is where -- I'm
9 not sure which part we are talking about. Is it more
10 from the business risk side or are we the sales
11 forecast?

12 J. MAISSAN: Well, this is related to both, I guess,
13 because certainly business risk would drive
14 return-on-equity decisions, and I see impacts on
15 physical infrastructure being a business risk that --
16 that various utilities would be subject to, and they
17 differ across the country. And that's what I was
18 driving at. The Newfoundland Power and Maritime
19 Electric would be perhaps more exposed to business risk
20 related from wind storms, hurricanes, and those kinds
21 of things than AEY is. And so I wondered just how --
22 how AEY assesses its similar risk, I guess, or
23 associated risks, and is that taken into account?

24 T. MYERS: Mr. Chairman, if I might just interject briefly
25 there, I think we're squarely within what the business

1 panel is going to speak to next in terms of the
2 comparator group and what sort of factors Concentric
3 are considered in developing that comparator group and
4 how that relates to AEY. So I might suggest we defer
5 these questions until the next panel.

6 R. BUCHANAN: Thank you, yes, I'll defer this question to
7 the next panel. Thank you.

8 J. MAISSAN: My next question relates to AEY YUB-26
9 exhibit B-4, PDF page 1109. So AEY YUB-26.

10 J. MASSIE: YUB-26, yeah, we are there. The panel is
11 there.

12 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. In response to part A at the
13 bottom of page 1 of 3 of this response, AEY states
14 that:

15 "While this provides opportunity, this
16 transition also produces -- introduces
17 risk and challenges to electric
18 utilities."

19 And speaking of here of the transformational change.
20 And my question -- first question is is AEY -- is it
21 AEY's view that the risks and challenges outweigh the
22 opportunities of this transition?

23 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. I think really the main point for
24 energy transition that we are in the midst of is that
25 it's really not in our control. You know, the number

1 of issues that we've talked about are government
2 directed, that we are reacting to. So I think really
3 our main point there is that it's not in our control.

4 We don't have a clear understanding of what's in
5 front of us for the risk, how it's going to affect us.
6 Electric vehicles is a very good example. There's a
7 number of chargers that have been installed across the
8 territory by the government. We still don't have an
9 answer of how they're going to operate fully and who is
10 going to own them a couple years down the road.

11 So I think that's the main point that we're making
12 on the -- at the high level of energy transition,
13 Mr. Maissan, is that it's not in our control and we're
14 really pretty much responding to it. Not understanding
15 what benefits could [indiscernible].

16 J. MAISSAN: John Maissan speaking. So if I can rephrase
17 and understand that, you're saying essentially that you
18 cannot really assess the risks and opportunities this
19 presents or quantify them well enough to react to
20 those? Is that a fair statement?

21 J. MASSIE: What I was saying, it's hard to weigh what I
22 think your question was, weighing the risks against the
23 benefits when we don't [indiscernible]. We don't have
24 a full picture of them as they [indiscernible].

25 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. John Maissan again. In answer to

1 part B of that IR, AEY discusses BCUC's treatment of
2 Fortis BC Energy Inc., and I wonder whether you could
3 confirm that the risk of this gas utility, as I
4 understand it, is probably loss of sales rather than
5 potential increase in sales. Is that correct? Is that
6 the risk that ...

7 B. ROGERS: Mr. Maissan, I think this would be another
8 example of a question that would be best served with
9 the second panel with regards to business risk.

10 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I will note that. With respect to
11 micro-generation and the IPP policy, AEY has now had
12 some years to get familiar with them. Are these the
13 types of policies -- is this the type of timeline that
14 AEY would need with other policies to get familiar with
15 them so they can properly assess the business risk and
16 opportunities?

17 J. MASSIE: Well, I would say just in -- they're good
18 examples of policies that we don't have control over.
19 And even though I think the first iteration of the IPP
20 policy was in 2015, it's still evolving. You know,
21 there was just a recent decision about a renewable
22 project in the Watson Lake grid, but it's on the BC
23 side. So and same with micro-generation, it's still
24 evolving and growing. It is a government program that
25 we don't have control over, but it would be pretty hard

1 to put a timeline to how long it takes to -- if we
2 don't understand, I guess, what program is coming up
3 and how it will be treated.

4 So I would love it to be a definitive period of
5 two, three, five years, whichever. Definitive would be
6 great, but I just don't have enough information to give
7 a definitive timeline.

8 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Related to the subject -- John
9 Maissan again. Related to the subject, in its
10 August 10th, '23 letter to the YUB, AEY is responding
11 to interim rate comments. And AEY says in part:

12 "AEY submits that all parties have
13 sufficient opportunity on a regular
14 basis to review and --"

15 I lost the rest of that quote. Well, basically to --
16 sorry. I've lost the rest of that quote. To apply to
17 the -- to the board on an interim basis such as the rate
18 relief application.

19 I was wondering, with these kinds of policies, if
20 AEY is coming before this board on a regular basis, does
21 this not provide the opportunity to adjust every few
22 years to these policies and policy changes?

23 J. MASSIE: Well, I would say if we came before the board
24 more regularly, if there was a change in policy that
25 was enacted in that timeframe and put in place, we

1 could adjust for it. But, again, that example of an
2 IPP policy, the first iteration was 2015. 2018 there
3 was a second revision, and I know it's being
4 contemplated further today. So I would just say
5 it's -- even if we were to come before the board a
6 little more -- or on a regular basis, it wouldn't
7 guarantee that the policy would align, or policy
8 enactment would align, I guess.

9 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next question is on AEY YUB 27,
10 found in exhibit B-4 on PDF page 1112. 1112.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We are there.

12 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. In response to this IR, AEY says
13 in part that wildfires have become more severe. And I
14 was wondering, with respect to fires, does AEY have
15 insurance?

16 B. ROGERS: I can respond to that one. So AEY is
17 self-insured through the reserve for injuries and
18 damages, which is quite typical for electrical
19 utilities in -- at least in Alberta jurisdictions as
20 well. The line insurance has become increasingly
21 expensive for utilities and rate payers and is harder
22 and harder to come by as we are kind of seeing this
23 trend on the wildfire and the severity of those issues
24 in other jurisdictions.

25 J. MAISSAN: So -- John speaking. So you have some

1 insurance or no insurance that would protect against
2 damage from wildfires?

3 B. ROGERS: We have insurance for our main property, so
4 buildings and vehicles and things like that; our lines
5 are not insured. Those are self-insured through the
6 reserve.

7 J. MAISSAN: Right. So you -- John speaking. So you can't
8 get coverage or it's not cost effective coverage, in
9 your view?

10 B. ROGERS: Correct.

11 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie adding in. Just with -- through my
12 responsibilities in the NWT was involved in the forest
13 fires that were seen over there in and around Hay River
14 and Enterprise, and we've had severe losses as a
15 utility over there, almost 400 poles.

16 In terms of insurance, yeah, we've gotten strong
17 indication from our provider there that they would no
18 longer be offered. It's just between that and the
19 other forest fires that have happened in Alberta,
20 it's -- they just don't see it's been possible.

21 J. MAISSAN: So if it's not possible to get insurance and
22 your recourse is reserved for injuries and damages,
23 basically, then, the rate payers end up having to pay
24 for loss of that kind of infrastructure. Is that
25 correct?

1 J. MASSIE: Yes. We'd -- between the reserve would be back
2 to rate payers, absolutely, but this is also been an
3 opportunity for us to look at our mitigation strategies
4 as wildfires become more prevalent, and we're in the
5 midst of that.

6 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. The next question I have is
7 related to AEY YUB-35, an IR that's found in
8 exhibit B-4 on page 1132.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We are there.

10 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. And what I wanted to do was probe
11 the answer in -- to part C, in particular the last
12 paragraph on page 2 of 3. In this paragraph, AEY
13 discusses the impact of a 50-percent reduction to solar
14 projects forecast delivery to the local grid. And such
15 a reduction would cost AEY \$121,000. If this was the
16 result of problems in the -- in the IPP's project -- am
17 I interpreting that correctly? So if the problem was
18 on the supplier IPP side, a 50-percent reduction in
19 their -- in their forecast reduction would cost AEY
20 \$121,000. Am I correct in that -- in my understanding?

21 J. MASSIE: Yes, that's correct. If -- if for some reason
22 the project isn't able to deliver 50 percent of its
23 renewable -- forecast renewable energy.

24 J. MAISSAN: Right. And can you explain what the nature of
25 this extra cost is to AEY? Is it in the form of diesel

1 generation, for instance, diesel fuel cost, or is it
2 other costs that AEY incurs when an IPP cannot deliver?

3 J. MASSIE: Yeah. Jay Massie. It's more the -- the fuel
4 costs. There are some maintenance costs in there, but
5 so with this project, it's the only IPP renewable
6 project up and running in our isolated communities, and
7 we've forecast in the reduction of diesel now as a
8 result of the project. So we've forecasted in that
9 we'll have a lot less diesel. If we're using a lot
10 less diesel, the engines are running less, we should
11 have less maintenance. All that has been forecast in.
12 So if it happens to be running more than what we are
13 forecasting due to a loss on their side, that's those
14 costs we're speaking to.

15 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. And does this mean that the IPP is
16 getting -- sorry. Does this mean if this is an
17 additional cost that AEY incurs, does this mean that
18 the IPP is -- is getting paid about 242,000 less than
19 what AEY's costs would be in the absence of this
20 project? And to get that number I subtracted 121 from
21 345,000 that's provided later in that answer.

22 So I guess to clarify the question again, does
23 this mean that in the commercial transaction, the IPP
24 is getting paid for its energy about \$242,000 less than
25 what AEY's cost would be in the absence of the project?

1 J. MASSIE: So I would say the -- in that example, if it's
2 the IPP loses 50 percent of their solar capability,
3 there's no -- they don't get paid anything from us for
4 it. That's their part of the project. If they're
5 unable to produce 50 percent of their renewable
6 generation, there's no payment on their side for that.
7 I would say that.

8 What it does for us is all of a sudden we'll need
9 to generate more electricity to make up for that, which
10 we've always done, and it would be at that same rate
11 that we've always -- the same way and same rate that
12 we've always generated electricity in Old Crow, in that
13 instance. Does that answer what you're looking for?

14 J. MAISSAN: Not exactly but close. John speaking here
15 again. We're almost there. What I'm wondering is if
16 AEY still incurs a cost -- AEY would number one, not
17 pay the IPP for energy not delivered. Correct?

18 J. MASSIE: That is correct, yes.

19 J. MAISSAN: All right. So then if -- so the payment that
20 goes to the IPP is less than the -- by \$121,000 that
21 the -- that AEY incurs or would incur in the absence of
22 the IPP project altogether.

23 J. MASSIE: I'm not sure I'm following your numbers there,
24 Mr. Maissan. I know I'm not, I should say. The 521 --
25 I apologize. I'm not sure where that reference is.

1 B. ROGERS: Mr. Maissan, sorry, I'm just trying to catch my
2 bearings. So with the 121,000 would be our net
3 incremental cost where we would not be purchasing from
4 the IPP in this example, but we would have incremental
5 maintenance and diesel costs of \$121,000.

6 J. MAISSAN: Right. So the saving, these are costs that
7 are not offset by reduced payments to the IPP?

8 B. ROGERS: Correct. In the short term, yes.

9 J. MAISSAN: In the short term?

10 B. ROGERS: Yes.

11 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. And my final question here is if
12 the constraint was a failure of a piece of equipment
13 owned by AEY, how much of this cost would be covered by
14 insurance directly or indirectly through the RFID, the
15 reserve for injuries and damages?

16 J. MASSIE: I'm still getting my bearings on your question
17 also, Mr. Maissan, so please be patient. I guess
18 the -- if there's a constraint payment, the payment --
19 we are proposing a deferral for that, part of the IPP
20 deferral. But I guess are you talking about the RID
21 for anything -- for whatever broke on our system that
22 we have to fix that caused that constraint? Is that
23 what you're asking?

24 J. MAISSAN: John speaking. Yes, basically I'm asking if
25 there was a failure in AEY's infrastructure that

1 limited the output by the 50 percent, is that failure
2 of the infrastructure, that piece of equipment then
3 likely something that's covered by -- directly by
4 insurance or indirectly through the reserve for
5 injuries and damages?

6 J. MASSIE: Well, I would say if we have insurance coverage
7 for it, whatever it is, it would be. You know, if it
8 was a wildfire or something like that, well, I guess we
9 have force majeure so that wouldn't be an issue. But
10 just thinking through our power plants, typical poles
11 would be the reserve, and we have coverage. If they're
12 actual new generation units that have warranty, we
13 would seek that coverage there.

14 J. MAISSAN: Yes. And perhaps -- John speaking, John
15 Maissan speaking. As part of these IPP projects, I
16 understand that some of the infrastructure paid for by
17 the IPP proponent actually becomes -- eventually is
18 owned and operated and maintained by AEY. And if one
19 of those pieces of equipment fails, does that fall into
20 the same category?

21 J. MASSIE: Well, it would still fall into it -- if it
22 causes a constraint, yes, it would fall under that same
23 category. So if it was the battery energy system,
24 storage system, yeah, it would fall into that
25 constraint.

1 J. MAISSAN: Thank you.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible] speaking.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

4 J. MAISSAN: No problem.

5 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: So we'll take a 20-minute break and
6 resume at -- I'm not sure if my watch is precisely in
7 accord with the -- but 11:15. 11:20. Okay. So thank
8 you.

9 G. BENTIVEGNA: The hearing will stand adjourned until
10 11:20 A.M.

11 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 11:00 A.M.)

12 (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED AT 11:27 A.M.)

13 G. BENTIVEGNA: Order. Please be seated. The hearing is
14 resuming.

15 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: In light of our slightly delayed break
16 and the additional time that our technical issues took
17 to resolve, we're going to take the noon -- or the
18 midday break at 12:15 and then resume at 1:45. So back
19 to you, Mr. Maissan.

20 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. So we were just beginning on
21 exhibit B-4, page -- PDF page 1137, and that was the
22 response to AEY YUB-37. And this IR deals with a quote
23 from Concentric Energy Report included in the
24 application exhibit B-1. The AEY answer to (a) is that
25 no studies were performed and that this is based on

1 anecdotal evidence. What is the approximate percentage
2 of new homes that have electric heat?

3 J. MASSIE: Well, as we stated, there's no specific study,
4 but really, anecdotally, any of the new builds that are
5 in Whistle Bend subdivision specifically, we haven't
6 seen any that are not electric heat. There are other
7 unfilled lots in other parts of the community and
8 outside communities of course that would not be as
9 prevalent on electric heat.

10 J. MAISSAN: Right.

11 J. MASSIE: We don't have a defined number.

12 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Yes, I'd heard numbers anywhere
13 north of 90 percent, and it sounds like it's virtually
14 100. So thank you. Do you have any idea how many new
15 homes have been built since 2016?

