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Section 3(c) of the Terms of Reference for the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) Site C Inquiry (Inquiry) includes the following text:

In making applicable determinations respecting the matter referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b), the commission must use the forecast of peak capacity demand and energy demand submitted in July 2016 as part of the authority's Revenue Requirements Application, and must require the authority to report on

- i. developments since that forecast was prepared that will impact demand in the short, medium and longer terms, and
- ii. other factors that could reasonably be expected to influence demand from the expected case towards the high or low load case.

The research and analysis that formed the basis of the July 28, 2016 Fiscal 2017 to Fiscal 2019 Revenue Requirements Application was completed prior to the Paris Agreement coming into force. Given the language of the Terms of Reference it is simply inconceivable that the BCUC Preliminary report does not once mention the term "Paris Agreement" nor does it include any consideration for how British Columbia's requirements under the Paris Agreement will influence electricity demand towards the high load case. Canada's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement will necessarily affect electricity demand and yet the Preliminary Report ignores this international commitment and reads as if Section 3(c) was omitted from the Terms of Reference.

The omission of the Paris Agreement and the effect of Canada's NDC on load forecasts in the Preliminary report could represent a simple oversight. However, the omission of consideration of our internationally-recognized commitment in the final report would be seen as nothing less than a gross dereliction of the BCUC's responsibilities under the Terms of Reference for this Inquiry.