BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE UTILITIES COMMISSION ACT S.B.C. 1996, CHAPTER 473

and

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Call for Tenders for Capacity on Vancouver Island
Review of Electricity Purchase Agreement

Vancouver, B.C. January 26, 2005

PROCEEDINGS AT HEARING

BEFORE:

R. Hobbs, Chairperson

L. Boychuk, Commissioner

VOLUME 13

APPEARANCES

G.A. FULTON Commission Counsel P. MILLER

C.W. SANDERSON, Q,C, H. CANE

J.C. KLEEFELD

L. KEOUGH Duke Point Power Limited

C.B. LUSZTIG British Columbia Transmission Corporation

A. CARPENTER

D, PERTTULA Terasen Gas (Vancouver Island) Inc.

G. STAPLE Westcoast Energy Inc.

R. B. WALLACE Joint Industry Electricity Steering Committee

C. BOIS Norske Canada

D. NEWLANDS Elk Valley Coal

F. J. WEISBERG Green Island Energy

D. LEWIS Village of Gold River

D. CRAIG Commercial Energy Consumers

J. QUAIL. BCOAPO

D. GATHERCOLE (B.C. Old Age Pensioners' Organization, Council Of

Senior Citizens Organizations Of B.C., End Legislated Poverty Society, Federated Anti-Poverty Groups Of B.C. Senior Citizens' Association Of B.C., And West End

Seniors' Network)

W. J. ANDREWS

GSX Concerned Citizens Coalition
T. HACKNEY

D. C. Systemable Energy Association

B.C. Sustainable Energy Association

Society Promoting Environmentnal Conservation

R. MCKECHNIE Himself

R. YOUNG Gabriola Ratepayers' Associations

K. STEEVES Himself

1 CAARS VANCOUVER, B.C. 2 January 26th, 2005 3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AT 8:30 A.M.) 4 Please be seated. THE CHAIRPERSON: 5 I think the order of proceeding this 6 7 morning will be as follows. I will make two comments. I think they're of a factual nature. I think it's 8 necessary for me to do that first, in part so that Mr. 9 Andrews has an opportunity to make his comments in the 10 context of my comments. And then I think Mr. Andrews 11 should have an opportunity to address his notice of 12 motion, and then I think we will hear from those who 13 are in support of Mr. Andrews' notice of motion, and 14 then I think we will hear from those who do not 15 support Mr. Andrews' notice of motion, and then I 16 think Mr. Andrews should have an opportunity of reply. 17 18 Are there any objections to that process? Before I make my comments, are there any 19 20 other issues regarding the process for today that need to be spoken to? 21 Proceeding Time 8:33 a.m. T2 22 Mr. Chairman, I just would like to indicate 23 MR. FULTON: 24 for the record that there have been some letters Some were received before the time last received. 25 26 night, some after the time. But if I just might

Page: 2657

1 reference those with their exhibit numbers before we

Page: 2658

- get started so people will be aware of them.
- 3 | THE CHAIRPERSON: Please proceed.
- 4 MR. FULTON: And I'll do these in chronological order.
- 5 The first is an e-mail from John Hill Monday, January
- 6 the 24th, 2005, if that might be marked Exhibit C13-6.
- 7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Marked Exhibit C13-6,
- 8 (E-MAIL FROM JOHN HILL, DATED JANUARY 24, 2005, MARKED
- 9 AS EXHIBIT C13-6)
- 10 MR. FULTON: The second is an e-mail from Bob McKechnie
- 11 Tuesday, January the 25th, 2005, Exhibit C22-8.
- 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit C22-8.
- 13 (E-MAIL FROM BOB MCKECHNIE, DATED JANUARY 25, 2005,
- 14 MARKED AS EXHIBIT C22-8)
- 15 MR. FULTON: The third is an e-mail from John Haque dated
- 16 January 25th, 2005, C26-8.
- 17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Marked C26-8.
- 18 (E-MAIL FROM JOHN HAGUE, DATED JANUARY 25, 2005,
- 19 MARKED AS EXHIBIT C26-8)
- 20 MR. FULTON: The next is an e-mail from Mairi McLennan
- 21 dated January 25th, 2005, C36-15.
- 22 THE HEARING OFFICER: C36-15.
- 23 (E-MAIL FROM MAIRI MCLENNAN, DATED JANUARY 25, 2005,
- 24 MARKED AS EXHIBIT C36-15)
- 25 MR. FULTON: Next is an e-mail from Eric Anderson dated
- 26 January 24th, 2005, C37-8.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Marked C37-8. 1 (E-MAIL FROM ERIC ANDERSON, DATED JANUARY 24, 2005, 2 MARKED EXHIBIT C37-8) 3 MR. FULTON: Next is a letter from the Islands Trust 4 dated January 25th, 2005, C38-2. 5 THE HEARING OFFICER: 6 C38-2.7 (LETTER FROM ISLANDS TRUST, DATED JANUARY 25, 2005, MARKED AS EXHIBIT C38-2) 8 MR. FULTON: And finally there is a series of form e-9 mails that were received last night, and if those 10 might be marked Exhibit E-282. 11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Marked E-282. 12 13 (SERIES OF FORM E-MAILS RECEIVED JANUARY 25, 2004, MARKED AS EXHIBIT E-282) 14 MR. FULTON: Thank you. 15 16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. As I said, I have essentially two comments. 17 18 One of them relates to the discovery of the issue that 19 was raised In camera and the timing of that by me, and independently, if you will, by Commissioner Boychuk. 20 Proceeding Time 8:35 a.m. T03 21 It wasn't until the morning of the *In* 22 23 camera session that I identified the issue that was 24 raised during the *In camera* session. The comments that are made by Mr. Andrews in Exhibit C20-35 with 25

Page: 2659

respect to when it -- when the Commission Panel

identified the issue; I might say, Mr. Andrews, that it was reasonable for you to expect that the Commission Panel would have identified the issue as early as that. And I do make that comment without commenting on the merits of your inference with respect to that. But I can tell you that it wasn't until the morning of the *In camera* session that I identified that issue.

on the regulatory agenda, a decision as to whether or not there should be an *In camera* session was made by me, independently of Commissioner Boychuk, and it was made by me following the answer that I received from Ms. Hemmingsen on the transcript at page 1718.

Commissioner Boychuk and I did not discuss that evidence prior to the *In camera* session, and Commissioner Boychuk was not aware of the issue until it was raised by me on the transcript at Volume 8, page 1718. And, Commissioner Boychuk did not know that I was going to request an *In camera* session until the *In camera* session.

In fact, although I haven't discussed this with Commissioner Boychuk, it may not have been until we were in the *In camera* session that the issue itself was -- became fully aware -- or Commissioner Boychuk became fully aware of the issue.

1 The other point I wish to make is that, following the In camera session, I think the record 2 will show that there was consideration by me of issues 3 other than the issue that was raised during the In 4 camera session. And the one for me that's most 5 noteworthy, at least at this time, is the exchange 6 7 that is on the record with Ms. Hemmingsen regarding Mr. Lewis's request, which goes to the issue that the 8 panel has identified as the principal issue for this 9 proceeding. 10 If I take you to Volume 9, page 2124 of the 11 transcript, lines 13 to 25, you will see Mr. Lewis's 12 13 request, and Ms. Hemmingsen responding: " The entire results of the OEM model were 14 provided to the Commission for both 15 successful bidders and unsuccessful 16 bidders." 17 18 Mr. Lewis says: " Okay. So the Commission, from the 19 information it has available to it, they can 20 identify what the levelized unit charge is 21 for the 122 megawatt portion of the Tier 2?" 22 And the answer is "Yes." 23 24 Proceeding Time 8:40 a.m. T4 That response is explored in further detail 25 26 later. I was concerned about that response because I

1 was concerned that I wouldn't be reviewing the evidence that Mr. Lewis wanted me to, and I felt it 2 was important that I do that. 3 And so that evening I reviewed the tender 4 sheets and the QEM model, and then spoke to that issue 5 the following morning, Volume 10, page 2163, where I 6 7 indicated "I would like to begin this morning by 8 unless there are some filings you'd like to 9 make, Mr. Sanderson -- but I'd like to begin 10 by returning to Mr. Lewis's request." 11 And then over on page 2164, I say what I've 12 just told you. 13 "...I returned to the tender sheets and the 14 tender sheets -- on my read of the tender 15 16 sheets, the levelized unit costs are not there, because you don't NPV the energy for 17 18 -- because of the nature of the QEM model." 19 Somewhat inarticulate, but I think the point is made. And then on line 14 I go on and say: 20 " So I think we were a little bit misleading 21 yesterday with respect to that as well. 22 I think the numbers are in the evidence, but 23 24 I think we also need to get there as well. So, and I'd like to give Mr. Lewis some 25

Page: 2662

assurance that in fact the Panel is looking

Page: 2663

at what he wants us to look at, so."

So it was my intention to ensure that the Panel was looking at the evidence with respect to the issue that Mr. Lewis was raising, and the issue that Mr. Lewis was raising was a different issue than was raised *In camera*, arguably a broader issue and one that related to the principal issue in this proceeding.

I think those will be the extent of my comments.

Mr. Andrews, you may proceed.

Proceeding Time 8:43 a.m. T05

SUBMISSIONS ON NOTICE OF MOTION:

MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Chairman, Madam Commissioner. I am going to follow along through my written motion, which is Exhibit C20-35, and I will be making reference to Volume 8 of the transcript, the proceedings In camera as more fully released January 24, 2005, and occasionally I will refer to the proceedings In camera Volume 8, which are not qualified as having been more fully released. I may refer to them as the "redacted transcript" and the "unredacted transcript" for ease of reference. And just to also try to clarify in advance what I'm referring to, the In camera session, and I use the term "the panel," I will have in mind the Commission panel, unless I explicitly use the term

Page: 2664

"witness panel". So, for the record, should I happen to merely say "panel" I would be intending to say "Commission Panel" at the time.

This is an application for an Order that the Commission disqualify itself on the grounds of a reasonable apprehension of bias and denial of procedural fairness and natural justice during the hearing. The leading statement of the test, and I will read it, because I believe it sets the framework for today's discussions, and I don't propose to go through the cases or the law any further than this, but the test is:

"The apprehension of bias must be a reasonable one, held by reasonable and right-minded persons, applying themselves to the question, and obtaining thereon the required information. The test is, what would an informed person viewing the matter realistically and practically, and having thought the matter through, conclude? Would he or she think that it is more likely than not that (the decision-maker), whether consciously or unconsciously, would not decide fairly?"

The test is an objective one. It's a matter of what an objective outside person would

reasonably conclude and, in my submission, this unfortunately is a case in which the test has been met. I will go through the points in my motion to identify them and elaborate to a certain extent with references to the transcript, and in the course of doing that, I will respond, I think, to the various additional information that has emerged since the time that I wrote the motion.

Proceeding Time 8:47 a.m. T6

Page: 2665

The first point concerns the whole area of the Panel's decision to enter into an *In camera* session. And for those following on the record, the argument is that the Panel failed to implement the least restrictive procedural mechanism for handling confidential information without violating the rights of the parties of B.C. Hydro.

Now, the Chair this morning has provided further information regarding the unique or distinct roles of himself and Commissioner Boychuk in terms of a decision to have an *In camera* session. My submission is premised on the understanding that the entire Panel is responsible for the decisions of the Panel, and that to the extent that one member of the Panel has done something that contributes to a reasonable apprehension of bias, there is in the law some discussion about the extent to which that

Page: 2666

apprehension of bias taints the rest of the Panel.