16 J. MASSIE: We wouldn't have a number of homes, no. I
17 think the only thing -- closest thing we'd have would
18 be residential customer adds that we could extrapolate
19 some information from.

20 J. MAISSAN: All right. Sorry. Do you have any idea of --
21 sorry, John Maissan. Do you perhaps the -- do you have
22 an idea of the number of new residential customers that
23 have -- that AEY is serving from 2016 to present?

24 J. MASSIE: So the question is how many -- from the base of
25 2016, how many additional residential customers since

1 that time?

2 J. MAISSAN: Yes, correct.

3 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible] since 2016 to our
4 forecast in 2023 is approximately 2600 commercial adds.

5 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. And I wondered whether AEY or
6 Concentric performed any calculations to determine if
7 the increase in UPC has been due to an increasing
8 percentage in overall homes that are now electrically
9 heated as opposed to I guess other -- other
10 requirements, electrical requirements within the homes.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. Our use per customer reflects
12 all the data that over the last number of years in
13 terms of the trend in use per customer, and outside of
14 the impacts of weather from year to year, we do note
15 that use per customer has increased over time in -- for
16 AEY. And then of course during the pandemic, we saw a
17 further increase with stay-at-home orders, and now
18 we're seeing a little bit of a reverting back to
19 pre-pandemic levels in use per customer for
20 residential.

21 J. MAISSAN: John Maissan. Would you say then that the
22 growth in UPC is entirely -- that we see sort of now
23 versus 2016, is that almost entirely due to the
24 electric heat in new homes built since that time?

25 T. MARTINO: Tony Martino. That could be part of it.

1 There are other factors that affect use per customer.
2 Could be everything from energy efficient appliances on
3 one hand that reduces usage, installation of air
4 conditioning units increasing it on the other hand,
5 customers putting LED lights. So there are many
6 factors outside of the electric heat that could cause
7 use per customer to go higher or lower.

8 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Just to clarify, then, compared to
9 electric heat, these other factors would be lower,
10 higher than the electric heat component, you say?

11 T. MARTINO: Tony Martino. We don't have exact data on the
12 profile of what is contributing to the changes, but
13 typically by us running our data over many years, the
14 trend is baked into our forecast, and implies the
15 change in -- if it's electric heat or any of the other
16 factors that affect use per customer is included in our
17 regression when we run our sales forecast.

18 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next question is AEY YUB 56,
19 which is a response to IR found in exhibit B-4,
20 page 1224, PDF page 1224. And this is in response to
21 capital expenditures on business case 03. I noticed
22 that the approved cost was 122,000. The final cost was
23 174,000. And the reason was was the delay, I believe,
24 and the next year's costs were higher.

25 So I'm a little bit confused though about the

1 dates provided in the response. The response says
2 initial estimate -- initial cost estimate developed for
3 this project in January 2017 was 122,000. The estimate
4 based on 2016 values was values equalled 141,000. So
5 the later estimate was lower than the earlier estimate,
6 was it, or is there a typo in the -- in the answer?

7 J. MASSIE: Mr. Maissan, just -- we're -- the numbers
8 you're referencing, they were in the business case
9 number 12 or were they in the IR?

10 J. MAISSAN: This is the response to the IR, the response
11 to IR AEY YUB 55.

12 J. MASSIE: That would do it. I was at 56.

13 T. BADRY: Tony Badry here. This is in response to the
14 regulators purchase. AEY YUB 55, correct?

15 J. MAISSAN: Correct, yes.

16 T. BADRY: So that cost variance was due to the estimate
17 coming in more for that equipment in 2017.

18 J. MAISSAN: Sorry, could you repeat that. I seem to have
19 missed something.

20 T. BADRY: Yeah. If I understand your question, you're
21 asking about the cost variance, 174,000?

22 J. MAISSAN: I'm asking about the two estimates in that
23 first two lines of the response. The estimate for
24 January 2017 was 122,000. The estimate based on 2016
25 values equalled 141,000. So it seems that the 2016 or

1 the earlier estimate was in fact higher than the 2017
2 estimate, and it seemed confusing because I thought it
3 would be the reverse, that the 2017 costs were higher
4 than the 2016 costs. So I'm a bit confused about those
5 dates and the amounts.

6 T. BADRY: Tony Badry. So, Mr. Maissan, it depends on the
7 cost estimate at the time. So our estimates do
8 fluctuate depending on [indiscernible] for that price
9 year by year.

10 J. MAISSAN: Okay. So these are accurate numbers and
11 dates. They're not -- it's not a typo there; correct?

12 T. BADRY: That's correct.

13 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. The total increase in cost was
14 about \$52,000 or 42.6 percent. Was this entirely due
15 to material cost between -- increase in material costs
16 from 2016 to 2017, or were there other factors there?

17 T. BADRY: Tony Badry, yes, it was all due to equipment
18 costs.

19 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next question is on the
20 response to AEY YUB-65, and this is not the exhibit 4;
21 this is exhibit 4.1. And it's page 1 of 18. And
22 related to that, it may be appropriate, you may want to
23 bring up AEY JM-7 which is in exhibit 4, related to the
24 same topic, and the exhibit -- the PDF page number in
25 exhibit B-4 for JM-7 is page 30 out of 1313. And this

1 is to do with grid modernization and AMI meters.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

3 J. MAISSAN: Okay. Thank you. And the other IR you may or
4 may not want to bring up, but I've referenced both of
5 them in preparing my question, or questions, I guess.
6 The first question is the cost for the project of
7 \$436,000 covers, I believe, if I added correctly, 680
8 plus 820 meters or a total of 1,500 meters. So \$291
9 each installed cost. Does that seem right? Is my math
10 in the right ballpark?

11 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. I do see the 436 in the business
12 case. I will trust you have the right numbers on the
13 amount of meters, so yeah, subject to check I'm good
14 with those.

15 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. And how many meters would be
16 required of these meters to convert all of A,
17 Whitehorse customers and B, the grid customers to these
18 new AMI meters?

19 J. MASSIE: So how many customers outside of the numbers we
20 just put in this business case on the grid that we
21 created --

22 J. MAISSAN: Yeah. Or the total number of meters that
23 would be required to convert, say, all of Whitehorse
24 and, you know, part B would be all of the connected
25 grid. So these are residential meters, correct, or

1 residential customers, so basically how many
2 residential customers do you have in A, Whitehorse, and
3 B, connected in the grid -- to the grid?

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

5 J. MAISSAN: Sure. If it's easier to provide them later
6 via an undertaking, I'm happy with that. Just whatever
7 is convenient to you.

8 J. MASSIE: I see in schedule 2.1, our residential
9 customers are 17,469 in 2023, and it's just trying to
10 figure out which -- what we'd subtract off the isolated
11 communities.

12 J. MAISSAN: I'm only -- I'm only asking about grid
13 connected communities, so I'm talking about Whitehorse
14 within the Yukon integrated system and then all of the
15 integrated system. I have haven't asked a question
16 about your isolated communities, your diesel service
17 communities.

18 J. MASSIE: Yeah. That's why we're trying to subtract from
19 those numbers.

20 J. MAISSAN: All right. Sorry, obviously confusing.

21 T. MARTINO: Tony Martino. If we referred to the
22 application exhibit B, section 2, page 2-3. It's
23 table 2.2. We have the breakdown of our residential
24 and commercial customers by community, by hydro and
25 diesel. So, for example, in Whitehorse residential we

1 have 13,333 customers there and so forth. So all the
2 breakdown is in that table.

3 J. MAISSAN: All right. So the -- the -- a total
4 conversion would be quite a lot more meters obviously,
5 thousands more. And I was wondering, would you expect
6 the same kind of installed cost per meter, or is there
7 fixed infrastructure that's being provided with this
8 first group of AMI customers that would not need to be
9 repeated for other customers? Would you expect that
10 \$291, approximately, subject to check, to hold true for
11 the remaining customers, or would you expect that to go
12 down with larger numbers?

13 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. I -- we don't have that specific
14 information in front of us, but -- so the -- I would
15 expect the number to go down if we were to expand the
16 program in Whitehorse, just the efficiencies and
17 [indiscernible] in our base area where the majority of
18 residential customers are for us. Once you look at
19 grid-connected communities, the difference between
20 traveling from Teslin to Carmacks to Ross River that
21 number is going to fluctuate quite a bit.

22 J. MAISSAN: Is this project, then, the 1,500 meters out
23 of, I think, the number I wrote down was 17,469 total
24 residential customers, is this basically a pilot
25 project to test the potential benefits of AMI and

1 management of customer equipment behind the meter? Or
2 it's just phase one of multiple phases? So is it a
3 pilot to test certain things, or is it phase one of a
4 plan to roll them out?

5 J. MASSIE: Certainly. Jay Massie. It's more of a phased
6 approach to the program, and really -- so one of the
7 business reasons for proceeding with an AMI deployment
8 are not going to change. It's -- it really is an
9 established technology elsewhere, so we would expect it
10 to work just fine. We want to start deploying it as in
11 Whistle Bend as it really is the -- where the most
12 growth of customers. So really focusing on the new
13 customers, we're going to be there to -- to plug in a
14 meter anyway, so it would be ideal to do that at that
15 time in that neighbourhood.

16 J. MAISSAN: Okay. John Maissan. Yes, that makes sense.
17 And what about the phase approach for subsequent
18 customers? Do you have a timeline for getting all
19 other customers on? Would you just be installing these
20 meters when you have to take a meter out, either for
21 testing or because of end of life or something like
22 that as well?

23 J. MASSIE: Well, these first phases really are to ensure
24 it works as we want it to work, which is just more
25 accurate -- more timely reads, regular intervals, could

1 be more often provide what information we can pull from
2 the system. That's really the point of the first
3 phase, is we haven't mapped out the rest of the phases
4 of how big of a deployment we want because, you know,
5 part of what it could provide is time-of-use rates.
6 But if there isn't a need for that, that might not be a
7 driver in this jurisdiction.

8 J. MAISSAN: Right. What about your off-grid communities,
9 your diesel-served communities? Is this kind of
10 technology applicable to those community customers?

11 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. Yes, it could be used in the
12 off-grid communities also. It would -- depending if
13 the same benefits are available to that community,
14 yeah, could be.

15 J. MAISSAN: John Maissan. And a followup to that is what
16 about general service customers? Are any of those --
17 do any of those, I guess, lend themselves to AMI and
18 improving overall grid performance using AMI?

19 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. Yes. There are a number of the
20 general service customers and their meters, so even
21 though we put them together as general service
22 customers or group customers together as general
23 service customers, they all have -- there's a number of
24 different meters that serve different customers out
25 there. My understanding is the majority can be AMI

1 meters. There are some very specialized meters that
2 may not be able to for large institutions. But for the
3 vast majority, yes, AMI should be compatible.

4 J. MAISSAN: Yes. I understand that Yukon Energy is
5 interested in peak demand control, you know, on the
6 customer side of the meter. Is this one of the
7 projects that you've worked with Yukon Energy on, or is
8 it supported by or encouraged by Yukon Energy in aid of
9 that kind of demand management?

10 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. Yes, we've had a number of
11 discussions and meetings with Yukon Energy on rolling
12 out this AMI. It really -- as we say in here, it
13 really is the base of a grid modernization plan. So
14 part of AMI can also have behind the meter, load
15 control, which is more of a benefit to the generator,
16 which on the grid is Yukon Energy being able to control
17 whatever customer load in behind the meter. That does
18 tie in well with this program.

19 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. That's all for this question.

20 A. FORTIN: Just a few questions. First, I would like to
21 thank Mr. Maissan for having easy-to-follow reference
22 on the paperwork. Thank you.

23 And there was a lot of -- number of questions
24 about the IPP. My first question I guess is how many
25 IPP do you have in [indiscernible] that are finalized

1 now [indiscernible]?

2 J. MASSIE: Okay. So Jay Massie. The -- in particular for
3 the IPP program as it relates to our isolated
4 communities, is that --

5 A. FORTIN: I think that's the one Mr. Maissan has been
6 talking about.

7 J. MASSIE: Yeah, absolutely. So we do have electricity
8 purchase agreements in place for the remaining
9 communities. So Watson Lake, Beaver Creek, and
10 Destruction Bay Burwash. So very similar projects in
11 that the First Nation government is going to have a
12 large renewable generator. We see the wind turbine is
13 standing in Burwash already, and it's being integrated
14 into our system. They are large projects. They're all
15 designed to displace 100 percent of our diesel power
16 plant at a given time.

17 A. FORTIN: So you're purchasing power -- AUI's purchasing
18 power right now from Old Crow, Burwash and Beaver
19 Creek?

20 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. Apologies. No. Old Crow is the
21 only project that's in service. The wind turbine in
22 Burwash got stood up just a few months ago. It is not
23 operational. Both Beaver Creek and -- so it's a large
24 solar field in Beaver Creek that the First Nation is
25 building, and the wind turbine in Burwash are scheduled

1 to be in service next year.

2 A. FORTIN: Thank you. In a previous proceeding YEC
3 provided the board with a copy of the IPPs. I'm
4 thinking of Nomad and [indiscernible]. As an
5 undertaking can you provide us with a copy of the IPP
6 for the Old Crow installation?

7 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. Just to be clear, what -- you say
8 "IPP," do you mean the EPA? The agreement?

9 A. FORTIN: Yes, the -- like, if you refer to the last YEC
10 GRA, they did provide us with literally tons of
11 paperwork on these various energy purchase agreement or
12 whatever the designate is. What I'm interested, and I
13 think everybody might be interested, is what are the --
14 you know, what are the terms and conditions of the
15 constraint? How much are you paying for power? So can
16 we get a copy of that?

17 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. Yes. The EPAs that are -- yes, we
18 can provide them. There's no -- they're the same -- I
19 would say it really is a template document, so it's
20 very similar to the EPA that's been before the board
21 before. So it's set out exactly very similar. But
22 yeah, absolutely.

23 A. FORTIN: Well, the rates would be different for the
24 isolated communities. And I also notice reading the --
25 whatever you call them, EPA or PPA agreement with Sol

1 West and these people -- these people. Those
2 particular agreement that there's a point of interface
3 where the utility has a meter and purchases the power.

4 And Mr. Maissan has alluded that in Old Crow, for
5 instance, the micro-grid controller and the battery is
6 a utility asset now.

7 And I would like to know if there's a compulsion
8 in the ordering council for those IPP, or is there a
9 technical problem that the rate payer has to pick up
10 the maintenance on the battery; pick up the maintenance
11 on the micro-grid controller as well as disposal of
12 these things in 10 years down the road as opposed to
13 the originator of the power.

14 J. MASSIE: Okay. So the micro-grid controller and the
15 base are upfront -- they're very similar to a power
16 line, where it's a full customer contribution for -- so
17 the proponent, the IPP proponent pays for them. In
18 this manner they become utility assets just like the
19 power line. Because those two components -- without
20 that renewable generation they wouldn't be needed,
21 would be one.

22 And the second part is they are integral to the
23 operation of the system. They provide the safe
24 reliable power. Without that -- without those two
25 items, the battery really -- I always think of it as a

1 smoothing mechanism with its big intermittent renewable
2 source of electricity. So the solar in Old Crow comes
3 and goes, but our customers don't see the effect on
4 their lights because that battery is able to absorb and
5 discharge as clouds come in or however -- whenever it
6 leaves the grid.

7 Then the micro-grid controller just ensures that
8 it coordinates with our power plant. And any time we
9 are going to have something operate our power plant,
10 we're going to be the ones that do that.

11 A. FORTIN: Yes. But the question, Mr. Massie, was I'm
12 sure that AEY is not taking the responsibility of
13 cleaning the snow off the solar panel in Old Crow. I'm
14 reasonably sure of that. Why is AEY taking
15 responsibility for equipment that would not be required
16 was it not for the solar installation in Old Crow? Why
17 is that left to the proponent?

18 J. MASSIE: So -- yeah. For us, our approach, and maybe
19 I'll bring up that OIC, but really the -- our approach
20 forward is that -- again, it's required for that
21 solar -- whatever renewable generation to be integrated
22 with our grid. And, again, the whole point of this IPP
23 policy is that it is -- it's directed us. So maybe
24 I'll bring up that OIC because I think -- I believe it
25 states something in there, and I don't know what

1 exhibit that is.

2 Would you know what that is? I don't know. Do we
3 [indiscernible]. Yeah. I do have a copy of the OIC,
4 but I don't know if --

5 A. FORTIN: I'll help you refer, it's OIC 2019-25. And the
6 paragraph that I'm interested in is cost recoverable by
7 the utility, the last bullet (c). And I'll just read
8 it while you chase it down:

9 "The cost of maintaining or replacing
10 equipment or infrastructure necessary
11 to purchase power under the agreement."

12 So those are the costs that are recoverable by the
13 utility. So one might have the interpretation that if
14 you need to extend the power line to purchase
15 electricity, that you will maintain that.

16 One -- I have a little bit of a -- find it a
17 stretch that you would have to maintain the battery and
18 the micro-grid controller. And I'm just wondering what
19 compels AEY to take over the maintenance of these
20 assets.

21 J. MASSIE: Certainly. So Jay Massie. And I am in that
22 OIC now, and under -- for us really the interpretation
23 we take is under that section 2, and 2(a), "the cost of
24 purchasing electricity under an EPA." So that coupled
25 with (c) really is there's no possibility for these

1 projects to be integrated with our grids without these
2 components, would be the first thing.

3 The second thing of course is that because they
4 are controlling the grid, we'll own and operate and
5 maintain them. And then this is really where we think
6 that that whole point of maintaining and operating and
7 ensuring these IPPs are able to access are grid is a
8 requirement bestowed upon us as a utility.

9 A. FORTIN: Okay. So I'll just -- in argument, I would
10 like to hear from the interveners. I think there's a
11 bit of a -- I think Ms. Bentivegna might look at me --
12 a bit of a moral hazard that you would negotiate with
13 an IPP to take over the maintenance of assets and
14 removal of these assets while you will be passing the
15 cost on to the rate payer.

16 I agree that, for instance, I would make the
17 statement that in Old Crow, you're probably the expert,
18 and you could contract -- AEY could charge back
19 maintenance of that equipment as part of the purchase
20 price. So I just -- there's no answer to this.
21 There's just submission, I think, from various people
22 and arguments about --

23 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie. And I would say, again, we
24 approach this very much like a new customer connection,
25 a new extension, where the customer pays the full

1 contribution. It becomes part of the grid and is our
2 responsibility in perpetuity.

3 A. FORTIN: Okay.

4 J. MASSIE: That really was that base thought that we had.

5 A. FORTIN: Yes. I have no further questions on this
6 matter.

7 J. MAISSAN: Okay. John Maissan. Shall I move on to the
8 next question, then?

9 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes, please.

10 J. MAISSAN: Next question is related to the response to
11 the AEY YUB-70, and that's in exhibit B-4, page 1306,
12 YUB-70, page 1306.

13 J. MASSIE: YUB-70 is that the --

14 J. MAISSAN: Correct, yes. So in this IR and the response
15 to this IR I'm in, and the attachment, attachment 1 of
16 5 pages, it seems to me that that AEY is looking ahead
17 at least four years on various distribution lines or
18 components to see how they are performing. Does AEY
19 perform this type of analysis for all the main
20 components on the distribution system? Including, say,
21 transformers, et cetera, on an annual basis or on some
22 other regular or periodic basis?

23 T. BADRY: Tony Badry here. We do routine annual
24 inspections of our lines, testing of our equipment and
25 our assets in the field, poles, transformers, breakers,

1 switches, that sort of thing.

2 J. MAISSAN: Do you do this annually on all the equipment,
3 or is that on the periodic rotational basis?

4 T. BADRY: Some equipment is scheduled annually and others
5 have a set schedule of when they're tested.

6 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next question is related to an
7 IR -- response to an IR from Nathaniel Yee. Now, this
8 is from exhibit B-9, page 4 of 6. And it's PDF page 4
9 of 237 in that exhibit B-9.

10 J. MASSIE: The IR number would be helpful for me to -- NY.

11 J. MAISSAN: Sorry, I missed that, Jay.

12 J. MASSIE: The IR number would be helpful for me in
13 NY-00 ...

14 J. MAISSAN: NY-004.

15 J. MASSIE: Thank you.

16 J. MAISSAN: And this is a response to, I guess, board
17 order 2023-24 appendix B. So the exhibit number as I
18 read it is B-9, and it's six pages, and I'm looking at
19 PDF page 4 of 237 on that exhibit. You are there? All
20 right.

21 Now, I'm going to ask you to bring up another
22 document and look at the two together. And this is
23 exhibit B-4, which is the consolidated IR responses,
24 and I'm looking at page 135. And this is a response to
25 an IR AEY UCG-5, letter H, attachment 1. And it's a

1 document from the rider F quarterly report ending
2 June 30th. Do you have those? [Indiscernible]. You
3 do?

4 Yes. So the paragraph of the response to AEY
5 NY004 is this:

6 "As the rider R and rider J amounts
7 will be rolled into base rates on the
8 billing statements, and as rider F will
9 be close to zero, these updates should
10 help streamline and improve the
11 information presented on the billing
12 statement."

13 And I have to plead some ignorance about how some of
14 these things work. If I look at the B-4 reference,
15 page 135, the response to AEY UCG 5-H, attachment 1,
16 page 2 of 2. Do you have that at hand?

17 As of June the 30th, if I read this table
18 correctly, June 30th, 2023, it appears to me that at
19 that time the cumulative balance owing to the utilities
20 from rate payers is 5,170,865. And what I wonder is how
21 does that 5,170,865 get passed on to rate payers? I can
22 understand the rider R and J getting rolled into base
23 rates, but I don't know how rider F can go to zero
24 without recovery of that 5 million balance owing to the
25 utilities. Can someone explain how that works for me.

1 T. MARTINO: Tony Martino here. I think there's two parts
2 to this -- the mechanics of rider F and the cumulative
3 balances here. In that response to NY-4, we're
4 indicating that currently our base rates as we've
5 applied in this application for rider R and similarly
6 for YEC in their rider J, the typical fashion is to not
7 incorporate the changes in fuel price into our base
8 rates, as those need to be adjusted afterwards and
9 coordinated with YEC. So right now our -- the revenue
10 requirement and the rate adjustments that we're
11 proposing are without the adjustments of the changes in
12 fuel prices as compared to our base tariff and what's
13 included in rider R.

14 Once we go through a compliance filing and reset
15 rates at that time, and similar with YEC and when they
16 do their compliance filing, we will flow through the
17 updated fuel prices into our rates that make their way
18 into rider R and rider J respectively for YEC.

19 And so what we're indicating in that response is
20 that while rider F is not part of the roll up in the
21 bill statement findings that came out of the board
22 order 23-08, we're indicating that as we roll up the
23 rider R and J to include the changes in fuel prices,
24 that that minimizes that charge and effectively the
25 rider R and rider J are reflecting the latest fuel

1 prices.

2 J. MAISSAN: I'm --

3 B. ROGERS: [Indiscernible] response here and take you back
4 to response to UCG 5-H attachment 1. That table
5 there -- I'm not sure if you have it in front of you,
6 but there's a fuel price variance column, and that fuel
7 price variance is the monthly differential between our
8 fuel prices that are in base rates and the fuel prices
9 that we are incurring, the actual fuel prices. So that
10 is being calculated at this point in time based on the
11 rates in the 2016/17 revenue requirements.

12 So once we have the decision on this proceeding,
13 we would recalculate the 2023 and 2024 fuel amounts on
14 the new rates that are today's prices, or prices as the
15 time of the forecast was completed. So we've
16 accumulated by the end of Q2 approximately two and a
17 half million dollars in that reserve or in that
18 deferral that would essentially transfer back to zero.
19 And then we are collecting historical prices through
20 the surcharges.

21 So we estimate by the end of the test year those
22 numbers are going to offset each other and we'll
23 essentially have a zero balance accumulated in the
24 pool.

25 J. MAISSAN: Let me see if I understand this correctly.

1 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Excuse me, Mr. Maissan. I see that we
2 are sort of past our time to take the midday break.
3 Can you hold that until --

4 J. MAISSAN: Absolutely.

5 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. So we will resume at 1:45 or --

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

7 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay, very good.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible] purchase agreements
9 between [indiscernible].

10 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Clarity is a virtue. Thank you. So
11 we'll take the break and resume at -- well, by this
12 point now it's -- 1:45, 1:50. Thank you everyone.
13 Enjoy your lunch.

14 G. BENTIVEGNA: Order. This hearing will stand adjourned
15 until 1:45 P.M.

16 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 12:20 P.M.)

17 (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED AT 1:47 P.M.)

18 G. BENTIVEGNA: Order. This hearing is reconvened. Please
19 be seated.

20 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Mr. Maissan, are you ready to continue?

21 J. MAISSAN: I am indeed. Thank you.

22 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Sound effects. Can we deal with the echo
23 chamber effect, please, Jeff.

24 J. MAISSAN: I thought my voice had improved. Sorry.

25 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Try your favourite song from the 70s and

1 see how it sounds.

2 J. MAISSAN: All right. Panel, when we left off for lunch,
3 we were looking at exhibit B-4, page 135, and I was
4 trying to understand how rider F would go from its
5 June 30th balance of just over 5 million down to close
6 to zero. And I believe you were explaining to me,
7 Ms. Rogers, something about fuel price variance. So
8 could you sort of replot that ground, please, and I'll
9 try to follow.

10 B. ROGERS: So when we're looking at the table that is on
11 the attachment to UCG 5-H, we have that fuel price
12 variance component, and that fuel price variance
13 component today is based off of existing rates, so the
14 2017 revenue requirement. So the differential in fuel
15 prices today versus 2017.

16 When we receive a decision on the 2023 revenue
17 requirement, what we'll do is we'll recalculate the
18 fuel price variance for this year, and it will be zero
19 or quite close to zero, assuming fuel prices are the
20 same as when we had applied or incorporated them into
21 the forecast.

22 So that would reduce the cumulative balance by
23 approximately as of the Q2 balances, two and a half
24 million dollars off the top there. And then we are
25 anticipating to collect the remaining differential

1 between the cumulative balance through the rider F
2 surcharge over the remainder of this year. So
3 effective January 1 we are proposing to reset the
4 rider F rate to zero. So customers will see a decrease
5 on their bills related to the rider F component
6 January 1st. And then the incremental fuel costs will
7 be incorporated into the base rates once we receive the
8 decision on the 2023 revenue requirement.

9 J. MAISSAN: All right. Can I restate that to make sure I
10 understand it?

11 B. ROGERS: Yeah.

12 J. MAISSAN: The fuel price variance is an addition of the
13 Yukon Energy fuel price variance and AUIs, correct?

14 B. ROGERS: Yes. We maintain that as a single account
15 between the two utilities. So the balances you're
16 seeing in this rider F report are the cumulative Yukon
17 Energy and ATCO Electric Yukon balances.

18 J. MAISSAN: Yes. So since Yukon Energy GRA is going to be
19 heard after January the 1st, will that affect anything
20 we're discussing here now in terms of how that rider F
21 gets to zero on January 1st?

22 B. ROGERS: I can't speak to the balances that Yukon Energy
23 is carrying forward. I don't have those numbers in
24 front of me, but I do know we have -- we have chatted
25 and we are working together on this, and the -- setting

1 the rates to zero effective January 1 is the plan for
2 us.

3 J. MAISSAN: Okay. Excellent. So let me get back to sort
4 of restating it to make sure I understand it. The
5 first column in that table on page 2 of 2 of that
6 attachment, the PDF page 135, called "Fuel Price
7 Variance." Those are amounts that are cost -- costs
8 that are above the utilities cost for -- for fuel. Is
9 that correct?

10 B. ROGERS: Over what's in rates.

11 J. MAISSAN: Over what's embedded in rates.

12 B. ROGERS: Yes.

13 J. MAISSAN: And the third column to the right, called
14 "Rider F Surcharge" is the amount being collected from
15 rate payers through rider F?

16 B. ROGERS: Correct.

17 J. MAISSAN: So if the rider -- sorry. When the file
18 prices for 2023 are approved, then if that's exactly
19 based on the actual prices that were paid in '23, then
20 those amounts that are -- that we can see under rider F
21 surcharge from January '23 to June -- well, to the end
22 of the year, essentially will be credited to the next
23 column, the cumulative balance, as rates recover or I
24 guess re-recover those amounts. So that will flow as a
25 credit to the cumulative balance, reducing that to zero

1 for January 1st. Is that the mechanism?

2 B. ROGERS: It's --

3 J. MAISSAN: Or close.

4 B. ROGERS: Close. So the rider F surcharge in that third
5 column is today offsetting that cumulative balance, and
6 that cumulative balance has been accumulating for a
7 number of years. This fuel price variance column is
8 the column that will be recalculated and credited
9 against the cumulative balance. So when the rates
10 reset themselves it will reset that cumulative balance
11 to -- for ATCO Electric Yukon portion, reset that fuel
12 price variance to essentially a zero cumulation for the
13 year.

14 J. MAISSAN: Yes. And presumably through Yukon Energy GRA
15 this similar thing will happen. So rider F for
16 everybody will be starting at zero on January 1st.

17 B. ROGERS: Yes.

18 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I just couldn't get my head around
19 how that happens so magically. Thank you. My next
20 question is on AEY -- the question is on the response
21 to AEY NDP number 8. And that's at exhibit B-4 on
22 page 115. So exhibit B-4, page 115, NDP 8. Are we
23 there?