And I don't have a citation, but the Lee v. C.H.

Trucking case involving reasonable apprehension of bias arising out of the Labour Relations Board of B.C. discusses this issue and the concept applied there is the other panel members being tainted by the bias virus.

In my respectful submission, the decisionmaking process within the Panel is not something that
outsiders are privy to, and is not essentially
relevant to whether the Panel as a whole is in a
position of perceived apprehension of bias.

I think in this case that argument is bolstered by the fact that in the circumstances, the Chair is also the CEO of the Commission. There is a position of authority that the Chair holds both as Chair of the Panel and as Chair of the Commission itself in relation to the other commissioner on this Panel, and in my submission the information about the role of Commissioner Boychuk does not deflect in any way the thrust of the argument that I'm making.

One of the, I guess, the premises of my first point here is that the purpose of an *In camera* ex parte meeting -- hearing ought to be to receive evidence in confidence. And I don't at all dispute that the Commission Panel does have the legal

Page: 2667

authority to receive evidence in confidence in appropriate circumstances. However, in my submission, it's clear from the transcript Volume 8, and by that I mean both the redacted and unredacted versions, from the very first question asked by the Chair, that the focus of the Commission Panel's question of the witness panel was not specifically to adduce confidential information in the sense of numbers submitted by unsuccessful bidders, for example.

Proceeding Time 8:51 a.m. T07

And I'll go further into what I characterize the purpose as being. But given the broader purpose that the panel evidently had in holding this ex parte In camera session, in my submission, there are many other procedures that would have been far less intrusive on the rights of the other parties.

The Chair said this morning that it wasn't until the morning of the day of the *In camera* session that, if I understood it correctly, he was aware of the issue that was discussed in the *In camera* session, and I'll have to review the transcript for the precise wording, but my remarks are premised on the understanding that the issue being referred to is this: that it appears to be — it now appears to be that the DPP project without duct firing was the winner of the Call For Tenders based on having the

Page: 2668

lowest price, on an NPV value, but that there is some information in the CFT which quantitatively indicates that the DPP with duct firing is described as being "better value for the customer" and in -- also described as being more cost effective than DPP without duct firing.

So, coming back, my understanding is that the Chair is saying that it was not until the morning of the *In camera* session that he was aware of that issue. And why I'm not -- as I say, I'll have to review the transcript, but to those of us who were following the transcript on -- excuse me. I may not have the -- my copy of the reference here. Page 1718, I believe, is the page reference, where the Chair, in the public session, pointed to the two figures in the populated QEM model, identified them for Panel 4, and asked Ms. Hemmingsen to comment on them, and her comment was, in another reference in front of me, was to the effect that the significance of those two numbers is that you could get 28 megawatts of capacity for a very low price.

Well, right at that point, one knew that there were only two 28 megawatt capacity items under discussion. One was the duct firing added to the Duke Point project, the other was the duct firing added to the competitor, using VIGP assets, which has been

1 identified originally as 250 megawatts and then later corrected to 255 megawatts. 2 Proceeding Time 8:55 a.m. T8 3 Well, by the process of deduction, 4 purchasing 28 megabytes -- megawatts of power from the 5 competitor to DPP would hardly be inexpensive, given 6 7 that you hadn't purchased the original 255 megawatts. So the only possible project being referred to under 8 discussion would be duct firing at DPP. 9 Immediatley after receiving that answer, 10 the Chair on the transcript discusses the need to go 11 into an In camera session. And at least I think it's 12 13 certainly a reasonable supposition that at that point in time the issue was raised, and that the issue was 14 then followed up by the very first question asked by 15 16 the Chair in the *In camera* session, which in the unredacted version includes, and as Ms. Hemmingsen 17 18 said: "... and as Ms. Hemmingsen said, the Pristine 19 with duct firing is better customer value 20 than Pristine without duct firing. 21 Is it 22 also true that you're proposing the Pristine without duct firing because that's the 23 24 lowest NPV? MS. HEMMINGSEN: Right..." 25 **A**:

Page: 2669

So my submission is that there's a complete

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Page: 2670

continuity between the issue arising in the public session and a decision to go into the *In camera* session, and that the -- it's clear that the entire exercise *In camera* was not focused at getting specific confidential information from the B.C. Hydro witnesses, because that information was already in the possession of the Panel.

And I'll move now to my point number 2, which is a listing of what I say are the evident purposes of the *In camera* session, of which I discern four. The first is to obtain Hydro's confirmation of the Panel's conclusion that the EPA, meaning DPP without duct firing, is not the most cost effective option; and secondly, to obtain B.C. Hydro's concurrence or agreement with the Panel's conclusion that a specific other project is the most cost effective option.

Now I'll pause here. The time that I wrote this was before the redacted transcript had been unredacted, and there was not ironclad confirmation that it was in fact the duct firing at DPP that was under discussion, though that seemed to be the only obvious possibility. Now, of course, with the unredacted version, that has been confirmed.

And if I may foreshadow the argument that I'll be elaborating further later, there's two aspects

to the Panel's evident conclusion that DPP with duct firing is the most cost effective option. One is that the Panel appears to have concluded that it is more cost effective than DPP without duct firing; and second, that it is more cost effective than any other option that might be considered within the constellation of options that are before the Panel for valid consideration.

The third of the purposes evident from the transcript itself was to obtain Hydro's agreement with the Panel's expressed intention to achieve in some way an electricity purchase agreement for the other project. That is, not an electricity purchase agreement as it is filed and before the Commission for DPP without duct firing, but a EPA for some other -- at that point some other project, but we now know to achieve an EPA for DPP with duct firing.

And then the fourth stated purpose in the transcript was to obtain B.C. Hydro's input regarding how, legally and jurisdictionally, the Commission could achieve its stated desired outcome of an EPA for DPP with duct firing, even though there is no such EPA in front of the Commission.

Proceeding Time 9:00 a.m. T09

Stepping back again, there are really two basic themes that run through the reasonable

Page: 2672

apprehension of bias. One is the Panel having made up its mind, without having heard all of the evidence. And the second theme are various examples and ways in which the Panel has indicated that it favours B.C. Hydro. That it provides B.C. Hydro with special advantages not provided to the other parties, that it has expressed an intention to help B.C. Hydro, and so on. So these are the two basic themes that run through the -- my argument.

Coming, then, to the third itemized point in my motion itself, the Commission Panel clearly told B.C. Hydro during the *In camera ex parte* session that, based on confidential evidence not available to the other parties, the Commission Panel believes that the EPA that is the subject of this proceeding is not the most cost effective option for meeting the identified capacity need on Vancouver Island.

Now, that is extremely important information. The Panel's belief as to that issue is the heart of what the Panel has described as the principal issue in this hearing. And yet only B.C. Hydro was provided with that information. Now, I've also argued that it was improper for the Panel to have reached a conclusion on that issue in the first place, but having reached a conclusion, it was also and separately improper for the Panel to disclose that

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Page: 2673

conclusion to one party and not all the others.

In the *In camera* session, the Panel also clearly told B.C. Hydro that -- what I've described in point four as a project different than the one that won the CFT, but now we know is DPP with duct firing, is the most cost effective option. And these are two different issues. The one I was -- in point three is that the EPA is not the most cost effective option. The next point is that the Panel reached the conclusion, and disclosed this conclusion to Hydro, that DPP with duct firing is the most cost effective option. And with the agreement and concurrence of the Hydro witnesses, the Panel's decision was evidently confirmed, and there can be no doubt, I submit, to anybody reading the transcript in the full context, either out of context or in the full context, that the Panel had reached the conclusion that DPP with duct firing was the optimal project for the customer or, as it's phrased elsewhere, the most cost effective project.

My point number five is that the Commission Panel came to these two conclusions, which I emphasize are very distinct -- the first that the EPA itself is not the most cost effective option, and second that DPP with duct firing is the most cost-effective option, before having heard all of the evidence. And

Page: 2674

further, without having heard the direct evidence and the cross-examination evidence of witnesses for Intervenors, whose positions are inconsistent with the outcome that was adopted by the Commission Panel, which I've just referred to.

Proceeding Time 9:05 a.m. T10

Now, my point number six has been superseded by the unredaction of the transcript. The point there was that only B.C. Hydro would know for sure what the parties were talking about, but now that the transcript has been unredacted, all the parties are indeed aware of that.

So having disclosed to B.C. Hydro, in the absence of the other parties, the Panel's, the Commission Panel's conclusions that (a) the EPA is not the most cost effective, and (b), DPP with duct firing is the most cost-effective option, the Panel then proposed one or more additional ex parte In camera exchanges of information between the Commission Panel and B.C. Hydro, orally or in writing, regarding the topic of how the Commission could achieve its desired outcome of the proceeding.

Now, at this point, I submit, we are way beyond the receipt of confidential information. At this point we have the Panel working with B.C. Hydro, the Applicant, to achieve a certain outcome, but none

Page: 2675

of the other parties are aware -- has been chosen by the Panel, that ought not to have been chosen by the Panel at this early stage in the proceedings. And regarding which, and an issue that goes to the heart of the approval or disallowance of the EPA itself, is not a peripheral issue by any stretch of the imagination.

And in particular, even in the first In camera session, the Commission sought and obtained submissions from B.C. Hydro regarding the jurisdiction of the Panel to achieve the Panel's desired outcome.

Now, this is clearly not a matter which is properly the subject of confidentiality. Jurisdictional submissions are not the confidential bidding information supplied by unsuccessful bidders. And not only did this accidentally slip out, this was the evident purpose of the In camera session, and further, the Panel, the Commission Panel proposed additional In camera sessions, to develop this dialogue between the Commission Panel and B.C. Hydro to the exclusion of the other parties.

At point nine, during the *In camera* session the language used by the Panel implies that, by that point, there was a common understanding between the Commission Panel and B.C. Hydro regarding what the desired outcome was, that is, DPP with duct firing;

Page: 2676

the nature of the problem, so-called, being that that is not included in the EPA that's filed; and a sense of common purpose about the desirability of finding a way to achieve a different EPA than the one that's been filed. And this is something I've alluded to in the previous point, what followed from that is that the Commission Panel implied that additional ex parte In camera communications would be used to facilitate accomplishment of this joint objective between the Commission Panel and B.C. Hydro.

My point number ten is to the effect that, in retrospect, the question that can now be asked, whether the Commission Panel was aware as early as the setting of the schedule that the -- that DPP with duct firing was, at least in the opinion of B.C. Hydro and the Commission Panel, who were the only ones who have seen this, more cost effective than DPP without duct firing, that the Commission reached that conclusion as early as January 13th when the hearing schedule was created.

Proceeding Time 9:10 a.m. T11

The Chair has indicated on the record a different version of events, and I will have to review the transcript. Though I must say that I'm not convinced -- I have a hesitation in accepting that a reasonable person's understanding of the circumstances

Page: 2677

regarding the *In camera* session can be informed by information received after the *In camera* session, and that is something of a legal issue.

There are a number of -- I'm not going to go line by line through the transcript, but another of the points that is deeply troubling and it goes to the head of argument related to favouritism to B.C. Hydro, which is that B.C. Hydro's witnesses have all taken the position, being variations on the theme, that the EPA is the most cost effective option available for Vancouver Island within the terms of the principal issue as defined by the Panel. And yet, during the *In camera* session, Ms. Hemmingsen totally contradicted that most fundamental of factual and legal positions by acknowledging readily that the EPA is not the most cost effective option for Vancouver Island.