24 B. ROGERS: Yeah, we're there.

25 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. In the answer to -- the combined

1 answer to A and B, the last portion reads as follows:

2 "Furthermore, although contributed
3 projects have no impact on requested
4 revenue requirements in the test
5 period, contributed projects will have
6 an ongoing impact on revenue
7 requirement outside of the test period,
8 as the ongoing operation and
9 maintenance of the infrastructure
10 associated with contributed projects
11 would be included in revenue
12 requirement."

13 And we discussed IPP projects this morning and -- well,
14 let me say, there's a flip side, I believe, to this
15 increased cost that rate payers bear in future years
16 through ATCO Electric Yukon or Yukon Energy to this cost
17 side, is there not? Can you explain. Is there -- in
18 your view, is there a positive side to these contributed
19 projects?

20 J. MASSIE: All right. Jay Massie. I think maybe while
21 we're getting there, so contributed projects,
22 especially if they're fully contributed, they don't
23 have any effect on the rate base going in. But of
24 course the system does grow and expand, whether it's
25 IPPs or Whistle Bend, and at some point we'll have to

1 maintain something in there at some point. And that's
2 really what we were getting at.

3 I think on the flip side, some of the things that
4 pop in my mind, newer subdivisions of course are built
5 to the new existing standards, which is a bigger wire
6 and higher voltage, which inherently will reduce system
7 losses compared to an older subdivision. Even though
8 the system is growing, losses won't be as great in
9 newer subdivisions that fit that criteria. Is that --

10 J. MAISSAN: Yeah. I'm glad to hear that. That's a
11 perspective I hadn't thought of. I'm most familiar
12 with the Haeckel Hill project of IPP projects, and
13 there was a contribution there which was required to
14 upgrade the AEY infrastructure to receive that power.
15 And I understand there were various pieces of equipment
16 and conductor that were replaced with larger pieces of
17 equipment of the same type.

18 So would it also be true, then, that this rebuilt
19 power lines or portions of power lines, either with new
20 poles or combination of new poles and new conductor and
21 new breakers or whatever, does that not also replace
22 aging equipment so that in the near term, the
23 maintenance of the older equipment might be reduced
24 compared to what it would have been in the absence of
25 the project?

1 J. MASSIE: A good point in that example, that's exactly
2 it. The existing line that was in place had been there
3 for quite some time, many years. So when we had to
4 rebuild the line just to ensure -- of course the
5 renewable generation that's going at the top really was
6 at the top of Haeckel Hill outstripped the capabilities
7 of the existing power line. So rebuilt to a bigger
8 standard, yes, so there again, newer line, less
9 maintenance for a longer period of time as opposed to
10 that 20- or 30- or whatever year-old line there was
11 prior to being -- to it being rebuilt.

12 And same thing on the losses. When that -- when
13 the renewable generation isn't running and the power is
14 running up the hill to the customers up there, losses
15 will be less than they were before.

16 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next question is on the
17 response to AEY -- is the response I guess to UCG-21 in
18 AEY UCG-21, which is in exhibit B-4 on page 404, 2013.

19 If we are there, the question I have is on the
20 response to part C, and it says in part:

21 "Under the regulatory framework
22 utilities are incentivized to find
23 efficiencies and cost savings on a
24 go-forward basis and are entitled to
25 benefit from any efficiencies achieved

1 until rates are reset. For example,
2 the efficiencies realized by AEY since
3 its last ERA have been incorporated
4 into the cost forecasts included in the
5 application and will be passed through
6 to customers in the revenue
7 requirements approved by the board."

8 So I was wondering, for those efficiencies that have
9 been achieved since the last ERA, do you have any
10 particular key performance indicators or other measures
11 that show what those savings might have been that are
12 being passed on to consumers?

13 B. ROGERS: I'm going to start and then my colleague may
14 jump in if I miss anything here. I think when we're
15 looking at efficiencies, one of the things we can
16 look -- I mean, not necessarily efficiencies, but
17 benefits that customers are realizing with the
18 resetting of rates would be things such as the -- the
19 carbon rebates that ATCO electric Yukon was able to
20 access during the period since we last filed an
21 application, growing sales, the growth in the customers
22 and things like that. We had higher cost debts retire
23 in the period since we last filed and have been able to
24 source that at lower interest rates, which has been
25 incorporated into the forecast going forward.

1 And then when we're looking at things like our
2 operational costs as compared to inflationary
3 pressures, we sort of see that costs are largely in
4 line with inflation, despite some cost increases with
5 things like the cloud-based CCS program and things like
6 that. So the increase in costs related to CCS is
7 offset by efficiencies we may have found for running
8 our crews more operational through some restructurings
9 that have happened over the period since our last
10 application.

11 So all of those sort of trends and effectors have
12 been incorporated into the forecast and have ultimately
13 offset a portion of the revenue requirements.

14 J. MAISSAN: All right. I was hoping I guess there would
15 be some key indicators or numbers that could be pointed
16 to. So it sounds like there are a number of, you know,
17 efficiencies of scale and things happening, but may be
18 hard to put an exact number on. Is that fair to say?

19 B. ROGERS: Yeah. I think the -- the exercise of -- of
20 measuring efficiencies in itself is not efficient. So
21 it is a bit challenging to do so. But we do look at
22 things -- like, again, if we took 2017 costs and
23 applied the inflation as what per the Stats Canada
24 inflation rates, we would come into an O&M forecast for
25 2024 around \$14.6 million. We're coming in with a

1 forecast in the test period with a 14.9 million O&M
2 forecast, and that incorporates a \$700,000 increase for
3 CCS costs. So the differential between those two can
4 kind of be assumed that, you know, as costs are
5 inflating we are also becoming efficient as we -- time
6 goes on and we find process, improvements and things
7 like that.

8 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Yes, having those numbers on the
9 transcript would be helpful. Thank you.

10 My next question is on the response AEY UCG 23,
11 and that's in exhibit B-4 on page 408. And I'm looking
12 at the answer to part B. Sorry, am I jumping the gun?
13 Are you there? Okay. I'm looking at the answer to
14 part B, which states -- and I'll read it for
15 convenience:

16 "AEY reduces and minimizes line losses
17 on an ongoing basis, through new
18 extensions and system improvement
19 projects that target poor performing
20 lines and infrastructure."

21 I was wondering, are the line losses the only parameter
22 that AEY monitors, or are there others that you monitor
23 to -- to determine what is a poorly performing line?

24 J. MASSIE: Jay Massie speaking. No, it's not just line
25 losses. The overall performance of the line. So, you

1 know, we submit quarterly reports to the board on
2 outage reports, just on significant outages every
3 quarter. We also look at those outage reports on a
4 consolidated basis as well as line by line just to
5 find, you know, if there's one specific or common area
6 that is causing outages or concerns or poor performance
7 of the line. That is another aspect we look at as well
8 as -- and I think we've got it in a number of business
9 cases.

10 But the one I think about is the voltage
11 improvement on the south line out towards Marsh Lake --
12 I think 6011. You know, it's -- engineering reports,
13 well, system reports that show the voltage levels and
14 the voltage drops, really that's part of a common thing
15 we'll look at. And then there's a whole host of things
16 we look at inside our power plants on the performance
17 side, just to see what needs to be looked at.

18 J. MAISSAN: Thank you.

19 T. BADRY: If I can add to that, Tony Badry here,
20 Mr. Maissan [indiscernible], I'd just like to mention
21 south of town, Old Crow, there's business case in the
22 application to that to increase our capacity there.

23 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next question is on -- or the
24 next few will be on my own responses to my own IRs, and
25 I'm looking at response to AEY JM-12 and that's found

1 in exhibit B-4 on page 37. B-4, page 37.

2 And I just want to talk a bit more about that
3 response and understand it better. AEY says in the
4 response:

5 "AEY does not receive revenue for
6 micro-generation. The micro-generation
7 energy exported to AEY reduces the
8 wholesale purchases, which carries a
9 charge of 0.0830 cents per kwh, as
10 shown on schedule 3.1, line 7."

11 So I guess I want to just understand, what happens to
12 the micro-generation that is exported to the AEY grid if
13 AEY does not receive revenue for it? Where does it go?

14 J. MASSIE: I'll start just to talk about the micro-gen and
15 I'll ask Ms. Rogers to talk about the effect on sales.
16 But so -- yeah, again, I guess the answer there really
17 was about the revenue is a transaction between
18 micro-generators and the government. We don't see that
19 revenue. That was I think what we were talking about
20 there when we answered that. But yeah, if for any of
21 the micro-generation installations, any of the excess
22 energy that the customer is not using gets put back
23 onto the local grid, whether it's here or in isolated
24 communities, and then, yeah, it flows into our grid in
25 our -- to other customers.

1 J. MAISSAN: All right. So if it flows -- the power that
2 flows onto your grid from the micro-generating station
3 or customer, it displaces your wholesale cost 8.3 cents
4 per kilowatt hour. And then -- but it also flows to
5 other customers through their meters, so you also get
6 revenue from -- from that -- those metered imports by
7 those other customers; correct?

8 J. MASSIE: Yes. It does, or it reduces our wholesale and
9 is put into the meter of the customer and the revenue,
10 yes, it's -- it is the same I guess the same revenue,
11 if I get this right in my head, it's the same revenue
12 whether we buy it from Yukon Energy or -- or put
13 through the other customer.

14 Yeah. I'll ask Ms. Rogers to better explain that.

15 B. ROGERS: Yeah. I would say when we're looking at sales,
16 the sales are determined by load. So customer usage,
17 UPC, whatever it may be determines our sales and our
18 revenue. And that is a fixed variable when we're
19 looking at these costs versus revenues. The variable
20 side would be on the supply side, whether we are
21 producing that through diesel generation, hydro
22 generation, purchasing from the wholesaler or
23 purchase -- or receiving on the grid through the
24 micro-generation program. The supply would be to meet
25 the demand. So if we have a customer who is -- you

1 know, has a \$100 bill and that bill is comprised of
2 80 percent wholesale supply and 20 percent
3 micro-generation supply, the revenue number doesn't
4 change, just the cost side of it would change.

5 J. MAISSAN: Right. So then if I understand the benefit,
6 there is a benefit to AEY, and that is the saving on
7 wholesale purchase cost. Is that correct?

8 B. ROGERS: Yes. I guess we've incorporated a percentage
9 within the revenue requirement. So if you were looking
10 at schedule 3.2 of our application, we've assumed for
11 the test period a 0.8 percent for 2023 and a
12 0.9 percent of supply coming from micro-generation. So
13 there is some risk around the actual results of that
14 number. So if we have lower than forecast
15 micro-generation, we'll have higher costs on the
16 wholesale side of things. But yes, alternatively if we
17 have higher micro-generation, then the 0.8 and
18 0.9 percent assumed in the forecast, then we will have
19 lower wholesale cost.

20 J. MAISSAN: Right. What you're saying is that that
21 benefit of reduced wholesale cost is factored into your
22 revenue requirement. Therefore, it is not a bonus to
23 AEY outside of your revenue requirement. Is that --

24 B. ROGERS: Yes. Again, there's some variability on
25 whether that number is 0.8 and 0.9 percent or not. But

1 yes.

2 J. MAISSAN: Yes. Thank you. I wasn't meaning to imply
3 that this is all gravy and not subject to regulation.
4 But yes. Thank you.

5 My next question is on response AEY JM-17 and
6 that's found in Exhibit 4 on page 48. And I'm also
7 looking at a page from the application, which is
8 exhibit B-1 and page 118, 118 out of 260. Are we
9 there? So Exhibit 4, PDF page 48, and exhibit B-1,
10 page 118.

11 J. MASSIE: I think we're struggling to find it.

12 J. MAISSAN: Okay. That's your application. Would be --
13 exhibit B-1 is the AEY application. It's -- the
14 application page number is 5-6.

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

16 J. MAISSAN: It deals with O&M and distribution costs, in
17 particular.

18 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I am there. Thank you. You are
19 very patient. Thank you.

20 J. MAISSAN: When I look at this table 5.4, I see that the
21 brushing costs have ranged from 247,000 in 2018 to as
22 high as 849,000 in 2022. And this suggests to me that
23 the brushing that's done from year to year can be
24 varied without much significant consequence. And so I
25 was wondering, given the rate pressures in '23 and '24,

1 couldn't they be partly reduced by somewhat reducing
2 that brushing cost?

3 T. BADRY: Tony Badry here. So the brushing -- maintenance
4 brushing does fluctuate a bit year to year. That's
5 basically if we do have a -- walk it back a little bit.
6 On our five-year plan there might be certain areas
7 that -- that's the time they need to be brushed.
8 They're scheduled to get cleared. There might be more
9 work to get through those areas, but they're part of
10 the plan. Alternately too the weather plays a part.
11 If we can go longer into the season, we might choose to
12 do that as well to stay onto the schedule. So that
13 plays into the numbers you're seeing there.

14 J. MAISSAN: So if there's a reduction by choice in some
15 years, that would have to be made up in -- in the
16 following years to stay on your -- is it a five-year
17 cycle, did you mention?

18 T. BADRY: Tony Badry here. Yes, it is.

19 J. MAISSAN: Sorry?

20 T. BADRY: Yes. Yes, yes.

21 J. MASSIE: So Jay Massie. I'll add a bit more on the
22 brushing. It can be cyclical. We have our five-year
23 plan, but different parts of our system and power lines
24 have different vegetation, so, you know, there's some
25 coniferous forests that don't grow very much and the

1 deciduous ones with lots of popular, they tend to grow
2 quite quickly. So they're -- the brushing can be a bit
3 of a brake pedal and gas pedal depending on their
4 growth cycles. There's some drier years that they
5 don't grow as much, and so we're able to tackle it the
6 next year. And even when I think back to of course
7 2020 with the pandemic and not being able to get some
8 contractors, that's why the costs were a bit higher in
9 those years after, was getting caught up from that,
10 even though, say, we -- in 2020 we were 466, but I
11 think overall, Mr. Maissan, when I look at the -- the
12 actuals from 2016 to 2022, like that average is 578.
13 570,000 or so, so that's kind of what we're -- what
14 we're expecting going forward, just with the growth of
15 the system too at the same time. So yeah. Variable
16 for sure, but again, it is vegetation management, I
17 suppose.

18 J. MAISSAN: So are you saying that there's really no
19 flexibility in those brushing numbers for '23 and '24?
20 '23 is pretty much history now, though, isn't it?

21 J. MASSIE: Yeah. I would say, again, we build these
22 forecasts, especially for brushing, when we're looking
23 at keeping vegetation away from high voltage lines.
24 That's the whole point of this account and this work.
25 Just that earlier conversation about wildfires, yeah,

1 we wouldn't -- we'd be very hesitant not to proceed as
2 planned.

3 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next questions are on the
4 answer to AEY JM-37, which is found in exhibit B-4 on
5 page 89. And I would also mention here, I don't know
6 that you want to have it ready, but exhibit B-4,
7 page 91, which is the subsequent business case, I'm
8 looking at business cases number 27 and 28, which is
9 the vehicle purchases for 2023 and 2024.