Now, obviously there would be major implications for that going to final argument, but in this context, in the context of a reasonable apprehension of bias, what really stands out is that the Commission Panel did not express the least interest in pursuing with the witness panel the implications of having just heard a totally opposite explanation of the fundamental facts relating to the principal issue. The Panel merely accepted that everything that had been said about DPP without duct

Page: 2678

Mr. Chairman, I have now circulated the

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Page: 2679 1 cases. I will reference them in due course in my 2 argument. SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. WALLACE: 3 Mr. Chairman, the JIESC supports Mr. 4 Andrews' motion on both the grounds of reasonable 5 apprehension of bias and the denial of fairness and 6 7 natural justice. The JIESC takes this position reluctantly, not because we believe that Mr. Andrews' 8 motion is not well-founded, but rather because the 9 necessity -- and the very necessity for this motion 10 reflects, at least in part, a failure of the 11 regulatory process that the JIESC and its predecessors 12 13 have supported for 25 years and continue to support today. 14 Unfortunately, in spite of this general 15 16 support for the regulation by the BCUC, the JIESC has come to the conclusion that, in this instance, the 17 18 Commission Panel and the processes that it has put in 19 place for this proceeding have failed to ensure that 20 the public receives a full and fair hearing for the issues in this proceeding that it has every right to 21 22 expect.

Mr. Andrews' application, with what I believe is the wide support that it has from all of B.C. Hydro's customer groups, in our submission, does not arise from a single incident or a single

Page: 2680

unfortunate or inappropriate statement. Rather, it rises out of a situation where a number of parties have seen enough things that they believe are going wrong that they have come to the conclusion they are not receiving a fair hearing. In this case, the final straw was unquestionably the release of the transcript of the *ex parte In camera* proceedings the Commission conducted with B.C. Hydro.

In our submission, however, it would be wrong to focus solely on that transcript, as it must be taken in context. In our submission, the issues leading to a concern about reasonable apprehension of bias and denial of natural justice have their roots in the scoping of the hearing, the Commission's rulings, and treatment of confidential material in particular, scheduling of the hearing, and finally, of course, what we and others see as the deeply troubling comments of the Chair during the course of the Commission ex parte In camera meeting with B.C. Hydro on January 19th.

As you know, your decision in this hearing will have impact on an enormous amount -- or how an enormous amount of ratepayer money will be spent over the next 25 years. Accordingly, in the view of the JIESC, the debate around the issues must be a full, open debate, not subject to fears that the outcome

could in any way possibly be pre-determined. What is of concern to the JIESC throughout this proceeding is that many parties talk about doing things in the ratepayer interest, but the ratepayer groups, or representatives of those groups, are concerned that they are not being given a fair opportunity to be heard.

I'd like to -- in describing what the Intervenors are looking for in terms of fair process, I can't do much better than in setting out the basics than a quote, I believe attributed to Mr. Elton, at page 1134 of the transcript, taken from another proceeding.

"It is very important that there be a BCUC process that gives everybody the satisfaction of one more chance to say what happened, how did it happen, was this fair, was it open, was it done properly."

The one thing I would add, of course, is that this right to be heard in that hearing must be to be heard in a full and fair manner without fear of a predetermined outcome.

The JIESC submits that this requires the Intervenors to be properly informed about the issues, and given a reasonable opportunity to be heard in a considered manner.

Proceeding Time 9:20 a.m. T13

Page: 2682

The JIESC, as has been indicated in another review and reconsideration application, does not accept the Commission's ruling that the full panoply of rights that may be afforded to parties in a full-blown hearing process do not apply in this Section 71 hearing. Much as this statement may reflect the Commission's view behind how it has proceeded, we submit it has no basis in law.

I'd like to turn now and look at the legal background and then come back and apply the relevant factual background.

First, the general requirement is that this application is made pursuant to Section 71 of the Utilities Commission Act, which requires the Commission determine that the EPA is in the public interest. In our submission, a broad mandate, of course, requires a broad review.

With respect to Commission procedures, the JIESC recognizes that the Commission has a great deal of latitude to determine its own processes, and that comes under the common law and more recently under the Administration Tribunals Act. However, this discretion is always subject to natural justice and fairness.

Section 11 of the Administrative Tribunals

Page: 2683

Act has recently codified this power and provides that the Commission has the power to control its own processes, and may make rules respecting practice and procedure to facilitate the just and timely resolution of the matters before it.

Section 42 of the $Administrative\ Tribunals$ Act provides that

"...a tribunal may direct that all or part of the evidence of a witness or documentary evidence be received by it in confidence to the exclusion of a party or parties or any intervenors on terms the tribunal considers necessary, if the tribunal is of the opinion that the nature of the information or documents requires that direction to ensure the proper administrative of justice."

This may sound like it gives the Commission unlimited discretion. But in our submission it does not, as it remains subject to the need to ensure fairness and natural justice. I will discuss what I suggest are limits on the powers of the Commission then with respect to this under two general headings: first, ex parte and In camera proceedings, and secondly, apprehension of bias.

Historically the courts have shown a strong aversion to receipt of confidential information and ${\it In}$

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Page: 2684

camera ex parte proceedings. This has been demonstrated in two cases. And I can say from the start that these two cases did not have the powers that the Commission has, but I think the principles are important in any event.

In Vancouver (City) v. British Columbia (Assessment Appeal Board) (1996) 39 Admin. Law Reports, 2d edition, page 129, the British Columbia Court of Appeal held that the Assessment Appeal Board had no statutory right to conduct a part of a hearing In camera in order to avoid prejudice to the commercial interests of a developer. The developer had objected to testifying with respect to certain financial information on the grounds that it would prejudice its negotiations with the City on other matters. The City, although not a party to the proceedings, did have an observer present at the public hearing. The court relied on the general rule that there are few exceptions to the requirement that judicial proceedings be conducted in public, notwithstanding any commercial disadvantage that may result from a public hearing.

Page 139, the Court stated:

"Given the absence of an express provision

for In camera hearings in the Assessment

Act, and the public nature of the assessment

Page: 2685

process, I find it impossible to say that by necessary implication the board must have the jurisdiction to conduct a portion of its hearing *In camera.*"

In Yukon Conservation Society v. Yukon

(Water Board) (1982) F.C.J. No. 26, five members of
the Yukon Water Board had become so involved in an
application as to put themselves in the position of
being considered gratuitous consultants of the
applicant. In that decision, the board held that
meetings — or in that matter, the board held that
meetings In camera, which constituted ex parte
hearings without any invitation to the public, even
though there was nothing in the Northern Island Water
Act that presented such meetings. Addy, J. held that
due to the reasonable apprehension of bias and lack of
public hearing, the five members of the board should
be enjoined from sitting on the application.

Proceeding Time 9:25 a.m. T14

Well, we recognize that unlike the Vancouver City and Yukon Water Board cases, it is clear that Section 42 of the Administrative Tribunals Act allows the Commission to receive ex parte In camera evidence, if the Commission is of the opinion that the evidence must be received in confidence to assure the proper administration of justice. However,

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it is our submission that in order to ensure the proper administration of justice, the Commission must not forget this general aversion to *in camera* proceedings, and must choose the least restrictive means for maintaining the confidentiality of the evidence.

This principle was recognized in Ruprez v. Lakehead University, [1981] O.J. 1083, Ontario High Court, and I do not believe I passed that forward. think I will have to get a copy of that, we were -- it appears to be a slip there. Which was an application for judicial review of a decision made by the Board of Governors of Lakehead University to deny the applicant tenure as a professor. The applicant alleged the decision was unfair as he was not given an opportunity to become acquainted with the substance of the material which was considered by the Board. Galligan J. held that the non-disclosure can constitute a procedural unfairness, and the decision must be squashed. While the Court recognized there was a legitimate interest in maintaining confidentiality, it found effectively that the Board could have chosen a less restrictive means of protecting that interest, such as removing the sources of information in the reports in that case.

In this case, it is our submission that it

apprehension of bias.

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was unnecessary for the Commission to totally exclude all parties except B.C. Hydro from its discussions with witness Panel 2. The Commission has the power to adopt its own procedure, and it could have struck a better balance between the interests of protecting confidentiality of bidder information and ensuring that the public hearing was meaningful and free of

Page: 2687

For example, I've mentioned previously in these proceedings the Canadian International Trade Tribunal often requires parties to submit commercially-sensitive information in anti-dumping cases which, if disclosed to a business rival, and that business rival is often a party in the case, could have significant adverse financial consequences. Accordingly, the CITT has adopted a set of guidelines for the designation, protection and use of confidential information which include placing opposing counsel and experts on strict undertakings to maintain confidentiality. Following that, they are free to see the evidence, free to cross-examine on it, and free to provide -- prepare and deliver argument in proceedings in which the general public is kept out, but those subject to the confidentiality provisions, and who have signed the agreements, are prepared -or, permitted to participate. If this type of

Page: 2688

protection can work with such sensitive material, something similar could work here.

In our submission, the Commission was aware of the potential for alternatives but, in the haste to proceed with this matter, did not take action.

I'd like to turn then to bias cases. The major cases on bias have already been argued during the hearing with respect to the recusal of Commissioner Birch, and I do not intend to go into that same depth by any means, simply to refer the Commission to that part of the transcript. Other than to say that the -- in general terms, the test for reasonable apprehension of bias was set out by De Grandpré J. writing in dissent in The Committee for Justice and Liberty v. The National Energy Board, in the passage already referred to by Mr. Andrews.

Many of the factors that can go to a reasonable apprehension of bias have been outlined in the following cases. And again, I won't go into them in depth, but I think they should be flagged for the Commission. In Baker v. Canada (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration), [1999] S.C.J. No. 39, Supreme Court of Canada, the majority of the Supreme Court of Canada held that the duty of procedural fairness is flexible and variable, and depends on an appreciation of the context of the particular statute

Page: 2689

and the rights affected. Those -- generally, those affected must have the opportunity to put their views in evidence fully and have them considered by the decision-maker.

In Newfoundland Telephone Company v. The Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, [1992] 1 S.C.R. 623, again Supreme Court of Canada, Corey J., writing for the Court, held that statements by a member of a Board manifesting a mind so closed as to make submissions futile would constitute a basis for raising an issue of apprehended bias. And that is a case that was, I believe, discussed earlier.

Proceeding Time 9:30 a.m. T15

In the case of *Vanton v. British Columbia*Council of Human Rights [1994] B.C.J. 497, B.C.

Supreme Court, established that attitudinal bias
results where a decision-maker has prejudged an issue
and has not brought an open mind to the decisionmaking process. In *Vanton*, Dorkin J. stated:

"What constitutes attitudinal bias? In Re.
United Steelworkers of America the Court
found that the conduct of the chairperson of
an arbitration board raised a reasonable
apprehension of bias. In that case the
Chair had interfered in the crossexamination of witnesses by counsel for the

union, had exhibited hostility toward that counsel, and purported to make a finding against the union when that party's counsel had not yet completed his cross-examination of the witness."

Clearly I'm not suggesting these are specifically related to this, but I do believe that they give a general tone of the breadth of matters that can be considered.

It is our submission that the manner in which this hearing has been conducted is sufficient to establish a reasonable apprehension of bias and/or a denial of natural justice. Some of the acts of the Commission which support the allegation of reasonable apprehension of bias include, and I'll be coming back to them:

First, the Commission's haste in the conduct of this hearing, including the time limits it has imposed on cross-examination. It would appear that the Commission has driven this process to yield the decision within 90 days, without or with limited regard for conditions as they are met.

Second, the Commission's failure to ensure that necessary information from B.C. Hydro was made in a timely manner.

Third, the Commission's failure to order

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disclosure of all important confidential information to all parties, if necessary on a non-disclosure basis.