10 And so I wanted to just explore that answer and
11 that business case. In light of the fact that AEY was
12 overearning their return on equity in both '21 and '22,
13 would there not have been consideration to purchase
14 some of these vehicles ahead to reduce this -- this
15 wave of capital expenses we see in 2023 and 2024?
16 Would that not have been a consideration?

17 T. BADRY: When we do mark vehicles for replacement,
18 they're replaced on company needs. So when they
19 complete the life cycle, not ahead of that. We still
20 have use out of those vehicles. We run them to that
21 criteria before we purchase again. So --

22 J. MAISSAN: Are you saying there wouldn't be any
23 flexibility in the timing of those purchases, depending
24 on circumstances, financial circumstances to rate
25 payers or others?

1 T. BADRY: I think that getting the most out of the
2 vehicles that we do purchase would be prudent versus
3 buying them ahead of time.

4 J. MAISSAN: Well, buying ahead doesn't mean you have to
5 throw the old one out, though, does it? You could
6 continue to use it, purchase one year and not put it
7 into service until a year later. And that reduces, you
8 know, what appears to be a pretty large wave of capital
9 expenses in '23 and '24. You know, if that is
10 anticipated, then mitigating the impacts might be a
11 consideration -- mitigation impacts on rate payers
12 might have been --

13 T. BADRY: So the fleet replacement is also on a five-year
14 schedule. So we do anticipate when we'll need those
15 vehicles replaced, the importance of the vehicle, what
16 function they serve, costs associated. It's all
17 balanced into that plan. Yeah. As far as pre-emptive
18 replacement of those vehicles, I'm not sure that that
19 would save rate payers a whole lot of costs.

20 J. MAISSAN: Okay. Thank you. We'll leave that there. My
21 next question is on response to AEY JM-40, which is in
22 exhibit B-4, page 93. And there are other documents
23 here that I would like to refer to, so there are a
24 number of them. Business case 30 itself on which the
25 question is based is exhibit B-1.8, and that starts on

1 page 98 of 149. And another document I would like to
2 have at hand to refer to is exhibit B-4, page 920, and
3 that's response AEY UCG 92. So it's, unfortunately, a
4 collection of documents here. And I'll make sure you
5 have those documents at hand before I start. You're
6 there?

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: PDF just froze up on me. Let me
8 just reopen.

9 J. MAISSAN: So the two key ones were exhibit B-4, page 93
10 and exhibit B-4, page 920, which has an attachment to
11 it. Attachment 1, which is 32 pages. And I'll refer
12 to a couple of individual pages, but unless people want
13 me to refer to individual PDF page numbers, I shall
14 refer to the page number of the attached document.

15 This is about the southern line voltage
16 improvements, line 6L19, and the response to UCG 92,
17 page 920 of the exhibit, includes a -- an updated
18 study. And the response to JM-40, Exhibit 4, page 93,
19 says that the under-voltage issues were not fully known
20 until the completion of the study which was finalized
21 on April 4th, 2023. And that updated study was
22 attached to the UCG response.

23 So I guess I would like to ask about the timing
24 of -- of the work on this business plan 30 and the
25 planned work. It seems that what's being suggested is

1 that the technical information that you needed wasn't
2 really there until April of this year. Is that -- am I
3 reading that correctly?

4 T. BADRY: The issues, voltage issues we've seen on 6L19,
5 they have been identified earlier, but it's been
6 changing. So multiple assessments of that line have
7 been completed, with the most recent being this year,
8 outlining a new -- in business case 30, what -- we've
9 anticipated what we'd need for a correction on that
10 line.

11 J. MAISSAN: And can you tell me when voltage issues were
12 first -- on that line were first identified?

13 T. BADRY: I don't have an actual date in front of me. But
14 we have been working on that line looking at different
15 options in cold weather. Cold weather scenarios, load
16 modelling, to see what the effects would be and what
17 equipment would be required.

18 J. MAISSAN: And would it be fair to say that when Yukon
19 Energy filed its energy purchase agreement with this
20 board for review under section 3 of the Public
21 Utilities Act, and there needed to be upgrades to the
22 line from Jake's Corner to Whitehorse, that those
23 issues, voltage issues would have been known at that
24 time?

25 T. BADRY: So this business case corrects voltage or looks

1 at voltage all the way down the line to Teslin. I
2 don't know if it would have completely overlapped with
3 the thell project fully for the scope of our business
4 case 30.

5 J. MAISSAN: Earlier in the questioning, I think we heard
6 that AEY looks at voltage amongst other things on an
7 ongoing basis. So when I look at the -- at the results
8 of this study, the attachments to UCG 92 starting at
9 page 6 of 32 and on from there, it looks like there's
10 some pretty serious under-voltage issues present.

11 And I guess I am surprised that these weren't
12 recognized and addressed sometime earlier, and I wonder
13 if there's any particular reason, or am I
14 misinterpreting what I'm seeing and reading?

15 T. BADRY: Yeah, it was -- sorry, Tony Badry here. The
16 voltage profile there was identified. That's part of
17 the point of bringing it forward now is to address that
18 line and correct those issues. For the -- there have
19 been some studies done prior to but they weren't fully
20 realized until this year.

21 J. MAISSAN: I'll switch -- as I said earlier, since I
22 understood that AEY looks at all of their
23 infrastructure on a regular basis, poorly performing
24 infrastructure, I thought that this might have come
25 forward sooner.

1 T. BADRY: Yeah. Like I say -- sorry, Tony Badry. The
2 voltage, we noticed it starting to go down under those
3 cold weather conditions. So we're formulating a plan.
4 It's similar to other lines and other equipment that
5 we've been monitoring. We know that certain
6 transformers and certain substations will come to
7 capacity at certain years. It was no different with
8 6L19. It's now at the point where we do need to act
9 and rebuild portions of that line and that equipment.

10 J. MAISSAN: Can I please take you to your application,
11 exhibit B-1 on page 176.

12 T. BADRY: I'm there.

13 J. MAISSAN: At the very bottom of the page, the very last
14 sentence says:

15 "Costs for distribution improvements
16 are forecast based on preliminary
17 engineering design work and take into
18 consideration historical project costs
19 for comparable projects."

20 If preliminary engineering design is used to plan
21 capital projects, it seems to me that this preliminary
22 engineering information was available at least a couple
23 of years ago, and I'm surprised that the project didn't
24 go forward sooner. It seems that it's come to a pretty
25 serious situation now, when I look at your updated

1 study. And I really can't understand why this project
2 undertaking didn't start at least a year or two sooner,
3 and I wonder if you can explain -- explain why not,
4 given that you regularly measure performance lines and
5 identify poorly performing ones.

6 Earlier we saw -- by comparison, earlier we saw
7 when you were looking at -- I think it was North
8 Klondike, you were looking ahead several years and
9 planning for a shortcoming that was -- that you were
10 forecasting for '24/25, '25/26. It seemed to be a
11 different level of priority there.

12 T. BADRY: Yes. The north, it's a different line on our
13 system, had significant load growth, which prompted the
14 rebuilds on the North Klondike. That was pretty rapid.
15 We saw that formulate quite quickly. On the southern
16 line though, past the corner, it didn't have quite the
17 same load growth. So we took the study that we had
18 done earlier and then built off that and built this new
19 proposal for business case 30.

20 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Let's move on from there. My next
21 question is on exhibit B-4, the response AEY JM-10, and
22 that's exhibit B-4, page -- PDF page 35.

23 And at this point I would also like to ask you, or
24 perhaps I'm not sure what the correct procedure is --
25 as Tim, I've prepared a table which I called "AEY

1 Primary Sales Record," which I wanted to use as an aid
2 to cross-examination.

3 Is this the time at which to bring it forward?

4 Does the panel have that aid to cross?

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

6 J. MAISSAN: All right. Well, I would like you to bring
7 that forward now. I have various questions related to
8 this aid to cross as well as the response. So the
9 response to the IR says that:

10 "The annual average primary retail
11 sales growth for the period 2016 to
12 2023 was 2.4 percent."

13 And so I looked back at the retail sales, the forecast
14 primary retail sales, the approved retail sales, actual
15 retail sales, and sort of tried to analyze what was
16 happening over time and over several GRAs from 2008 to
17 2022 and looking forward to this GRA. And I'm assuming
18 that the weather forecast used in the GRA are what you
19 call weather normalized. Is that correct?

20 T. MARTINO: Tony Martino here. Yes, correct.

21 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I see also that I have a column
22 for actual total sales. I see quite a bit of
23 variability in some years between primary retail sales
24 and actual total sales. Can you explain why there is
25 the -- let's call it the varying differential between

1 those two numbers?

2 T. MARTINO: Yes. So primary includes the residential,
3 commercial, street lights and private lights. And then
4 when we layer in wholesale sales and secondary sales,
5 we get to our total sales, which are in that last
6 column.

7 Wholesale sales for the most part, those the two
8 customers we serve in -- they're YEC customers.
9 There's not a lot of variability there. The big impact
10 or explanation for the changes are mainly related to
11 the secondary sales that fluctuate from year to year.

12 J. MAISSAN: [Indiscernible] the majority of the variation.
13 And in years when the difference between the primary
14 retail sales and actual total sales is small, it's
15 likely that there were no or very limited secondary
16 sales. Is that a correct interpretation?

17 T. MARTINO: Correct.

18 J. MAISSAN: Thank you.

19 G. BENTIVEGNA: The panel doesn't have the aid to cross, so
20 if you're talking about it, maybe we can -- even
21 electronically give it to the board members so that
22 they can follow your line of questioning.

23 J. MAISSAN: I'm happy to pass it out to board members at
24 this time.

25 G. BENTIVEGNA: Yes, that would be helpful.

1 J. MAISSAN: Ms. Bentivegna, may I ask you for some
2 guidance, please.

3 G. BENTIVEGNA: Sorry, okay, I wasn't sure -- with these
4 screens I wasn't sure who was speaking.

5 J. MAISSAN: At this point it is not yet an exhibit.

6 G. BENTIVEGNA: No, it is not.

7 J. MAISSAN: It's not. I understand that. Just I hear
8 questions behind me, can other interveners get a copy
9 at this point? I don't know what the correct procedure
10 would be.

11 G. BENTIVEGNA: Yes, they can.

12 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. So I think all those interested
13 would now have a copy of that primary retail sales
14 record. And let's see. Go back to where I was.

15 Is the actual primary sales, is there anywhere
16 where the -- the weather normalized actual sales can be
17 found? Are there any documents where that number is
18 provided? Is that calculated? And if so, can somebody
19 from AEY direct me to where I could find those numbers.

20 T. MARTINO: Yes, we provided that information in response
21 to exhibit B-4, AEY NDP-4.

22 J. MAISSAN: And this would be for the years 2016 to '22 or
23 does it go further back?

24 T. MARTINO: This table here -- I don't know if you're
25 there yet -- it has a summary of our previous GRA's

1 test years, the 2008 and '-9 followed by '13 to '15 and
2 then '16 to '17.

3 J. MAISSAN: Thank you.

4 T. MARTINO: So this table is just comparing what was
5 approved versus actual, and these values are
6 normalized.

7 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I obviously missed that. So I
8 also should have asked at the outset, and I apologize
9 for missing that, is in compiling this, I want to make
10 sure I haven't made any errors. Has AEY identified any
11 erroneous numbers on this table? If so, I would
12 appreciate hearing it. So please do correct this
13 information if I've got it wrong because sometimes
14 there are compliance filings that -- in which numbers
15 change, et cetera.

16 T. MARTINO: I reviewed this table and all the numbers are
17 presented correctly.

18 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Although years 2014 and 2015 are
19 exceptions, in five of the seven GRA years that are
20 covered by this forecast -- sorry, five of the
21 seven years have forecast primary sales below the
22 actual primary sales. And I wonder, does AEY have a
23 conservative approach to sales forecasting? I.e., do
24 they tend to forecast on the low side in order to
25 minimize risk?

1 T. MARTINO: Again, referring to the response to AEY

2 NDP-004 in exhibit B-4, in this table we summarized the
3 differentials between filed and approved. We note in
4 our response there that AEY's forecast for the years
5 2008 to 2015 were within in part our response to part A
6 there, average negative 0.4 percent variance, while the
7 approved was off by 2.2 percent. So for those years,
8 AEY -- AEY's originally proposed forecast was more
9 accurate than what was approved.

10 For 2016 and 2017, there were -- those years were
11 exceptional growth years, and we were coming out of a
12 downturn in 2015 and 2016. We saw tremendous growth in
13 2017 that was unprecedented. We had year-over-year
14 growth of 7 percent in primary retail sales that year.
15 That's before weather normalizing. When we weather
16 normalize it does reduce it somewhat, but it's never
17 exact.

18 But there was -- the economy was picking up, the
19 mining activity, population growth all led to an
20 exceptional growth year in 2017. So outside of that,
21 our forecast has been fairly accurate. In terms of it
22 being conservative or not, we forecast to the best of
23 our abilities to get it as accurate as we can.

24 We used an approved methodology, it starts with
25 our customer forecasts that we get from third party

1 information from our Whitehorse staff in terms of the
2 expected customer additions. We apply that to the use
3 per customer that we run using our approved method now
4 that we've continued from '16 and '17 into '23/24. And
5 we believe that when we're using this approved
6 methodology that was reasonably close for '16 and '17.

7 We're seeing that in '23/24 that so far there's
8 a -- an IR that asked where we were tracking as of
9 June. That is in AEY UCG-17, part E. We were asked to
10 provide updated actuals as of June comparing to when we
11 did the original forecast that three months of actuals,
12 and then we updated it with the additional three
13 months. And the results there for 2016 are within
14 0.2 percent compared to what we originally forecast.
15 So we believe that the methodology that we are using
16 now is approved from -- the '16/17 GRA is fairly close
17 to where we're at.

18 We've also looked at our actuals more recently and
19 we're within 0.8 percent. Our actuals are actually 0.8
20 percent lower than 2023, so still fairly close but
21 actually coming in lower than what we're forecasting.

22 J. MAISSAN: All right. So the forecast sales for 2023 of
23 362 gig -- well, 362,136 megawatt hours, which is only
24 0.2 percent higher year over year than 2022 is actually
25 coming in so far lower than 2022? If it's 0.8 percent

1 below forecast.

2 T. MARTINO: Correct.

3 J. MAISSAN: Did I understand that correctly?

4 T. MARTINO: Correct. We had started year with some very
5 warm weather that's leading to that.

6 J. MAISSAN: Right. And how does that affect your forecast
7 for 2024 based on what you've learned so far then from
8 2023? If that's tracking lower, would your forecast
9 for 2024 now be lower if you were -- if you were
10 looking at it now?

11 T. MARTINO: I believe when we adjust for the weather, last
12 time we checked it was about 0.2 percent difference for
13 2024. So, again, even when we use the updated data and
14 run it through, it's tracking very closely.