Fourth, the Commission's decision to go In Camera without any party present other than B.C.

Hydro, where other less restrictive means of ensuing confidentiality could have been available.

And fifth, the Commission Chair's comments in the *In Camera* proceeding which would indicate the Panel's mind may be so closed as to make submissions futile.

Turning to the facts of this case and the issues that have been raised, first, scope. erosion of public confidence, I would submit, commenced early on with the Commission's rulings on The Commission defined the scope and confidentiality. principal in this proceeding on November 30th, Day 11 of the 90 days, is Tier 2, Tier 1 or the no award option the most cost effective option to meet the capacity deficiency on Vancouver Island commencing in the winter of 2007-2008? This question, while broader than the question B.C. Hydro wished you to consider, significantly limited the issues that could be discussed from the full review sought by the Intervenors, as was clearly demonstrated in the flurry of review and variance applications that followed.

Page: 2692

The question put by the Commission originated with B.C. Hydro's executives in their own cost effectiveness review. It did not arise out of issues defined by the Commission itself or by the stakeholders to this review. While some may argue that there is room for movement in the Commission's decision on scope during the hearing, clearly the Commission did not want to vary from that decision, as evidenced by the numerous times the Chair has referred back to that scope decision.

Furthermore, the decision on scope had an immediate impact when it was applied to determine the information requests that B.C. Hydro was required to respond to. From November 30th on, it would be our submission that we were on a path that could only decide between Tier 1, Tier 2, and the no award option.

Confidentiality. The Commission's decision on confidentiality and the manner in which it decided to deal with confidentiality have been a constant source of frustration to the Intervenors, and in the end, I would submit, led to this motion. The absolute basic minimum information to be able to assess the EPA, that is the basic financial information under the EPA contained in Appendix 3, was not ordered to be made public by this Commission until December 24th,

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Page: 2693 2004, some 35 days into this proceeding, when B.C. Hydro was directed to disclose the bulk of Appendix 3. Proceeding Time 9:35 a.m. T16 The same day we wrote to B.C. Hydro requesting that information, and all Information Responses which should no longer be held confidential in light of the Commission's decision on Appendix 3 as soon as possible. Appendix 3 was finally provided by B.C. Hydro to interested parties and Intervenors on December 29th, 2004, day 40. On January 6th, 2005, day 48, the Commission issued the Reasons behind Order number G-119-04. 12 that decision, the Commission stated at page 10 that 13 B.C. Hydro and DPP, however, are encouraged to make 14 all public -- or make public all documents, including 15 16 Information Request responses, that contain information or are created using information that's been made public pursuant to Order number G-119-04. In spite of this encouragement, the Commission stated in response to an application by the

JIESC, on January 11th, 2005, that the Commission Panel agrees with B.C. Hydro's submission that Order G-119-04 did not direct the public disclosure that is suggested by the submissions of the JIESC, and denies the JIESC request for an Order that -- or for the Order the JIESC claims arises out of Order G-119-04.

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Page: 2694

In our submission, this effectively gave B.C. Hydro carte blanche on deciding when and how it would deliver the responses that no longer needed to be confidential. As a result, many of those responses dribbled in in the week prior to the commencement of the hearing, approximately 50 days into the Commission's self-imposed 90-day period.

On January 11th, 2005 the Commission also rejected a request that B.C. Hydro answer JIESC Information Requests 9 and 10, which were filed after the filing deadline established for Information These Information Requests requested Requests. information that was confidential as of the deadline established for Information Requests, most particularly the request for a copy of the QEM model populated with the Duke Point project data. result of the Commission denial was that B.C. Hydro again took a great deal of time in responding and this information was eventually only delivered to the JIESC on Friday, January 14th, immediately prior to the commencement of the hearing and day 56 of this process.

The inability to have this information a significant time in advance of the hearing significantly impacted the JIESC's ability to prepare and present its case in this matter, and as such

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Page: 2695

Throughout this proceeding, the Commission has handled confidential information in a manner that fails to recognize the legitimate interest of Intervenors and interested parties in that information. And I think the legitimate interest could not be more clearly demonstrated than by the *in camera* proceedings.

worked to the advantage of B.C. Hydro and Duke Point.

The JIESC does not dispute that there is information that should not be made publicly It does say, however, that the Commission available. has failed to find a way to deal with this material in a manner that recognizes all interests, as other tribunals have. Furthermore, when it has been raised, the Commission has shown little or no interest in the question. The only interest the Commission showed in this topic was during a discussion by myself and the Chairman at transcript pages 3695 to 3697 of the transcript. During the discussion, I indicated some tribunals have dealt with this sort of matter. think the International Trade Tribunal has processes under which the information is provided to counsel and consultants, cross-examinations do happen in confidence under non-disclosure agreements. But even setting those procedures and getting the Board is not a -- not a quick process, and is something that has

Page: 2696

evolved with them over many, many years, and not over the course of a hearing. So we did not believe we could leave that to chance development during the course of these proceedings.

That concern, about the difficulty to do things in a 90-day time frame, did not mean we thought nothing should be done. On January 11th, 2005, day 53, the Commission wrote and asked for comments on a procedural letter put forward by B.C. Hydro's counsel dated January 10th, 2005. In its reply of January 12th, 2005 the JIESC, wisely or not, indicated its extended frustration with its perceived inability to get a fair and full hearing in this matter, dating its efforts with supporting correspondence going back as far as November 21st, 2003.

Proceeding Time 9:40 a.m. T17

Specifically the JIESC addressed the importance of the EPA, the purpose of the EPA, its view of the urgency for completion of the review of the EPA, and responded to B.C. Hydro's procedural suggestions. In particular, the JIESC once again raised its concerns with respect to how the Commission was handling confidential material, stating:

"B.C. Hydro raises certain issues with respect to confidentiality, acknowledging the Commission is entering uncharted waters.

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Page: 2697

We agree that those waters are uncharted, and if the Commission wishes to proceed and take evidence in confidential matters, it must go further than Mr. Sanderson has suggested. Someone must test this confidential material through crossexamination, and must present argument on its significance. The Commission must find ways for counsel and consultants on behalf of all parties to examine the material, with meaningful time for review and reconsideration, as other boards such as the Canadian International Trade Tribunal have done in even more sensitive and difficult cases."

On January 13th, 2005, the Commission responded to the detailed submissions of all parties on procedure by issuing a schedule for the hearing of all panels in the proceedings, that was in our submission unreasonable and unfair, without any significant comment on the reasons behind that schedule. Essentially it gave effect to B.C. Hydro's submissions while ignoring the submissions of the Intervenors. B.C. Hydro's four panels, which had filed extensive information, were to be cross-examined by all intervenors, in many cases up to eight parties,

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Page: 2698 1 Commission Counsel and the Commission in four and a half days. 2 In contrast, B.C. Hydro and Duke Point 3 Power, along with Commission and Commission Staff, 4 were given a day or close to a day to cross-examine 5 each of the major intervenor panels which had filed a 6 7 small, limited amount of directed evidence. The unreasonableness of the schedule resulted in extreme 8 pressure on Intervenor counsel and little, if any, on 9 B.C. Hydro and Duke Point counsel. 10 On the other hand, I quess it --11 MR. SANDERSON: It bears a remark. 12 Well, in my submission. MR. WALLACE: 13 MR. SANDERSON: I hope you're blushing. 14 Well, no, I'm not, and I would ask that 15 MR. WALLACE: 16 counsel not interrupt in the middle of my submissions. Can you repeat it, please? 17 THE CHAIRPERSON: MR. WALLACE: Yes, I can. The unreasonableness of the 18 19 schedule resulted in extreme pressure on Intervenor counsel, and in our submission, little if any on B.C. 20 Hydro and Duke Point counsel, who had as much time as 21 they required. 22 I'd like then to turn to the In Camera 23

I'd like then to turn to the *In Camera* session and it's not my intent to say much about that because -- or as much, because Mr. Andrews has covered it in great detail. In our submission, the concerns

Page: 2699

of the Intervenors, which had been before the Commission for a period of time and not dealt with in any meaningful or useful manner, came together to form a perfect storm on the third day of the technical part of the hearing when the Commission went into an exparte In Camera meeting with B.C. Hydro. The purpose of that meeting, as we understood it, was to review the evidence filed in confidence, and to test the evidence or seek further evidence.

In our submission, that is clearly not what happened when one reads the transcript. And Mr. Andrews also dealt with that. From the start it appears the Commission was seeking opinions on what it could do, opinions, in our submission, that should properly be subject of argument involving all parties and not the subject of discussions undertaken with one party. In our submission, what happened was completely improper and on its own would warrant the disqualification of this Panel.

This desire for personal discussion in confidence did not appear to end with the conclusion of that meeting. Clearly the Chair found the meeting useful and wanted to carry on the confidential dialogue, stating at page 1756, after cautions about the difficulty of an extended *In Camera* process by Commission counsel:

1 "THE CHAIRPERSON: Maybe to assist that, then -- so that we can try to accomplish 2 that, although I think the public interest 3 always trumps that; but nevertheless, if you 4 were to respond in writing, Mr. Sanderson, 5 as a result of the issues that are -- or 6 7 with respect to the issues that are raised now in confidence, that will give the panel 8 an opportunity to review that so the next In Camera session may very well be the last 10 one. And we can -- and if there are issues 11 that arise out as a result of that, that 12 lead to us issuing a confidential letter, 13 that may be preferable, Mr. Fulton, if 14 that's your advice, to a series of In Camera 15 16 sessions. Replace a series of In Camera sessions with some confidential document 17 exchanges. I find this much more helpful, 18 though. I mean, it's much more dynamic." 19 Proceeding Time 9:45 a.m. T18 20 Clearly, in our submission, the Chair 21 failed to understand that Mr. Fulton's concern with 22 extended In Camera proceedings was also a concern 23 about the public interest. 24 Even more unfortunate than this 25 26 inappropriate desire for secret dialogue are the

Commission Chair's statements at 1741 and 1742, and they state:

"This may be an area where I can add some value to customers. And I thought your answer would be just what it is, that but for the rules of the CFT, you would have chosen Pristine with duct firing. It may be — I don't know enough about this yet, but it may be the coincidence that both portfolios are the same proponent is helpful in moving us to the outcome that's in the customer's best interest.

So you know what I want to try to do.

I need your help in telling me how I can get
there."

In our submission, this shows the Chairman's state of mind with respect to a key issue, and raises, in our submission, a reasonable apprehension of bias.

In concluding, in summary, it is our submission that this Commission has followed a course of action from the commencement of the proceedings to the *In Camera* session that leads to the conclusion that there are grounds to find a reasonable apprehension of bias and/or a denial of natural justice.

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Page: 2702 January 26, 2005 Volume 13 1 Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I'm rising just to alert the 2 MR. BOIS:

Commission that Norske is going to take no position with respect to this application. However, having said that, it is extremely concerned that the proceedings have evolved to the point that we are discussing this application. And having said that, it should also be clear that Norske's position -- nonposition with respect to the application should not be construed as opposing the application, if anyone is tallying those opposed or in favour.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. QUAIL:

MR. OUAIL: The BCOAPO et al. endorse the motion that has been filed by Mr. Andrews, and adopt the submissions of Mr. Andrews and Mr. Wallace in their entirety.

We have no doubt that the Commission Panel believed that it was motivated by a desire to achieve what it perceived as the customer's best interest. But in fact this hearing is about determining what is in fact in the customer's best interest and in the public interest. And the nub of the problem in terms of bias is a clear prejudgment of he answer to that question, the very issue of these proceedings, without first hearing the evidence and the parties' submissions.

Page: 2703

1 My friend Mr. Wallace has already referred to the case of Newfoundland Telephone Company v. 2 Newfoundland Board of Commissioners of Public 3 Utilities, which has already been canvassed in these 4 proceedings. I assume that people have received 5 copies previously of the proceedings, but I've brought 6 7 just a few copies because we'll be making some reference to it. 8 In that case the board had undertaken a 9 review of the company's costs and accounts over the 10 preceding period. One board member was an outspoken 11 consumer advocate who had made strong public 12 13 statements prior to the hearing and also in the course of the hearing. At page 22 of the decision of the 14 Supreme Court of Canada, the Court said the following: 15 "Although the duty of fairness applies to 16 all administrative bodies, the extent of 17 18 that duty will depend upon the nature and the function of the particular tribunal..." 19 And there is cited one of the Martineau cases. 20 "The duty to act fairly includes the duty to 21 provide procedural fairness to the parties 22 that simply cannot exist if an adjudicator 23 is biased. It is, of course, impossible to 24 determine the precise state of a mind of an 25

adjudicator who has made an administrative

1	board decision. As a result, the courts
2	have taken the position that an unbiased
3	appearance is, in itself, an essential
4	component of procedural fairness. To ensure
5	fairness, the conduct of members of
6	administrative tribunals has been measured
7	against the standard of reasonable
8	apprehension of bias. The test is whether a
9	reasonable informed bystander could
10	reasonably perceive bias on the part of an
11	adjudicator."
12	At paragraph 34 the Court said, and this is
13	partway this is towards the bottom of that
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14	paragraph:
	paragraph: Proceeding Time 9:50 a.m. T19
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14 15	Proceeding Time 9:50 a.m. T19
14 15 16	Proceeding Time 9:50 a.m. T19 "During the investigative stage, a wide
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14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Proceeding Time 9:50 a.m. T19 "During the investigative stage, a wide licence must be given to board members to make public comment. As long as those statements do not indicate a mind so closed that any submissions would be futile, they
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Proceeding Time 9:50 a.m. T19 "During the investigative stage, a wide licence must be given to board members to make public comment. As long as those statements do not indicate a mind so closed that any submissions would be futile, they should not be subject to attack on the basis
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Proceeding Time 9:50 a.m. T19 "During the investigative stage, a wide licence must be given to board members to make public comment. As long as those statements do not indicate a mind so closed that any submissions would be futile, they should not be subject to attack on the basis of bias."
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Proceeding Time 9:50 a.m. T19 "During the investigative stage, a wide licence must be given to board members to make public comment. As long as those statements do not indicate a mind so closed that any submissions would be futile, they should not be subject to attack on the basis of bias." Referring, of course, to the public comments made to

At paragraph 39.

1 paragraph: "However, the quoted statement of Mr. Wells 2 was made on November 13, three days after 3 the hearing was ordered. Once the hearing 4 date had been set, the parties were entitled 5 to expect that the conduct of the 6 commissioners would be such that it would 7 not raise a reasonable apprehension of bias. 8 The comment of Mr. Wells did just that." 9 Paragraph 36. 10 "Once the matter reaches the hearing stage a 11 greater degree of discretion is required of 12 a member. Although the standard for a 13 commissioner sitting in a hearing of the 14 Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities 15 need not be as strict and rigid as that 16 expected of a Judge presiding at a trial, 17 18 nonetheless procedural fairness must be 19 maintained. The statements of Commissioner 20 Wells made during and subsequent to the hearing, viewed cumulatively, lead 21 inexorably to the conclusion that a 22 reasonable person, appraised of the 23 24 situation, would have an apprehension of bias." 25

"Once the order directing the holding of the hearing was given the Utility was entitled to procedural fairness."

In this case, the utility being the complainant.

"At that stage something more could and should be expected of the conduct of Board

should be expected of the conduct of Board members. At the investigative stage, the "closed mind" test was applicable. Once matters proceeded to a hearing, a higher standard had to be applied. Procedural fairness then required the board members to conduct themselves so that there could be no reasonable apprehension of bias."

Some key propositions, which I believe are reasonably well-settled in the law, would be as follows. First of all, the parties are entitled to procedural fairness. Second, that includes the requirement that the adjudicator be free of bias. And while I'll be speaking to the bias issue, I want to make it clear, we also adopt Mr. Wallace's submissions regarding other fairness issues that have arisen.

Third, bias is normally not determined on a subjective basis, that is, by attempting to determine the actual thoughts of the adjudicator, because that normally is not going to be possible to determine on the evidence, nor is the issue whether parties

Page: 2707

personally feel that the process is unfair.

Four, bias is determined on an objective basis, whether a reasonably informed bystander could reasonably perceive bias on the part of an adjudicator. And five, once a public hearing is constituted, and especially once it's underway, an adjudicator is subject to a higher standard of conduct so that there could be no reasonable apprehension of bias. That is, once the hearing is underway, not having a closed mind is simply not good enough. The standard is higher than that.

A key part of the analysis is the proper characterization of the evidence on the record. Here, primarily, the transcribed record of the proceeding is viewed in their full context. And our position is that the record provides an ample basis for a reasonably informed bystander to reasonably perceive potential bias on the part of the Commission Panel.

Some comments about -- I won't belabour this, because Mr. Wallace has spoken to this, about the Commission's jurisdiction to proceed on a confidential basis. Mr. Wallace has referred to Section 42 of *The Administrative Tribunals Act*, but in my submission, a very close careful reading of the power under Section 42 is required.

The Section reads:

1 "The tribunal may direct that all or part of the evidence of a witness, or documentary 2 evidence, be received by it in confidence to 3 the exclusion of a party or parties, or any intervenors, on terms the tribunal considers 5 necessary. If the tribunal is of the 6 7 opinion that the nature of the information or documents..." 8 So we're speaking only of information and documents, 9 and no other matters, 10 "...requires that direction to ensure the 11 proper administration of justice..." 12 In my submission, other considerations, such as 13 commercial interests, are not within the ambit of 14 Section 42. 15 16 Proceeding Time 9:55 a.m. T20 And there's no statutory power on the part of this 17 18 Commission to conduct the receipt of information or documents in camera by virtue of those considerations. 19 Any such authority would have to rest in the common 20 law. 21 "The Commission has jurisdiction to receive 22 evidence, including documents, in 23 confidence, but beyond that a hearing must 24 be an open public process." 25 26 And I won't take you to the Sections of The Utilities

Page: 2709

Commission Act which make it clear, Section 71, that a public hearing is required in a Section 71 matter such as this. And -- or that a hearing is required and, further, that if a hearing is required it must be a public hearing.

Again, the key part of the process will consist of the proper characterization of what was done, discussed and considered in the *in camera* session, to what extent it consisted of evidence, and to what extent, on the other hand, it consisted of legal submissions and a joint deliberation of the hearing outcome as between the Commission Panel — and, I must say, the entire Commission Panel participated in that discussion; and one of the parties, being the Applicant, B.C. Hydro.

Our position is that much, in fact, probably all of the *in camera* discussion fell in that latter category, and could be fairly characterized as a cooperative, one might less charitably say collusive process between the Commission Panel and the Applicant to fashion the Commission's Order that would be the end result of the hearing, and this less than a quarter of the way through the scheduled time of the public hearing.

What did the out of camera record say about the *in camera* proceedings? The transcript that was

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provided to the parties and the public, up to and including Volume 9, which was the day after the in camera session, created a clear impression that the in camera process contemplated by the Commission would consist of seeking information that was confidential because it touched on competitive bids or other commercially sensitive evidence. To be noted, this issue was expressly raised in the pre-hearing process. The parties expressed a great deal of concern about private meetings or in camera confidential discussions and passing of information. The Commission knew full well that Intervenors were concerned about the prospect of off-line discussions between the Commission and B.C. Hydro about the merits of the application. And I'll simply cite some references in the transcript without taking the time to read them aloud. Volume 3, page 372, line 15, to page 373 line 9. Volume 4, page 699, line 21 to page 700, line 22. And again from Volume 4, page 715, line 10 to 16. could cite other instances as well.

Once the hearing was underway the Commission Panel and B.C. Hydro both conveyed a clear sense that the *in camera* proceedings were confined to obtaining confidential commercial evidence which would be in line with the Commission's jurisdiction, at least potentially, under *The Administrative Tribunals*

Act, assuming that the administration of justice were in issue. So, for example, if we turn to Volume 6, page -- I've got it here -- Volume 6, page 1122. Starting at line 24:

"MS. VAN RUYVEN: A: Again, I think better asked on Panel 2. I know there's some confidentiality issues around releasing information on bidders and prequalifications, so they're better prepared to speak to things that should -- that are in the public domain as opposed to the *in camera* session..."

Proceeding Time 10:00 a.m. T21

Then at Volume 7, page 1571 beginning at line 14. Again, that's page 1571 beginning at line 14. This is quoting from Mr. Fulton, but for the record I want to make it very clear that we have no criticisms whatsoever of the conduct of Commission Counsel or the Commission Staff to any extent whatsoever in these proceedings. Simply speaking to the impression that Intervenors had as to the scope and nature of *In Camera* discussions, but I want that to be clear and explicit.

"MR. FULTON: Mr. Chairman, I did want to address the potential for an *in camera* session, or the potential for the *in camera*

session tomorrow.

We have very few questions of an in camera nature. I did provide a copy of those questions to Mr. Sanderson, and what we have agreed, subject to the Chair's approval, is that we will ask those questions on the record, absent the numbers, have provided the numbers to Mr. Sanderson, and the answer will come back on a confidential basis, but at least everyone here will have the questions absent the numbers. That will avoid the need for an in camera session tomorrow.."

This of course, tomorrow being the date when the session that was called at the instance of the Panel itself took place.

Volume 7, page 1572, beginning at line 19:
"THE CHAIRMAN: And the only reservation I
have, Mr. Sanderson, and that sounds like a
good proposal, but my only reservation is
questions that the panel may wish -- of this
panel. So it will take -- I'm not expecting
any. But it may take an evening for us to
make that determination, and so I think when
we excuse your panel tomorrow it will be
with that reservation, that they may need to

Page: 2713

1 unless there are objections to me doing that, I need advice as to how best to do 2 that." 3 Mr. Sanderson, down about four lines: 4 "...my understanding of the in camera 5 arrangements would be that the only people 6 7 present would be those people from Hydro needed to support or that -- the panel, and 8 the panel itself, counsel, and counsel for 9 the Commission, and Commission staff. 10 as I've said on previous -- or as I've 11 submitted on previous occasions, you know, 12 the more that the panel can do to indicate 13 the area of questioning, and clearly you've 14 given a pretty strong hint of what you want 15 16 to talk about already, I think this is -this line is pretty clear, the better for 17 18 the record. Proceeding Time 10:35 a.m. T25 19 And the more that that's elaborated in 20 the final decision as to what reliance, if 21 any, was placed on it as previously 22 submitted, the better for the record." 23 And at 1722, also in Volume 8, this is 24 immediately following -- no, I'm sorry, this is 25 26 immediately before breaking for an In Camera session.

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The impression that was given expressly to

tomorrow morning."

leave, I'll report back or Mr. Fulton will

the hearing by the Panel itself was that the *In Camera* discussion had only touched on one limited issue within the range of matters involved in the hearing.

My reference there is Volume 9, page 2268 -- I'm sorry, it's Volume 10, page 2268, line 7.

Again, that's 2268, line 7.

"THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. I might add that the *In Camera* session -- this is for everyone's benefit. The *In Camera* session was dealing with one of many issues that are before this proceeding. I think that's all I really need to say..."