15 And also in YEC's recent application, we compare
16 notes when we're preparing these forecasts. As you
17 know, we -- our wholesale sales are -- our wholesale
18 purchases are YEC's wholesale sales, and we do work
19 closely to compare our forecasts. And we note that
20 while we're close, their forecast is actually higher
21 for 2024 by a couple percent. And so I think when we
22 look at all the different information that we're
23 comparing to, our forecast is not conservative by any
24 means.

25 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. In the years since the last GRA,

1 well, 2018 to the '22, those would have been fairly
2 rapid growth years for the micro-generation program,
3 and I think it's probably still growing at about the
4 same rate. Has that been affecting your forecast or
5 ability to forecast?

6 T. MARTINO: No, I don't believe so. And as Ms. Rogers
7 explained earlier, we run our sales forecasts
8 independent of the sources of generation, whether it's
9 hydro or diesel or micro-gen. And then when we
10 determine our sales forecasts, that then determines the
11 amount of load that we need to purchase, and then from
12 there we look at the mix of available sources to come
13 up with how we're going to serve that load.

14 So to answer the question, it doesn't affect how
15 we forecast our sales. We are looking at end use
16 usage.

17 J. MAISSAN: All right. So in effect then, the self-use
18 for micro-generation is incorporated into your
19 forecasting project -- well, process through
20 essentially what's negative load. It just reduces the
21 load you see?

22 T. MARTINO: Correct. Their lower usage is already baked
23 into our numbers that we're seeing at the meter, and it
24 would be no different than other conservation
25 initiatives that customers may include in their homes.

1 J. MAISSAN: If there was a rapid change in
2 micro-generation uptake, either going forward, going up
3 or going down, would that frustrate your forecasting
4 efforts, do you think?

5 T. MARTINO: It depends on the uptake. If it's gradual, I
6 believe our numbers are slowly embedding all that
7 information as we update our forecasts from year to
8 year. But outside of, you know, material changes and
9 that, I don't see that impacting our forecast
10 materially.

11 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Mr. Chair, I would like to request
12 that this aid to cross be labelled with an exhibit
13 number. Is that possible? So that would be exhibit
14 number C3-6, I think, by the list.

15 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: C3-6. Okay. I'm getting a nod from the
16 person in the know. C3-6.

17 EXHIBIT C3-6: Aid to cross entitled "AEY Primary Sales
18 Record table"

19 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. And I think you had scheduled a
20 break at 2:45?

21 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Actually I should have declared that
22 earlier. I figured 3:00 would be closer to the mid
23 point. Where are you at in your --

24 J. MAISSAN: Well, I'm ready to start the next -- next
25 question and going on to my last three questions. But

1 each of them, like this one, might take a bit longer
2 than a very simple question. So this may be a good
3 time to take a break.

4 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. Thank you for that recommendation.
5 Yes, we'll take a 20-minute break at this point and
6 resume at 3:15.

7 J. MAISSAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 G. BENTIVEGNA: Order. This hearing will stand adjourned
9 until 3:15.

10 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 2:55 P.M.)

11 (PROCEEDINGS RECONVENED AT 3:15 P.M.)

12 G. BENTIVEGNA: Order. YUB hearing is reconvened. Please
13 be seated.

14 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Ready to go, Mr. Maissan?

15 J. MAISSAN: The series of questions I have are also on
16 a -- an aid to cross-examination labelled "AEY Capital
17 Cost Record." I think the board will be served with
18 copies of that. There are no other documents I refer
19 to other than this aid to cross.

20 In this aid to cross I have compiled GRA capital
21 cost requests, approved capital cost and actual capital
22 cost. And before I continue, I just want to make sure,
23 again, that if I have made any errors they are
24 identified up front. If AEY has identified any errors,
25 could they please inform me?

1 B. ROGERS: [Indiscernible] it's capital here and not net
2 of contributions?

3 J. MAISSAN: Sorry.

4 B. ROGERS: I assume you're looking at gross capital on
5 these not net of contributions.

6 J. MAISSAN: That is correct. This is the capital as in
7 the GRAs.

8 B. ROGERS: Okay. Yes. So the gross numbers look accurate
9 to our records, yes.

10 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Near the bottom of this table, I
11 have for the seven GRA years in this table sort of
12 averaged the capital cost request, the approved capital
13 cost, and the capital cost delivered. And I see that
14 the approved capital costs are typically less than the
15 requested capital cost. And I also note that the
16 approved capital costs are close to 2 million per year
17 average, less than what was approved. And I was
18 wondering if someone could explain why the -- the
19 average capital cost delivered, as it were, would
20 average lower than the approved capital cost.

21 J. MASSIE: Just could you clarify your question again, Mr.
22 Maissan. I wasn't sure which column you wanted to
23 compare there.

24 J. MAISSAN: Looking at the middle column, approved capital
25 cost, near the bottom I have averaged for the seven GRA

1 years only that the approved capital costs were
2 13,989,000, and then in the -- in the next column to
3 the right of that, actual capital costs, the average is
4 12,051,000. And I wondered why the difference of
5 2 million. It seems to be fairly consistent except for
6 one of those seven years, the actual capital cost is
7 lower than the approved amounts. And I wonder if you
8 could explain why that trend would be there.

9 J. MASSIE: So one of the questions, just the same as
10 Ms. Rogers just asked, we just noticed that the capital
11 cost request and approved -- really we're looking at --
12 you looked at the total capital or the gross capital
13 costs. And really what I'd say for these seven test
14 years, and in particular prior to 2016 and '17.

15 So I think back to that application and that
16 hearing, and at that time for capital, for gross
17 capital, we were, up until 2016, we -- the prior three
18 years, 2013, '14 and '15, in particular, the new
19 extensions forecast just were not materializing as they
20 were forecast. So they were very low.

21 So really what -- what we did then for '16 and '17
22 is we really -- well, one, we fixed -- we looked at
23 what we were doing in new extensions to get a little
24 more accurate costs forecast for that. But we also
25 talked about the controllable capital versus the

1 noncontrollable. So that's the one thing I point out
2 in looking at gross capital here.

3 The new extensions that we have been putting in,
4 as of late, both new extensions and in particular the
5 IPP projects, those are all fully contributed projects.
6 They're outside our control. We have our obligation to
7 serve and those ones were the trouble with forecasting.

8 So we more or less in '16 and '17 were focused on
9 that controllable capital. So I think we adjusted it
10 and we looked at it and we adjusted it in '16 and '17
11 to really make that difference between -- more
12 apparent, I guess, for interveners and the board of
13 some of those capital projects that we have very little
14 control over.

15 The whole Whistle Bend area of course is the major
16 part. So I'd say that -- that part I wanted to point
17 out, because, you know, we corrected it in 2016, and we
18 were fairly accurate between the approved capital and
19 the actual capital costs. And in 2017, you know, that
20 difference there really was confined to one project in
21 Fish Lake that happened and we weren't able to get it
22 done as was approved in 2017.

23 So I'd say that we've done a better job of
24 forecasting our new extensions. And even with that, we
25 still have a difficult time forecasting all of them

1 because back then there was no forecast for renewables.

2 J. MAISSAN: So the biggest variable, you're saying, is the
3 contributed projects that you have no control over?

4 You feel that the projects that you do have control
5 over are -- are delivered fairly consistently?

6 J. MASSIE: Yes. I would say it's pretty inherent that the
7 projects we don't have control over are -- they're
8 quite big. So when I look at schedule 9.1, and just
9 the new extensions -- I'm not sure if we want to go
10 there -- but, you know, from 2016 to 2022, they vary
11 considerably, up and down every other year. So those
12 are the ones that we've had a little more difficulty
13 forecasting in the past, so up to that 2016 test
14 period.

15 And then when you look at the actuals to the
16 approved, just for new extensions, we got a lot more
17 accurate with them, which in turn turned into that
18 overall capital gain a lot more accurate. But even
19 with that, those projects in our control, there are
20 going to be unforeseen circumstances, delays in
21 material, labour that we'll have to adjust for
22 continually.

23 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. When I look for requests for
24 capital in 2023 and 2024, I see numbers that are in the
25 order of twice what has been the expenditure of --

1 well, particularly the period 2016 through 2021. And I
2 just wonder, given the difference between approved
3 capital and actual capital costs, whether there is a
4 limitation on AEY's capacity to deliver capital
5 projects. You know, is this -- is this a manageable
6 number, or is this just beyond AEY's capacity to
7 deliver?

8 T. BADRY: So I think coming out of the pandemic, I think
9 we're in a better position now with supply chain, even
10 though it's not ideal. Some of our equipment is coming
11 in a little bit better than we had planned. The
12 wildfire situation in Alberta threw us back a little
13 bit on our pole supply this year. That is obviously
14 done with. So our pole supply should be coming back to
15 normal. Same with our procurement of contractors.
16 Most of our contractors, power line contractors in
17 particular, are based out of Alberta. Procuring those
18 contractors for '24 is going to be considerably easier
19 than '23.

20 J. MASSIE: Sorry, Jay Massie -- the other thing I'd point
21 out, it is a large capital program for '23 and '24.
22 There are a couple large projects that are -- that lead
23 to it. You know, there's the -- our normal baseline
24 level of distribution improvements and generation
25 projects. Then we layer on a couple big anomalies.

1 The CCS project, the billing system is an example.
2 It's -- that was 8.4 million, and it's in service. So
3 it's done. We have two substations that are coming
4 online, so another two separate projects which are
5 between the two of them are 5 to 6 million dollars. So
6 they are -- they are on track.

7 So, say -- you know, there is that baseline
8 capital that we're going to need to keep improving the
9 system. There's the new extensions which are quite
10 significant in these two years between the line new
11 extensions as well as the renewables, which are in the
12 neighbourhood of 9 million. So there's a few one-offs
13 in there that make this such an intensive capital year
14 or test period, I should say. But we are on track, and
15 we're confident that we're going to remain on track.

16 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. The last question is probably more
17 challenging. If these capital requests are approved
18 and we then go into another period of one or more years
19 without a GRA, and these the capital levels sort of
20 last approved, are there any impacts on rate payers if
21 your capital expenditures are significantly
22 [indiscernible] in those additional years? Are
23 there -- you know, the thing I'm concerned about is are
24 there benefits to AEY, and are there disbenefits to the
25 rate payers in coming nontest years if we have nontest

1 years following these two test years?

2 B. ROGERS: So from a revenue requirement and impact to the
3 rate payers, typically in the past when we've had
4 capital expenditures below what was in the revenue
5 requirement within the test period, it's typically a
6 timing difference and we catch up within the following
7 year. So if you look at '16 and '17 as an example, our
8 approved rate base was slightly below -- or slightly
9 above what our actual rate base was in 2017. But in
10 2018 it went the other way where our actual rate base
11 was higher than what was approved in 2017 rates and
12 ultimately what customers were paying for.

13 So in years outside the test period, rate base
14 doesn't grow until we come forward with an application
15 to have it incorporated into the revenue requirement.
16 So the utility, once rate base is in excess of what's
17 in rates, is funding the capital outside of the
18 approved revenue requirement, whether it be through
19 sales growth or whatever it may be. Customers are not
20 paying incremental capital costs until those costs are
21 put before in a regulatory forum.

22 J. MAISSAN: All right. If I understand that correctly,
23 you're saying that the rate base growth from 2018 to
24 2022 will be incorporated -- sorry. The capital
25 expenditures, AEY's capital expenditures, not

1 contributed expenditures in those years get added to
2 rate base through this GRA process.

3 B. ROGERS: Correct.

4 J. MAISSAN. And rate payers will not be paying until
5 2023/24 for those capital expenditures?

6 B. ROGERS: Yes. So any of the depreciation that we've
7 incurred in that time period where we're outside of a
8 test year is not to the cost of rate payers. The
9 return on that is not to the cost of rate payers
10 until -- it's sort of that opening base rate number
11 that we would come forward with an application subject
12 to review.

13 J. MAISSAN: That opens another interesting question for
14 me, then. If that is the case, what happens to -- to
15 the capital costs in that time? Do they attract
16 interest rates and then get added to rate base or are
17 they paid for by additional revenues from sales growth
18 and therefore are not cost to rate payers, as it were,
19 beyond the GRA?

20 B. ROGERS: Yeah. So they would be funded through things
21 like sales growth or efficiencies or O&M or, like,
22 we've had lower cost of debt than what was previously
23 in rates in years since the last application. So we
24 typically try to manage within the rates that we have,
25 and then when we're unable to manage, would come

1 forward with a general rate application.

2 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. This concludes my questions on
3 this -- on this aid to cross, and I would request it
4 get an exhibit number. And if my numbering is correct,
5 this would be C3-7, subject to confirmation.

6 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes. Yeah. Okay. So this AEY capital
7 cost record aid to cross, exhibit C3-7.

8 EXHIBIT C3-7: AEY capital cost record aid to cross

9 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. My next number of questions are
10 also on an aid to cross, and it's labelled "AEY
11 Depreciation Cost Record." I'll just wait until the
12 board has that in front of them. Are we ready for --
13 to proceed?

14 B. ROGERS: Maybe want to note on this aid to cross for the
15 2023 and 2024 years, the depreciation request number
16 you've identified here would be before the depreciation
17 update. So for 2023 our depreciation numbers are
18 8,664,000 and for 2024 is 10,596,000.

19 J. MAISSAN: Sorry, 10 million ...

20 B. ROGERS: 596.

21 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I have noted that on my copy of
22 this aid to cross. So, again, thank you for pointing
23 out those changes, and I'm happy to be corrected on any
24 of the numbers if they are incorrect.

25 In one of the IR responses, which would be

1 exhibit 4, page 55, which is AEY JM-22, I see that
2 in -- as a rule of thumb, based on the 2023 AEY
3 capitalization, each \$100,000 of cost represents
4 something like 20 basis points in return on capital.
5 Have I got that correct?

6 B. ROGERS: I'm sorry, can you take me to where that is.

7 J. MAISSAN: Sorry. It's exhibit 4, page 55, and it's
8 response to AEY JM-22, 022.

9 B. ROGERS: Okay. Yes, sorry, I'm there.

10 J. MAISSAN: All right. So just to make sure, since I'm
11 not a financial person, 20 basis points would be
12 0.2 percent. Is that correct?

13 B. ROGERS: Correct.

14 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. So if each 100,000 represents
15 20 basis points, then 200,000 would represent 40 basis
16 points or 0.4 percent?

17 B. ROGERS: Yes, assuming the 2023 rate base forecast.

18 J. MAISSAN: Right. Yes, using the '23 rate base forecast.

19 I notice that in this -- this record, which I've
20 compiled, that the depreciation has been less than the
21 approved depreciation. On average, the difference
22 is -- is about \$200,000. So if the depreciation cost
23 is lower, the actual depreciation lower than the
24 approved depreciation, does that indicate, then, that
25 this 0.4 percent could flow directly to AEY's return on

1 equity?

2 B. ROGERS: Yes. And these are looking at the gross
3 capital, but if you incorporate the contributions, any
4 variances there would also offset that impact there.

5 J. MAISSAN: Sorry. I didn't understand the nuance of
6 contributions. Is this contributions to capital you're
7 speaking of?

8 B. ROGERS: Yes, so customer contributions also amortize
9 over the life of the assets that they're attributable
10 to. So where we've overforecast, as Mr. Massie had
11 previously on things like new extension capital, we
12 would have also overforecast on the contribution side
13 of things. So there would have been an offset of
14 overstated depreciation on the contributions,
15 offsetting the capital component for those assets.

16 J. MAISSAN: And how much would that be, or does that
17 depend on the depreciation rate of the particular
18 asset?

19 B. ROGERS: It typically -- I have 2016 at the tip of my
20 fingers where we had 116,000 below approved for capital
21 depreciation in 2017. And in 2017, we also had
22 overstated the contribution amortization by 71,000. So
23 the net of those two numbers, off the -- about 40,000,
24 45,000, would have been the net impact to ATCO Electric
25 Yukon's ROE.

1 J. MAISSAN: So I'm -- I may have missed something or just
2 not understanding something. If a fully contributed
3 project is built by AEY, is -- is that -- is that
4 depreciation for that -- is there a depreciation for
5 that asset, then, that is included in approved
6 depreciation, for example, if it was an approved
7 extension?

8 B. ROGERS: Yes. So if you're looking at our schedule 1.1,
9 line 11 on there, so within the depreciation on line 11
10 would have the amortization of the physical assets that
11 have been built. And that includes the physical assets
12 that have been contributed by customers. And then we
13 have on line 12 of that, we have the amortization of
14 contributions, which would be us matching the
15 amortization of that contribution to the asset as it
16 retires.

17 J. MAISSAN: Right. I'm trying to think of the practical
18 applications or the practical implications of fully
19 contributed projects versus AEY projects.

20 B. ROGERS: So fully contributed should have minimal to no
21 impact on the revenue requirement.

22 J. MAISSAN: Right.

23 B. ROGERS: Because the contribution for the capital asset
24 should match the amortization of the contribution
25 itself.

1 J. MAISSAN: Right. So to understand the real impact
2 difference to customers of this average that I've
3 calculated, one would need to know the -- also the -- I
4 guess the amount of difference in the customer
5 contribution amortization.

6 B. ROGERS: Yes.

7 J. MAISSAN: So this would be the difference if it was --
8 if these were only AEY projects.

9 B. ROGERS: Correct.

10 J. MAISSAN: But not a mix of AEY and customer contributed
11 projects.

12 B. ROGERS: Yes.

13 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. That's helpful to know. When I
14 look at these -- these actual depreciation numbers in
15 the GRA years generally being below what was requested
16 and what was approved, then I guess I -- again, I'm
17 concerned that does this reflect that there has been
18 difficulty in AEY delivering capital projects year by
19 year. I suppose I had expected these numbers to be --
20 to even out over time. And can someone please tell me
21 whether that's off base or --

22 B. ROGERS: So I guess, again, similar to our earlier
23 discussion, when you're looking at -- again, the
24 variances between actual and approved depreciation are
25 really around the depreciable base, so how much we have

1 in in-service assets. So when you're looking at a
2 year, again I'll go to '16 and '17, they're at my
3 fingertips.

4 J. MAISSAN: Sure.

5 B. ROGERS: Where we had \$6.2 million of depreciation
6 approved in rates.

7 J. MAISSAN: Yes.

8 B. ROGERS: And we had 6.1 in actuals. The difference
9 there is largely the timing of our capital program. So
10 we did catch up in 2017. And, again, depreciation and
11 rate base kind of go hand and hand with each other
12 where rate base was in excess of what was approved in
13 rates, so depreciation flipped and was in excess of
14 what was approved in rates beginning in 2018.

15 J. MAISSAN: Sorry. I was looking at numbers and I didn't
16 really listen to those last few comments. Could you
17 repeat them, please.

18 B. ROGERS: Absolutely. Again, similar to the rate base,
19 so in 2018 we had caught up on our capital program that
20 we had anticipated to be completed at the end 2017
21 because we did have some timing issues around Fish Lake
22 and things like that. So once we got to our closing
23 numbers in 2017, rate base was slightly higher than we
24 had -- sorry. Once we got to 2018, apologies, our rate
25 base had exceeded what was in rates for 2017, with the

1 catch up of the 2017 program as well as continuation of
2 the 2018 capital program.

3 Similarly on the depreciation side, now that our
4 depreciable base has caught up to what was in rates in
5 2017, our depreciation expense exceeded what was in
6 rates where we see in 2018 6.3 million as compared to
7 the 6.2 million in rates.

8 J. MAISSAN: Right. I see that. Thank you. Can you
9 explain -- you've given some new numbers for '23 and
10 '24, the revised numbers being 8.664 million for 2023
11 and 10.596 for 2024. Can you explain what the main
12 drivers are for these? These would not be contributed
13 projects, I assume. Am I correct?

14 B. ROGERS: There would be a portion of contributed
15 projects in there. So there's kind of twofold -- well,
16 threefold things going on in our depreciation expense
17 within the GRA. So we have a larger depreciable base.
18 So, again, part of that larger depreciable base is
19 driven by customer contributions. So similarly on the
20 contributions side of things, we are seeing an increase
21 from historical averages being around 1.7 million to
22 upwards of 2.1 and \$2.4 million in contributions
23 offsetting a portion of this depreciation.

24 We've also found that the life of our distribution
25 assets has been longer, so through the study, which I

1 will save the details for our depreciation expert, but
2 through the study have found that our distribution
3 assets are lasting longer. So we've got some lower
4 depreciation parameters on the distribution assets, and
5 then we have the reinstatement of the net negative
6 salvage which flows through this depreciation line.

7 J. MAISSAN: Right. So that sort of offsets that longer
8 depreciation period, at least a bit.

9 B. ROGERS: Yes.

10 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Mr. Chair, this concludes my
11 questions on this aid to cross. I would request an
12 exhibit number, and if I have the numbering correct,
13 this would be exhibit C3-8.

14 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes, that's correct. So we'll label it
15 as such.

16 EXHIBIT C3-8: Aid to cross AEY Depreciation Cost
17 Record.

18 J. MAISSAN: And now we come to my last question. Again,
19 it is based on two documents. One is an aid to cross
20 labelled "AEY Return on Equity Record" and also from
21 exhibit B-4 of -- of 1313. And this page is page 1.
22 It's an attachment to the response to AEY JM-25A. Are
23 we there and ready to proceed? All right.

24 I would say from the outset again, if there are
25 errors in these numbers the way I've compiled them,

1 please do tell me.

2 B. ROGERS: Yes. I think we have outdated numbers on the
3 2017 to 2022 ROEs. So I will run through those for
4 you.

5 J. MAISSAN: 2017 to 2022?

6 B. ROGERS: Yes.

7 J. MAISSAN: Please.

8 B. ROGERS: Based on our updates filing, I have it in front
9 of me, sorry, so our 2017 is 12.77 percent. Our 2018,
10 12.73 percent. Our 2019 was 13.11. 2020, 13.29. 2021
11 was 12.44. And our 2022 was 11.97.

12 J. MAISSAN: Thank you for those updates. I --

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So, Mr. Chair [indiscernible]
14 [indiscernible] requires clarification of
15 [indiscernible] after the hearing rather than repeat
16 the answer again.

17 J. MAISSAN: I'm prepared to update my friends with the
18 information from -- that I've written down, Mr. Chair.

19 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. Well -- sorry. You're going to
20 update the information from what the panel is
21 providing?

22 J. MAISSAN: No. The panel provided me with updated
23 information.

24 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes.

25 J. MAISSAN: And I'm prepared to relay those to the other

1 interveners who requested that information who couldn't
2 follow the numbers as they were provided by the panel.
3 But I have them all written down.

4 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: All right. Thank you, Mr. Maissan.

5 J. MAISSAN: You're welcome. And -- all right. So the
6 calculated average number that is below in the actual
7 ROE percent column is incorrect as well, and that will
8 have to be adjusted. Would you like me to provide an
9 update to that -- to that number tomorrow, Mr. Chair?
10 I can provide, as it were, an undertaking to provide
11 that number if that's helpful.

12 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes.

13 J. MAISSAN: Or we can just leave it as is.

14 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Well, if you want to perform the -- your
15 adjustment and perhaps you can communicate with Mr.
16 Myers.

17 J. MAISSAN: Sure, I will do that.

18 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: And then he can --

19 J. MAISSAN: Yes. And I would say the same goes for the
20 previous exhibit we've labelled. There were
21 corrections there, I recall, for 2023 and 2024. I'm
22 prepared to change those numbers and -- and essentially
23 refile a clean copy of exhibit C3-8 to the board and
24 every -- and all parties tomorrow.

25 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes. Just for ease of reference, I think

1 it might be appropriate to, on the tidied up copy --

2 J. MAISSAN: Correct.

3 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: -- show the original numbers that you
4 had, red line them and then amend it by putting in the
5 corrected numbers.

6 J. MAISSAN: I will do that.

7 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: That way it will avoid confusion.

8 J. MAISSAN: Certainly. I will do that.

9 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Is that fine with you, Mr. Myers?

10 [Indiscernible].

11 J. MAISSAN: So the -- the first question I have, other
12 than what's been addressed already, is on the page --
13 PDF page 65 of exhibit B-1, which is the attachment 1
14 to AEY JM-25A. And looking at the bottom portion under
15 "returned ROE," and these are companies, you know,
16 being compared to ATCO Electric Yukon. I see ATCO
17 Electric distribution, and I see very roughly in ROE
18 percentages a -- a number of roughly 3.4 percent, which
19 is substantially higher than -- than AEY's percentage
20 ROE in terms of, you know, increase above regulated
21 return on equity.

22 And I wondered whether AEY is under pressure from
23 their sister company to increase the -- the ROE further
24 from where it has been because their sister company has
25 done so well.

1 J. MASSIE: No. There's no pressure on that front. You
2 know, we -- we manage the business here in the Yukon.
3 There is no -- you know, other than the head office
4 costs and the affiliate costs that we have identified
5 in here, it's -- the AEY is operated and managed here
6 in the Yukon.

7 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Is there any portion of the
8 remuneration package for senior managers of local AEY
9 people up to and including your level, Mr. Massie, that
10 is in any way tied to the return on equity that AEY
11 earns, whether it be bonuses or raises or whatever?

12 J. MASSIE: There's -- there is part of our salaries that
13 is discretionary, I would say. We do have -- our
14 performance is rated personally and with the company,
15 and that's -- like, on safe reliable power outages,
16 there is no -- there's no target, or there's no --
17 nothing in there about high revenue. If that's what
18 the question is.

19 J. MAISSAN: So nothing connected to -- to overearning your
20 ROE. You aren't encouraged to overearn on your return
21 on equity. "Overearn" meaning above the regulated
22 return on equity. There's no specific pressure on
23 that?

24 J. MASSIE: No. What I said, there isn't anything on that.
25 And when I -- when you think about back to this high

1 revenue period for these, as we noted in a number of
2 IRs, you know, two main -- two main causes that were
3 outside our control was population growth and the
4 growth of the industrial sector. So it would be
5 pretty -- I don't know how we'd tie that to anybody's
6 performance.

7 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. Now, the next question is based on
8 a number that is no longer accurate, but I will ask it
9 sort of in principle, I guess, until it's corrected,
10 and that was the average difference in return on equity
11 in percentage terms, which, based on the old numbers,
12 was 1.925. So would the difference in -- in return on
13 equity -- or would the amount of return on equity above
14 the regulated return result in -- well, if I use the
15 number of -- that was in -- referred to previously of
16 20 basis points for every 100,000, that 1.925 percent
17 is in very round numbers about \$960,000 per year in --
18 in dollar terms. Would that be correct, or are there
19 subtleties there that I am not -- I am not
20 understanding ?

21 B. ROGERS: We provided that information in our response to
22 UCG-42. So you would be able to determine the
23 magnitude there.

24 J. MAISSAN: Thank you.

25 B. ROGERS: Sorry, did I say 32?

1 J. MAISSAN: Sorry?

2 B. ROGERS: I said 42?

3 J. MAISSAN: UCG-42, yes, I'll find that. I have that and
4 it will be on the transcript as well.

5 And the last question I have for today, Mr. Chair,
6 is that in -- in these previous three aids to cross,
7 we've seen a variety of -- of situations, conditions
8 where things have varied, some periods of loss of
9 sales, COVID and so on. And it seems to me that --
10 that AEY has a resounding ability to exceed their
11 return on equity. And I was wondering if there are any
12 specific explanations that has led to this. Has it
13 been the customer growth we referenced earlier, or is
14 it just circumstance? Could you explain that, please.

15 J. MASSIE: Yeah, maybe I'll start, and if I -- Ms. Rogers
16 has anything to add. Yeah. Like I mentioned, two of
17 the main contributors, you know, there's population
18 growth and the growth of the industrial sector. So
19 when I look back to our last GRA, so we set -- we set
20 everything in 2016. The decision came out in 2017.
21 But -- so for me, a very good illustration, if we go to
22 schedule 2.1, and I'm sorry, I don't have it by exhibit
23 number, but schedule 2.1, which is summary of
24 customers, energy sales and revenue. And in
25 particular, line 29.

1 And we had -- you brought this up a little bit
2 earlier, that line in particular, and just looking at
3 it. So back in 2016 when I think about our rate
4 application then, we talked about -- you know, at that
5 time, there was forecast to be low economic activity.
6 That is what was forecast and that was what we were
7 working with going forward. In 2016 it was pretty
8 accurate. Of course, we were before the board at this
9 time of year, so it should be fairly accurate.

10 But then there was a big growth in 2017 that was
11 not forecast. Even in 2016, just one year prior, we --
12 there was no indication, you know, from what was
13 approved -- if I could just use round numbers,
14 322 megawatt hours or gigawatt hours to 336. So it
15 surprised everyone the growth in energy sales. And it
16 stayed there for a couple years really flat, while we
17 managed our operational budget within that \$11 million
18 mark. So our expenses and what we manage was
19 staying -- we were staying within our budgets, staying
20 where we always have been on those -- on O&M. So our
21 expenses remained the same and the revenue grew.
22 Again, two things outside of our -- two big things
23 outside our control. The industrial revenue, we were
24 looking at that rider now in a deferral account, so
25 that will take -- we won't have to try to factor that

1 in anymore. That would be the best thing we can do
2 there. So that is the big indicator for me.

3 And then you see the years after that, so it
4 remained flat for these three years from '17 to '19.
5 The wonderful 2020 year showed up where everything
6 changed, it jumped up 353, and it's remained fairly
7 high since then. None of that was in our control.
8 None of that we could forecast to carry on at that
9 rate, anyway, for on the high revenue side.