Proceeding Time 10:05 a.m. T22

With the greatest respect, in my submission, that was a misleading impression that was conveyed to the participants in the proceedings as to what the content was of the *in camera* discussion.

Regarding the scope of the issues canvassed in camera, it is clear that the discussion addressed the final determination of the very issues at the heart of the proceedings, and not some limited single question within a range of issues.

Mr. Andrews has already provided some characterization of the *in camera* session and what's revealed in the transcript, but I will make a few comments. The first three-quarters or so of the

Page: 2717

transcript creates a strong impression that
participants seem to have forgotten what they were
saying was being recorded and transcribed, and that it
may be subject to public disclosure, as most of it
ultimately was. The ostensible purpose of the in
camera session was to follow up on the exchange I've
already quoted between the Chair and the B.C. Hydro
panel, at pages 1718 to 1719. But, in fact, almost no
further information on that subject was elicited in
the in camera session. The Panel already had it on
the public record that morning, that the third
portfolio was better value to customers than the first
portfolio because of 28 megawatts for a low price.

The in camera session did not really

The in camera session did not really consist of the Commission chasing down more information along that line, or any other line, but engaging in consultation with B.C. Hydro about how it should craft its final decision.

And the passage which has already been quoted by Mr. Wallace, I believe, at page 1742, really says it all, where the Chair said:

"So now you know what I want to try to do.
I need your help in telling me how I can get

there."

What follows, in my submission, is properly characterized as a joint enterprise in crafting the

decision, to achieve an outcome that the panel had already determined. It also consisted of the Chair's seeking legal advice, or legal submissions, from Hydro and its legal counsel about the Commission's jurisdiction, about the interpretation of The Utilities Commission Act, and about the interpretation of the contract. Much of the record consists of an in camera legal argument by Hydro that was solicited and participated in by the Panel, and I must say by both Panel members.

One rather disturbing passage out of many occurs at page 1749 of the transcript, line 21. And this is the Chairperson speaking, proceeding time 11:30 a.m.

"It wasn't in the context of a CFT, which makes it more difficult to do, and also was -- there was less risk to Dr. Jaccard that he was going to lose the deal altogether than there might be here, although that is difficult to assess..."

In my submission, reading that, a reasonably informed observer would conclude that the Chair was exhibiting an almost proprietary interest in the final implementation of some version of the energy purchase agreement, to the extent that he appears to fear that he will lose the deal.

Page: 2719

Page 1750, lines 6 through 9.

"MR. SANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, let me
just define the approach and then we should
discuss whether it's appropriate to address
that now or whether we can address that as
part of argument..."

And carrying on from that.

What we have there, and through much of the transcript, is B.C. Hydro and the Panel appearing to engage in a collaborative exercise in crafting Hydro's argument and the position that it will take at the conclusion of the proceedings and, in turn, how that will mesh with the end result that is being jointly crafted in the final outcome of the application.

Proceeding Time 10:10 a.m. T23

Later the Commission and B.C. Hydro discuss setting up two or more additional *In Camera* discussions, clearly to conduct more off-line consultations about how to jointly achieve a substantive outcome in the proceeding. It also contains discussion about the process for vetting what should be released by way of a transcript of that proceeding. But there is no reasonable doubt that the Panel had already made up its mind on the issues of the heart of the proceeding, and were discussed -- pardon me, and were discussing their thinking off-line

Page: 2720

with one of the parties. And Mr. Andrews and Mr. Wallace have made that point quite forcefully.

The Commission has the power to receive evidence in confidence, but it does not have the power to conduct private consultations with a party in the course of a public hearing, or to seek out a party's private collaboration in the determination of the end result. And accordingly, with respect, I must submit that the Chair's statement of the law found at page 1756, line 24 to 26, is simply not correct.

"THE CHAIRMAN: Maybe to assist that then
-- so that we can try to accomplish that,
although I think the public interest always
trumps that..."

That being having a public process.

My friend Mr. Wallace has made some reference to the Yukon Conservation Society case, decision of the Federal Court Trial Division, has distributed copies. I want to speak a little bit to that and its application to this situation. It concerned an application by a mining company for a permit to constructing tailing containment facilities.

I know I have a tendency to speak quickly, and if the Panel finds that I'm rattling ahead too fast, please don't hesitate to ask me to slow down.

26 THE CHAIRPERSON: Your pace is fine, thank you.

Page: 2721

MR. QUAIL: Most of the members of the board who ultimately heard the application participated in a series of meetings in private with the company in advance of the hearing. So it's important to note that this concerned pre-hearing activity. If you place this in the context of the Newfoundland Telephone case, this is analogous to the comments that were made there by the panel member before the proceeding was set and under way. And I want to emphasize that there is a higher standard, once the hearing commences, than the standard that was properly applicable in the Yukon case.

Proceeding Time 10:13 a.m. T24

At paragraph 24, the Federal Court said:

"It is quite evident, and also fairly
conceded by all parties, that the Board, in
hearing applications for licence, is
performing a quasi-judicial function and
must govern itself accordingly. Each
adjudicator thus has a duty not only to
decide matters before the Board without bias
but also to avoid being involved in
situations which might create a substantial
possibility or a real likelihood of bias, or
even the reasonable apprehension of bias on
the part of the parties involved or the

1 public generally. Although there is no evidence whatsoever, or even any allegation 2 of actual bias, the conduct of the Five 3 Members, which I have described, constitutes 4 circumstances from which one must find that 5 there exists the very real probability of a 6 7 reasonable apprehension of bias on the part of the public in general, and of all persons 8 directly involved in the decision in 9 particular. This goes far beyond the mere 10 impression, and might reasonably be left on 11 the minds of an aggrieved party or the 12 13 public. ... The Five Members have become so involved in the application as to put 14 themselves in the position of being 15 16 considered gratuitous consultants of Cyprus Anvil and the application, to some limited 17 extent at least, becomes their own. 18 principle of nemo judex in causa sua debet 19 esse..." 20 That is, no person may be a judge of his own cause, 21 "...may well be considered applicable." 22 Here, there is no suggestion that the 23 Commission Panel set itself up as a kind of gratuitous 24 consultant. But in my submission, the confidential 25 26 collaborative, one might say collusive approach

Page: 2723

adopted by the Commission is analogous and, for example, the comment by the Chair about the fear that he might lose the deal suggests the kind of proprietary association, or at least creates a reasonable apprehension of that on the part of a reasonably informed observer, to see a definite analogy between these situations.

Proceeding Time 10:15 a.m. T25

These proceedings are tainted with an appearance of bias and prejudgment of the issues. A reasonable member of the public who is aware of the circumstances and the context would have reason to doubt that the participation of parties other than B.C. Hydro or perhaps Duke Point Power would be a virtual exercise in futility.

I must say there was a certain air of futility and dissociation after the transcript of the In Camera proceedings was released, where the participants were going through the motions of hearing and cross-examining panels as though we weren't fully aware of what was on the minds of the Commission Panel at that time. It's like pretending the elephant there in the middle of room isn't there. There's a sense of unreality and dissociation from what everyone knows has become the real dynamic of the proceeding as a result of what transpired behind closed doors, so to

speak.

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No one can contemplate any final result in the proceedings, in my submission. In terms of the Commission's final determination of the EPA application, it is not badly coloured by the *In Camera* record and what it's transposed.

Page: 2724

On the question of the involvement of both Panel members and the taint that attaches to the entire Panel, in addition to adopting my friends' previous submissions, I would like to point out that Panel Member Boychuk was an active participant in the In Camera discussions and the subject matter. I won't read it, but I'd read for example -- I would point, for example, to page 1748 at line 6 and carrying on from there in the *In Camera* proceedings, and also draw your attention to paragraph 22 of the Yukon decision. I won't read it but basically it says there that, while not all of the five panel members were at all of the meetings and apparently some of them really didn't have much to say, the fact that they did not dissent and participated in that process effectively tainted the entire panel.

And I want to end by echoing my friend Mr. Wallace's comments about the failure of the regulatory process. And I must say that even if the Panel were to rule against this motion, in my submission it

Page: 2725

cannot be said with confidence that these proceedings are not highly vulnerable. And everyone needs to consider the situation after a hypothetical ultimate decision by the Panel to approve the EPA in some form, if that's the course of events, and contemplate the odds of Duke Point Power starting to commit its resources to the construction of the project, and its implications in terms of the alleged timeline crunch facing the implementation of this project.

Proceeding Time 10:18 a.m. T26

Basically, the proceedings have gone off the rails to the point where, in real-life terms, things are not going to unfold in the manner which B.C. Hydro, at least, is claiming is necessary in order to meet the needs of energy consumers on Vancouver Island. I -- that's sort of getting close to final arguments on the main subject matter of the proceedings, so I won't pursue that further. But there's a serious problem in terms of the course that the regulatory process has taken in these proceedings, and those are my submissions.

- 22 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.
- 23 MR. WEISBERG: Mr. Chairman, I just note the time. I
 24 expect to be perhaps 15 to 20 minutes. Would you
 25 prefer to take the morning break now? Or --
- 26 THE CHAIRPERSON: Well, I won't -- why don't you proceed,

and then we'll take the break. 1 2 MR. WEISBERG: Thank you. THE CHAIRPERSON: Or we'll take the break at twenty to 3 eleven, whichever comes first. 4 SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. WEISBERG: 5 Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Boychuk, my 6 MR. WEISBERG: 7 client, Green Island Energy Limited, chose to participate in this proceeding in the hope that the 8 Commission panel would evaluate the cost-effectiveness of its Gold River power project as part of the 10 solution to the capacity shortfall on Vancouver Island 11 beginning in the winter of 2007/2008. Green Island 12 properly expected that the Commission Panel would 13 fairly and fully consider its evidence and submissions 14 in argument, together with the evidence and arguments 15 16 of other parties, before it determined what project or projects best served the public interest. 17 18 Proceeding Time 10:20 a.m. T27 19 We address the motion before you with 20 reluctance, but the gravity of the issue and its implications leaves Green Island without any other 21 choice. 22 It's important to observe, we believe, that 23 24 the Commission Panel's motivations appear to have been well-intentioned; to provide the optimal capacity 25 26 solution for B.C. Hydro's ratepayers. Regrettably,

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Page: 2727 the manner in which the Commission Panel chose to 1 pursue that objective has given rise to a reasonable 2 apprehension of bias and denial of procedural fairness 3 and natural justice. 4 Green Island supports the motion filed by 5 Mr. Andrews, and we generally concur with the 6 7 submissions of Messrs. Andrews, Wallace and Quail before me, as well as their characterizations of the 8 applicable law. To that, we add the following 9 submissions. 10 Pre-determination of the optimal project, 11 before evidence was complete, or argument was made; 12 13 the ex parte in camera proceedings held on the morning of January 19th, 2005, included the following exchange 14 at transcript volume 8, page 1754, lines 6 through 18: 15 What helps, though, if we 16 "THE CHAIRMAN: look at the numbers. There is only -- there 17 18 are only two bids that are, if you will, in the game. 19 MS. HEMMINGSEN: Α: Yeah. 20 And that may help with 21 THE CHAIRMAN: 22 respect to that concern. It may be that we are able, because of that, to restrict this 23

Yeah.

It just raises

to just those two portfolios. Because the

others are so far out of the money.

A:

Allwest Reporting Ltd., Vancouver, B.C.

MS. HEMMINGSEN:

Page: 2728

1 the spectre of kind of setting up that expectation in the future. 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah. How often, though, 3 would one expect that there would be an 4 optimal project, from the customer's 5 perspective, that's not the winning bid?" 6 7 It's apparent from the context of that discussion, and the focus of the discussion throughout 8 the ex parte in camera session that when the Chairman 9 referred to the "only two bids in the game," he meant 10 the winning bid and the optimal project. We submit 11 that there's no question that the phrase "winning bid" 12 refers to Pristine without duct firing. That is the 13 project that is the subject of the energy purchase 14 agreement executed by B.C. Hydro. 15 16 It's clear from transcript Volume 8, page 1741 through 1746, that the Chairman's reference to 17 18 "optimal project" means Pristine with duct firing. 19 More specifically, at page 1741, lines 11 and 12, the Chairman identified that project as "better customer 20 value than Pristine without duct firing". 21 Then at transcript page 1741, line 26 22 through transcript page 1742, line 1, the Chairman 23 24 noted that both portfolios are the same proponent, which must be taken as a reference to Pristine with 25

and Pristine without duct firing. As well, at

Page: 2729

transcript page 1744, lines 20 through 23, the Chairman stated:

".... And what Mr. Sanderson is suggesting is an approval of the sub-optimal project in the hopes that the parties reach an accommodation that leads to the optimal outcome."

As an aside, and for clarity of the record, I just note that in Volume 8 of the transcript, statements are attributed to both the chairperson and the chairman, and I submit that both terms are -- refer only to Chairman Hobbs.

With that context, I return to the previously-quoted passage from transcript page 1754.

Proceeding Time 10:25 a.m. T28

The Chairman's statement that only two bids are in the game clearly infers that the Commission Panel had concluded that Pristine with or without duct firing are the only projects the Commission Panel would consider in this proceeding. That interpretation of the Chairman's statement is supported by a subsequent statement referring to "just those two portfolios".

Merriam Webster's dictionary defines

"optimal" as "most desirable or satisfactory". The

Chairman's choice of the phrase "optimal project" to

describe Pristine with duct firing strongly suggests

Page: 2730

that was the starting point for the *In Camera*

Page: 2731

discussion. Due to the confidential status of the results summary, Green Island can only speculate on what portfolios were or were not included therein. However, the record is absolutely clear that Exhibit C9-10, that being the evidence of Green Island Energy Limited filed on January 6, 2005, identified four portfolios that Green Island asserts have costs of just 53 percent, 48 percent, 68 percent, and 65 percent of Pristine without duct firing.

We respectfully submit that the Chairman would not and could not have concluded and suggested that other portfolios could be effectively excluded from further consideration because they were "so far out of the money", unless the Commission Panel had already rejected Green Island's evidence and had no intention of considering it further.

That view, we submit, is supported by the fact that throughout the entire ex parte In Camera session, there was not a single reference to Green Island's evidence, the projects or portfolios discussed therein, or their relative cost. The Chairman characterized Pristine with duct firing as the "optimal project", without any express or implied qualification regarding consideration of projects or portfolios other than Pristine without duct firing.

To conclude that only the two Pristine

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projects were "in the game", that all other portfolios were "out of the money", that Pristine without duct firing was not the most cost-effective option, and that Pristine with duct firing was the "optimal project", we submit that the Commission Panel also must necessarily have concluded the following: (1) that there was no possibility that the privative clause in Section 17.3 of the CFT should have or could have been invoked by B.C. Hydro; Proceeding Time 10:30 a.m. T29 (2) that there was no possibility that B.C. Hydro could have, or should have, exercised its discretion, pursuant to Section 18.17 of the CFT, to deem that the non-compliance of the Campbell River cogen bid was not material. (3) that there was no possibility that fairness considerations, such as resource option bias, or requirements that were more stringent or less

fairness considerations, such as resource option bias, or requirements that were more stringent or less flexible than the minimums needed might have any impact on the application of Sections 17.3 or 18.17 or the relative cost-effectiveness of various projects or portfolios.

Number (4) that there was no possibility that the Commission panel would order B.C. Hydro to confidentially file the price information for Epcor's bid or Calpine's bid, despite the fact that both

parties, in Exhibits E-122 and E-123, respectively, confirmed that they would not oppose such an order.

(5) that there was no possibility that before the close of the evidentiary phase of the hearing, Epcor and/or Calpine would seek leave to voluntarily file the price information for their respective bids, or to file any other evidence, including the specific circumstances of the disqualification of Calpine's bid.

We submit that the Commission Panel could not properly have reached any of the five conclusions I have just identified in the absence of the following:

Number (1) Cross-examination of Panel 3, the independent reviewer witnesses, whose testimony directly addressed issues of fairness and bias, the "clearly-defined" process rules for moving to an evaluation of Tier 2, and the appropriate processes to give effect to the second tier of decision-making pursuant to Section 17.3; and the discretion to determine whether non-compliance was material, pursuant to Section 18.17.

Number (2) Cross-examination of Panel 4, the cost-effectiveness analysis witnesses, whose testimony did, or should have, addressed B.C. Hydro's sole and unfettered discretion not to accept a

Page: 2734

portfolio if it was not the most cost effective solution, having regard to B.C. Hydro's ratepayers, pursuant to Section 17.3.

Proceeding Time 10:33 a.m. T30

Number (3) Argument from Intervenors on issues including but not limited to the application of the privative clause per Section 17.3, the determination of material non-compliance per Section 18.17, fairness considerations, resource option bias, and CFT requirements that were too stringent or less flexible than necessary.

Number (4) The close of the evidentiary phase of the hearing to conclusively establish that the Commission of its own volition, or on an application from a party, would not order B.C. Hydro to confidentially file Epcor's and Calpine's price information for their respective bids.

And Number (5) The close of the evidentiary phase of the hearing to conclusively establish that Epcor and Calpine would not seek leave to voluntarily file the price information for their respective bids, or other evidence including evidence of the specific circumstances of the disqualification of Calpine's bid.

We submit that at the time when the Commission Panel made the impugned statements on

Page: 2735

January 19th, just two and one half days into a hearing estimated by the Commission Panel itself to require eleven hearing days, none of the above five conditions were or could have been satisfied. Each of those conditions was met or may yet be met, after the *ex* parte In Camera session held on the morning of January 19th, 2005.

I'm going to move into a different area now. Two Pristine projects, only one is before the Commission. In Exhibit A-36, Reasons for Decision on the JIESC reconsideration application, at page 4, the third full paragraph, the Commission stated:

"It is important to recognize that as a result of this EPA review the Commission will not be making, nor will it be in a position to make, determinations or grant approvals for energy supply contracts in relation to other potential projects."

The matter before the Commission is the EPA related to the Duke Point Power Project. Green Island submits that the Commission should have been clearer in that regard. The matter before the Commission, we submit, is the EPA related to Pristine without duct firing. Pristine with duct firing was a separate bid and therefore, we submit, a separate project.

Proceeding Time 10:36 a.m. T31

Page: 2736

The record is clear that Pristine with duct firing, Pristine without duct firing, were two separate bids as confirmed by the Chairman at transcript 1742, lines 22 through 24.

Equally clear, at transcript 1744, line 21, the Chairman used the phrase "sub-optimal project" in reference to Pristine without duct firing. And at transcript 1745, lines 2 through 10, Mr. Sanderson confirms the distinction between the two Pristine projects.

In the ex parte in camera session the Commission Panel actively explored ways to make determinations or grant approvals, conditional or otherwise, for an energy supply contract in relation to an unsuccessful project, that being Pristine with duct firing. When I say "unsuccessful," I mean within the context of the CFT. By doing so, the Commission panel directly contradicted its own specific ruling as to the scope of possible hearing outcomes, which is found in Exhibit A-36, page 4, and made only six days earlier, on January 13th.

The final area I wish to address is consideration of projects absent the CFT rules. At transcript 1743, lines 16 through 25, Mr. Sanderson stated:

"Within the CFT process, there is an ability

1 to..." I'm sorry. 2 " Within the CFT process there's not an 3 ability to chose anything other than a 4 winner under that and it would be a rigid 5 process. ... 6 7 Having said that, once the CFT process is complete, the commitment is recognized, 8 as always, it is free between two parties to 9 amend the agreement between them. And if 10 they had reason to do that, and they both 11 saw it to be in their mutual interest, then 12 that could be done." 13 At transcript page 1745, line 19 through 14 page 1746, line 2, Mr. Sanderson stated: 15 " There is nothing to stop the Commission, 16 and there's nothing stopping the parties 17 18 from acting on the Commission observing that if certain things were to happen, then there 19 might be a better one. And if those things 20 do happen -- that is, both parties see it in 21 their mutual interest to revise the 22 agreement in a particular way, then 23 24 obviously that observation by the Commission will be a significant incentive to the 25 26 parties to do it and an encouragement for

them to do it." 1 Mr. Weisberg, is this a good time to 2 THE CHAIRPERSON: take a break? 3 I have exactly a page left. 4 MR. WEISBERG: THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. 5 6 MR. WEISBERG: May I continue? 7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes. MR. WEISBERG: Thank you. 8 Those passages, and the subsequent 9 statements in the *in camera* session from both 10 Commissioners, suggest that the Commission Panel 11 considered what it could do to accommodate Pristine 12 13 with duct firing after the CFT process was over. However, the Commission Panel appears to have failed 14 to consider that the only reason that a portfolio of 15 Green Island, Ladysmith peaker, and Campbell River co-16 gen projects, together aggregating 170 megawatts, was 17 18 not evaluated, was because of the way the rules of the 19 CFT process were applied. The rules of the CFT 20 process are precisely what prevented B.C. Hydro from bringing forward the "optimal project", Pristine with 21 duct firing. 22 Proceeding Time 10:40 a.m. T32 23 24 The Commission Panel actively explored whether it would be possible to find a way to approve 25 Pristine with duct firing, notwithstanding the CFT

Page: 2738

Page: 2739

rules. Considering only one project in that context and not extending that approach to other projects, we submit, was fundamentally unfair.

In conclusion, we reiterate that Green
Island is in no way questioning or impugning the
motives of the Commission Panel. It appears to us
that the Commission Panel's intentions were proper, a
genuine albeit mistaken attempt to arrive at the
outcome that best served the public interest. It is
the Commission Panel's chosen means to that end that
created the problem.

Green Island respectfully submits that the Commission Panel came to definite and specific conclusions that Pristine without duct firing was not the most cost-effective option, and that Pristine with duct firing was the "optimal project" and as such best served the public interest. The Commission Panel reached those conclusions well before the bulk of the testimony was adopted or was tested by cross-examination, before procedural avenues to file additional evidence had been exhausted, and before any formal argument from parties had been received or considered. By prejudging the outcome and actively seeking B.C. Hydro's assistance to achieve that end, the Commission Panel has raised a reasonable apprehension of bias.

Page: 2740

In addition, the Commission Panel contradicted its own January 13th scope ruling that it would not make determinations or grant approvals for energy supply contracts in relation to any projects other than Pristine without duct firing. The entire focus of the *ex parte In Camera* session was to explore possible determinations or approvals, conditional or otherwise, for a different project. That approach also gives rise to a reasonable apprehension of bias.

Then finally, the Commission Panel actively explored the possibility of Pristine with duct firing absent the constraints of the CFT rules. By failing to extend that approach to its consideration of other projects, the Commission Panel gave rise to a further reasonable apprehension of bias.

On the basis of the foregoing, we submit that an informed person viewing this matter realistically and practically and having thought the matter through, would conclude that it's more likely than not that the Commission Panel, whether consciously or unconsciously, will not decide the matter fairly. And accordingly we respectfully submit that the Commission Panel should disqualify itself.