10 B. ROGERS: I would maybe add a couple of other factors
11 that we experienced is that the statutory tax rates
12 dropped from 30 percent to 27 percent in that time
13 period as well. So there was original rates were
14 established at the 30 percent back in 2017.

15 We had, as I'd previously mentioned, older debt
16 that was previously in the ballparks of 5 and 6 percent
17 interest rates. They matured in this time period and
18 we were able to refinance them at more 3 to 3 1/2,
19 4 percent interest rates, so we did see some savings on
20 the financing side of things. And then there was also
21 the implementation of some federal carbon relief
22 program, which contributed a significant amount of our
23 2022 financial results. Those are on schedule 2.2. It
24 was 832,000 in 2022.

25 J. MAISSAN: And that carbon relief, is that an ongoing

1 amount?

2 B. ROGERS: It is. We've incorporated it into the
3 forecast. Rates are expected to decrease in 2023,
4 which has been reflected in the forecast, but there is
5 a component of it within the forecast.

6 J. MAISSAN: Yes. Is this rebate related to the fuel that
7 AEY uses for generation in non-grid communities?

8 B. ROGERS: Yes. Yes.

9 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. So do you have to pay the GST when
10 you purchase the fuel and then get a refund?

11 B. ROGERS: The GST component is a flow-through for us. We
12 don't have the GST impact in our earnings. The carbon
13 relief program federally is established based off of
14 our UCC balance, which is our undepreciated capital
15 cost for tax purposes times the rate for diesel
16 generation assets.

17 J. MAISSAN: Thank you.

18 J. MASSIE: Sorry, I missed that. I mentioned either the
19 high revenue and our expenses in O&M, and really, I was
20 thinking about, just so you know what I was
21 referencing, Mr. Maissan, was schedule 5.1, and
22 line 58, which the our total O&M. And in 2016 it was
23 11.1 million and in 2019 it was still at 11.1 million.
24 So, again, revenue was growing. Expenses remained
25 pretty flat for those first bunch of years before

1 inflation started having its effects.

2 J. MAISSAN: Thank you. I didn't get all that written
3 down, but I'll depend on the transcript to -- to get
4 those exact references.

5 Mr. Chair and panel, I thank you for your time
6 today. This concludes my questioning. I have only two
7 questions for the -- for the -- is it the ROE panel,
8 and I have none for the depreciation panel.

9 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Thank you, Mr. Maissan. Now, as a result
10 of some conversations during the break, we learned that
11 Mr. Boulais cannot be here tomorrow morning. He only
12 has three questions. Any objection to jumping to him?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

14 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yeah, yeah. Okay. So now --

15 G. BENTIVEGNA: On return to equity, did you want it
16 numbered and then you update it, or ...

17 J. MAISSAN: That should then be labelled C3 -- exhibit
18 C3-9. And I will provide, as we discussed earlier,
19 updates tomorrow morning with a line -- a red line
20 through the numbers and then the corrected numbers
21 beside it.

22 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Right. And then we can perhaps enter
23 those amended exhibits accordingly so they're properly
24 identified on the exhibit record.

25 J. MAISSAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1 G. BENTIVEGNA: Sorry, Mr. Chair, one last thing is if I
2 understood correctly, I believe Ms. Rogers gave an
3 undertaking to Mr. Maissan to produce some numbers. So
4 I just want to make -- be sure that that was the case
5 unless I misunderstood.

6 J. MAISSAN: I had thought that was resolved, but --

7 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Sorry, meaning the undertaking is
8 resolved or it's recorded?

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

10 B. ROGERS: I think we're referring to the updated impacts
11 to the ROE schedule that Mr. Maissan was providing and
12 I believe he's emailing it out to all parties as
13 discussed.

14 J. MAISSAN: I will have that ready before the hearing
15 tomorrow. You will have that and I will -- although I
16 have a commitment tonight, I will endeavour to get that
17 out tonight to all parties.

18 G. BENTIVEGNA: Mr. Chair, what I have in my notes related
19 to questions on page 405 of the UCG -- UCG-021. It was
20 the ROE efficiencies and numbers to be provided
21 regarding the efficiencies. But I'm just checking just
22 to be sure to keep the record clean that I understood
23 that correctly or there's going to be any information
24 forthcoming.

25 T. MYERS: My understanding is the only outstanding

1 undertaking is the one that was provided by Mr. Massie
2 to Mr. Fortin. And I think based on the conversation I
3 had with Mr. Maissan at the break, he's of the same
4 understanding. So unless there's something different
5 that's hanging out there, I don't think there's
6 anything else.

7 G. BENTIVEGNA: That's fine. Thank you. I just wanted to
8 keep the record clear.

9 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Very good. Always good to avoid
10 ambiguity. Thank you, Mr. Maissan.

11 F. BOULAIS: Am I good to go?

12 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Are you ready?

13 F. BOULAIS: Yeah.

14 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. You've got 20 minutes until 4:30.
15 Can you fit that in?

16 F. BOULAIS: It should take about 10, I hope.

17 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay.

18 F. BOULAIS: It's the first time I engaged with this
19 process. So I -- there's some observations that I'd
20 like to share. Is that okay?

21 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Well, the purpose is to ask questions of
22 the panel to elicit evidence. If you have any
23 observations or submissions or anything that you would
24 like to make, you may include those in your final
25 written submissions following the evidence portion of

1 the hearing.

2 F. BOULAIS: Okay.

3 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: So your opportunity now is to ask
4 questions to elicit evidence.

5 F. BOULAIS: Okay. Right. So I had planned a different
6 format, but I will try to do that. So the document I'm
7 going to be referring to is the exhibit B-4 on page 7
8 of the document -- I guess it's the big document that
9 we've been referring to, the application. Where
10 everything comes together, big document. Like the
11 document of 13,313 pages.

12 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: So you're referring to the PDF page
13 number?

14 F. BOULAIS: Yes, so page number 7.

15 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Thank you.

16 F. BOULAIS: So I'm a consultant, and I specialize in
17 systemic resiliency in organizational development. And
18 I sense a systemic trap that this whole process is
19 caught in. And it's made of bystander effect, the
20 assumption that the other will address an issue;
21 organizational decay, which is not adapting to change
22 in context; recency bias, which is that the most recent
23 data trumps everything else; the trolley problem, which
24 is avoiding to take action to pick the lesser of two
25 evils; and the complexification trap. So opaque and

1 friction-filled processes.

2 As far as I understand it, we are entering what
3 the World Economic Forum calls "the polycrisis," which
4 is multiple crises emerging very slowly and that are
5 suddenly going to start interacting and essentially
6 creating cascading catastrophes down south.

7 And so my whole request was to kind of suggest
8 that AEY should take a leadership role in educating the
9 public to the broad dependency on electricity they have
10 because there's this tendency for the public or for
11 humans to forget whatever is constant in their life.
12 So if I have reliable electricity, I actually forget
13 that it's there and I forget to prepare when it's not
14 there. And in their response, AEY suggested that they
15 are doing -- they are recommending that customers
16 consider the following measures:

17 "Creating an emergency kit,
18 establishing a communication plan with
19 your family and loved ones, familiarize
20 yourself with local emergency services
21 and community resources available to
22 assist during emergencies."

23 And I would -- as a customer from AEY, I've never
24 received anything else, and maybe a little print on the
25 back of the -- of my bill suggesting that I should have

1 a 72-hour emergency plan.

2 But with the current attention dilution and the
3 amount of information that comes towards us, that really
4 doesn't do much. And all the websites and so on really
5 don't do a good job at actually conveying that
6 information.

7 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Excuse me, Mr. Boulais, do you have a
8 question for the panel?

9 F. BOULAIS: It's coming.

10 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Really this is not an opportunity to make
11 a statement.

12 F. BOULAIS: Yes.

13 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: It is an opportunity to ask questions of
14 the panel in order to get evidence that may or may not
15 support submissions you have following the hearing.

16 F. BOULAIS: Yes, I understand.

17 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. Can we zero in on your question,
18 please.

19 F. BOULAIS: Okay. Just a quick comment. Because this
20 process relies on an analysis of specific elements.
21 But the things that I'm pointing out are much more a
22 synthesis that is the big picture, which I think we're
23 generally not very well equipped in our society to
24 detect how things are interconnected. We're on the
25 territory of the Ta'an Kwäch'än and the Kwanlin Dün.

1 And their world view has always been that the world is
2 an interconnected mesh of complex relationships, and we
3 miss that when we do this process of breaking things
4 apart. So what I'm essentially trying to do right now
5 is to weave a context to base my question in. And I'm
6 there.

7 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Sorry, Mr. Boulais, but it sounds like
8 it's going to take quite a while for you to develop
9 this context.

10 F. BOULAIS: Right.

11 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: What I would suggest, get the answers
12 that are on the tip of your tongue -- to the questions
13 on the tip of your tongue.

14 F. BOULAIS: Okay.

15 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: And if you want to create a context and
16 analysis to plug those answers into in your
17 submissions, to the extent that they're relevant to the
18 issues that this board is interested in, you know,
19 that's your opportunity. But today, the opportunity is
20 to ask questions and elicit evidence.

21 F. BOULAIS: Okay.

22 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Do you understand?

23 F. BOULAIS: Yes.

24 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Thank you.

25 F. BOULAIS: So I am curious to know what else than prints

1 behind the bill and pamphlets and maybe a website you
2 can offer to your customer base to actually educate
3 them in an effective manner as to the risks incurred in
4 living in the Yukon and enduring extended power
5 outages, which you -- yeah. You alluded earlier that
6 AEY running in the Yukon has extra risks attached, and
7 I believe that citizens living in the Yukon under far
8 distance also incur extra risks which might require
9 extra education.

10 J. MASSIE: I think, you know, at this time, those are the
11 avenues we have to communicate with our customers. I
12 can say it's -- we consider it a bit of a balance. We
13 want our customers to be prepared, but I don't think we
14 are prepared to start telling them how fragile
15 electricity is, and they could possibly be in dire
16 straits; right? Like, there's a balance for us. We
17 don't want to get -- incite anybody into any actions,
18 but we do want them to be prepared as best they can for
19 the electricity emergencies that they could experience.
20 And to date, that's through our customer billing, our
21 website and social media is our contact points.

22 F. BOULAIS: Marketing trend suggests it takes seven
23 exposures to a message to even register its presence.
24 How can you address that with a website and just, you
25 know, like, fine print on a bill?

1 J. MASSIE: I'm not familiar with that stat, but, again,
2 those are the avenues we have. Well, I should say we
3 do radio advertising when -- about safety messages.
4 And the same messages that we -- that we communicate
5 about being prepared. There are good resources out
6 there. We point customers to them. Yeah. That's
7 about all I can think of.

8 F. BOULAIS: Okay. So can I ask a question to the board?

9 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: No.

10 F. BOULAIS: Okay, that's fine.

11 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Process question we may be able to help
12 you. But we don't -- we're not here to provide
13 evidence or whatever. We're adjudicating.

14 F. BOULAIS: Yeah. Okay. Well, that's all then. Thank
15 you very much.

16 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Thank you, Mr. Boulais. It's 20 after
17 4:00. It seems like an appropriate juncture to recess
18 for the day, and we'll pick it up tomorrow morning.

19 T. MYERS: [Indiscernible] under oath and will remain so
20 overnight. We received some aids to cross from
21 Ms. Bentivegna on behalf of the board and also from
22 some of the other interveners this afternoon. I just
23 wanted to make sure that -- I guess confirm with you,
24 sir, whether Ms. Anderson and I can discuss those aids
25 to cross with our witnesses. We obviously wouldn't be

1 getting into the testimony that they've provided thus
2 far, but given that we didn't have an opportunity to
3 review those aids to cross and go through those with
4 the witnesses prior to them becoming under oath, I
5 wanted to check that with you, and also to just confirm
6 when it comes to undertakings and the responses to
7 those undertakings, if there are questions related to
8 the responses to be provided, that the board doesn't
9 have concerns with us assisting with the response
10 that's to be provided. So I just wanted to be
11 transparent about that before we take any steps over
12 the -- over the evening given that these witnesses
13 remain under oath.

14 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Certainly. So just to clarify, you --
15 the -- the aids to cross that we received initially,
16 you got those 24 hours at least ahead of the hearing.

17 T. MYERS: Yes, sir, we received those on Friday and we had
18 an opportunity to discuss the aids to cross in -- as
19 part of our preparation for the hearing.

20 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Right.

21 T. MYERS: We haven't had the chance to do that with the
22 aids to cross that were received an hour or two ago.
23 So my question relates to whether or not the board
24 would have concerns with Ms. Anderson and I briefly
25 walking through the aids to cross with the witnesses.

1 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Right. So if I understand correctly,
2 you're referring to the amended numbers?

3 T. MYERS: Excuse me, sir, we received multiple aids to
4 cross from Ms. Bentivegna that she intends to put to
5 the witnesses as well as from some of the other
6 interveners just this afternoon. So it relates to
7 those aids to cross that if we're, with your
8 indulgence, able to discuss with the witnesses, we
9 would have to do so while they're under oath.

10 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yeah.

11 T. MYERS: And I didn't have a chance to discuss this with
12 Ms. Bentivegna over the break, so I'm open to her views
13 as well too.

14 G. BENTIVEGNA: Mr. Chair, no, that's -- certainly
15 discussing the aids to cross with the panel is
16 appropriate.

17 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yeah. Okay. No, that's -- that's fair,
18 yeah. So no worries. All right. Thank you panel and
19 we'll see you tomorrow. Mr. Rondeau?

20 R. RONDEAU: Wondering whether tomorrow morning is going to
21 go and whether Mr. Yee will be ready first thing in the
22 morning. I think he's next. Am I correct?

23 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: [Indiscernible].

25 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Yes, okay. Do you have something to say,

1 Mr. Yee?

2 N. YEE: Yes, I will be available in the morning. I also
3 wanted to confirm that all of these aids to cross will
4 be available to me also on remote if they can either be
5 emailed or put on the board's website this evening.

6 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Sorry, can you repeat that, please.

7 N. YEE: I wanted to confirm that all of these aids to
8 cross will also be available to me on either the
9 board's website or if they can be emailed.

10 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: I think the plan was to email them.

11 N. YEE: Okay. Great.

12 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. So you'll be ready to go in the
13 morning?

14 N. YEE: Yes, I will.

15 CHAIR R. BUCHAN: Okay. And then I think after that, it
16 will be the ECG. Okay. Thank you. Okay. Thank you
17 panel. Thank you everyone. Have a nice evening.
18 Enjoy Whitehorse.

19 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 4:26 P.M.)
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Reporter's certification

Reporter's Certification:

I, Kelsey Fletcher, CRR, Official Reporter in the
Province of British Columbia, Canada, BCSRA No. 552, do
hereby certify:

That the proceedings were taken down by me in
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thereafter transcribed, and the same is a true and
accurate and complete transcript of said proceedings to
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my
name this 27th day of November, 2023.



Kelsey Fletcher, CRR.

Official & Realtime Reporter

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