COMMISSIONER BOYCHUK: Mr. Weisberg, just before you go, in terms of the discussion in the *In Camera* proceeding that's on the record related to the scope of the

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Disclosing that discussion to parties, in the form of

best been held in the presence of all parties.

Page: 2742

scope as set down for these proceedings, before these

Page: 2743

proceedings have concluded, and all have spoken, I think the record shows that.

When we're looking at bias, and I am unencumbered by formal legal education, so instructed to look at decisions, remarks and behaviours of those responsible for final decision-making, in terms of determining if their bias has been demonstrated. And as much as there are decisions to do things, there's also been decisions not to do things by -- as has been demonstrated by behaviour. And in particular was when the concern was -- arose with the panel, particularly with the Chair, with regards to the finding of the most cost effective solution, and that that most cost effective solution in fact was not the EPA as submitted.

The Chair chose not to consult his counsel, the Commission's counsel. He also chose not to share that concern, and it's not a confidential matter, it was -- and he chose not to share that with the other participants in this proceeding to see, in fact, what their comments and input would have been. And in fact if he had done that, I think he would have realized that it was not a confidential matter, simply because it was not part of the EPA.

So the decision to move quickly to an *in* camera process was, as has been said, was over -- an

Page: 2744

over-response, an over-reaction, and showed a lack of forethought and consideration for others that are involved in this process.

Proceeding Time 11:10 a.m. T35

The CEC finds it of great concern that the panel perceives that negotiating an amended EPA in camera is in the customer's best interest. CEC believes that that would never be the case, and would notify the Panel of that.

The CEC is also very concerned that, after finding that the B.C. Hydro CFT process, QEM model and cost effectiveness model, in fact did not yield the most cost effective model in what now the Chair may view as the most optimal solution for customers, that the Commission Panel continues to rely exclusively on a process and model that are not believed to be fair by many of those in these proceedings. This has been confirmed by the Applicant during the *in camera* session that in fact that process and model did not yield the most optimal solution.

The CEC are also concerned that the Commission continues to utilize B.C. Hydro analysis and is selecting among non-winning bids to arrive and what is purported to have already been submitted by B.C. Hydro, and that is the most cost effective solution.

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Page: 2745

And while an in camera session, we appreciate, is confidential, quite frankly the ratepayers of -- and certainly the CEC, are surprised at the application of informal to these discussions as well. It would have been expected that there would have been protocols and procedures that would have been followed, and we would have expected them to mirror that which are in the public. The transcript is quite shocking in the wide range of topics that were discussed, and also in the fact that the Commission Panel did not limit discussion to confidential matters, and allowed the panel to be party -- in fact, to what was B.C. Hydro's planning and negotiation strategy -- strategizing. And also that the Panel did not recognize that they were hearing argument in camera, out of order, and in advance of schedule.

We are also disappointed, and I think this goes to talk of behaviour, and decisions or lack of decisions, in that there have been no provisions made since the *in camera* session whatsoever to allow participants to review the outcomes that are causing the changes, prepare evidence and present testimony on this different analysis result. And that the Commission continues to rely on B.C. Hydro's analysis in determining the acceptance and the applicability of

Page: 2746

this EPA or an amended EPA as the most cost effective solution for the ratepayers in the long term.

Those are the comments from the CEC.

SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. LEWIS:

MR. LEWIS: Good morning. After considerable review of the ex parte in camera transcripts from the January 19th, 2004 meeting, it is the Village of Gold River's belief that these proceedings cannot move forward without a pall that has been cast over them, that is largely due to the reasonable apprehension of bias, and the denial of fair process, that I believe has been demonstrated in the content of the transcripts from that meeting.

Therefore, the Village of Gold River agrees with the motion put forward by Mr. Andrews on behalf of the GSX CCC. In addition, we largely agree with the positions taken by all of the preceding speakers.

The Village of Gold River entered into these proceedings with the hope that they could provide value and public insight into the process, and the decisions that would result. We were encouraged by the determinations of the Panel in Volume 2, page 312, lines 18 to 22, when it was stated:

"However, the Commission Panel also notes that in the absence of evidence from developers, it may not be persuaded that the

Page: 2747

CFT is not satisfactory evidence that Duke

Point is the most cost effective resource

for Vancouver Island at this time."

This would tend to indicate to me that evidence from developers would be heard and valued with regard to the decision-making process.

Proceeding Time 11:15 a.m. T36

Without getting into the specifics, I will once again refer you to transcript Volume 8, pages 1741 and 42 and Transcript Volume 8, page 1754, as speakers before me have done. I believe the fact that these statements have been made before hearing all of the evidence presented, it is indeed troubling.

While we agree with the Commission Chair's thoughts on approving a suboptimal result because of regulatory parameters that were established in the earlier decision being abhorrent, we find it prejudicial that he has taken such a narrow view to what portfolios are optimal and what parameters are to be re-examined, especially at that stage of the process. There are many such parameters that need to be re-examined. The fact that B.C. Hydro refused to look beyond the unchecked and what I believe to be unfair criteria in the CFT, and the implementation of them, that does not exclude the Commission from doing that.

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I very much appreciate your comments this morning, and I do have some comments in reply. Unfortunately when it comes to an issue of bias, the perception of bias is as much a concern as the definitive proof. It is impossible for a decisionmaker tasked with upholding the public interest to carry out their duties in a manner that is beyond reproach once the perception of bias has been identified. What is most important here in my mind is the sanctity and the integrity of the process and the institution. Given that reasonable grounds can be demonstrated for the motion, I believe that it is up to those involved to look beyond their own personal interests, and to seek to ensure first and foremost that the process and the public confidence in the body tasked with carrying it out are preserved. the problem with perception, and that is why the law acknowledges it. Once it has occurred, you can't go back.

Regardless of your interest to assist in ensuring that my question to Ms. Hemmingsen would be answered, I still have reservations to not only the weight that it would receive, but also the weight that the entirety of the other evidence that had been filed prior to the Commission's and counsel meeting on January 19th would receive.

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At the outset of these hearings, many of my constituents expressed the concern that the B.C. Utilities Commission was merely a puppet of B.C. Hydro, and it wouldn't matter what we did, that they were not going to even consider our position opposing the EPA or the grounds for that opposition. I answered those reservations quickly and with conviction. I did so publicly. I told them that I was impressed by the Commission Panel's depth and breadth of knowledge and felt that the Chairman's pursuit of preserving process was an indication that we could trust the Panel's judgment. You have been very accommodating to me in these proceedings and I want to thank you for that. Unfortunately though, I must insist that you consider this motion without any consideration or concern for the personal perception or consequences that may occur should you choose to disqualify yourselves. Institutions can be granted power and responsibilities. They cannot be granted integrity. Integrity for and respect of an institution is earned. For you to carry on under these circumstances undermines, I believe, a great deal of the respect and integrity that this institution has. As an elected official bound to uphold the public interest, I sincerely believe that preserving

1 the public trust in this institution trumps all other concerns, personal or otherwise. To help me in my 2 duties as mayor, I have a saying by a civil 3 libertarian named James Bovard posted beside my desk, that I try to reference when faced with problematic 5 decisions that relate to my position as a person 6 7 charged with ensuring that democracy be applied fairly and evenly. It says that democracy must be more than 8 two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for dinner. 10 Proceeding Time 11:20 a.m. T37 11 I believe, finally, that a number, a 12 significant number of the issues that have been 13 brought forward this morning are largely supported by 14 issues that relate to the decision to hold an 15 16 expedited process. For a decision as contentious and significant as this, I sincerely hope that one of the 17 18 findings that rises like a phoenix from these ashes is 19 that an expedited process only serves to undermine the public interest rather than to serve it. 20 21 Thank you very much. Mr. Steeves. 22 MR. FULTON: SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. STEEVES: 23 24 MR. STEEVES: Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, having reviewed the 25

Page: 2750

information that has been presented over the past day

Page: 2751

or two, and listening to the comments that I've heard today from the various Intervenors that have been presenting their arguments, I have nothing direct to say what has not already been said. It has been more eloquently said than what I can do. I'm not a lawyer so I cannot add in more detail anything that they have not said.

I will just comment that the proceedings In Camera may, from a legal point of view, not have any direct bearing with finding direct evidence for the apprehension of bias per se. However, all the issues surrounding the event and contained within the event presents too much evidence to go unnoticed. There must be cause and effect, and hence the claim of apprehension of bias must stand.

And I think that's pretty well it, but I would like to -- I had one other thought on my mind here. I've lost it. But I think I'll leave it at that, but I will say just that overall the decision must be that the Panel must stand down, and -- oh, I have now remembered my thought and it's one thought that has been overlooked and I must bring it up because of a news article that was published on Monday; and that is, in the statements that have been made, the opinions that have been expressed with regards to the Pristine Power with duct firing as

1 opposed to Pristine Power without duct firing, the issue of the greenhouse gas and pollution aspect has 2 been overlooked and should be mentioned, and that Duke 3 -- Pristine Power, with duct firing, is much more of a 4 polluter than Pristine Power without duct firing. 5 Proceeding Time 11:25 a.m. T38 6 7 And hence, this issue means that by the statements of the Commissioner have been expressed that Pristine 8 Power with duct firing adds more value to the 9 customer, and that this is in the public interest, 10 11 that this is not appropriate, and what it means, in effect, is that this is an expression of contempt by 12 the panel Commission to overlook the Intervenors and 13 the public with regards to environmental impact from 14 greenhouse gas emission and the pollution and 15 16 consequences thereof. And for this reason, in addition to everything else that has been said, that 17 this is the reason why the panel Commission must stand 18 19 down. So, that's all I have to say, so thank you 20 21 very much. Bye. 22 MR. FULTON: Shadybrook Farm? SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF MOTION BY MS. MILLER: 23 MS. MILLER: Since this is the first time I am appearing 24 before this panel, although I have sent in numerous 25

Page: 2752

submissions, my name, for the record, is Dodie, D-O-D-

Page: 2753

I-E, Miller, and I represent Shadybrook Farm.

I would like to begin by affirming that I support the application by GSX CCC et al., for an Order that the Commission Panel disqualify itself on the grounds of a reasonable apprehension of bias and denial of procedural fairness and natural justice during the hearing. I adopt the arguments presented by Mr. Andrews in his letter of January 23rd, 2005, which is Exhibit C20-35. I also fully endorse the comments made by each and every speaker that has preceded me.

As with Ms. Cochrane, I also am unencumbered by a legal background. I think it's fair to say that, however, I represent it to some extent a reasonable and responsible and intelligent person who's given due consideration to the matters presented. I have followed the issues surrounding the B.C. Hydro Vancouver Island gas strategy for five years. I believe I have an excellent view of the context of the present proceedings. I have read all the transcripts, and most of the evidence that has been submitted to date.

I would like to begin by commending the BCUC staff and counsel, who have shown, through their Information Requests and cross-examinations, a great degree of insight into the issues and no hesitation in

Page: 2754

going to the heart of areas where the proponents may have glossed over important information. In addition, the panel and the Chair have shown an excellent grasp of the evidence as it has developed, and have had some insightful questions of their own.

However, as the hearing has evolved, I have become increasingly uncomfortable and have come to doubt the impartiality of the panel. This was partly the result of a series of procedural decisions, all of which were favourable to the proponents and, more to the point, did not appear to me to respect the need for fairness and justice. I will list some of these decisions briefly.

Limitation of the scope of the hearing to preclude a full examination of the resource options available for Vancouver Island. Selection of Vancouver, rather than Nanaimo, for the main hearing venue, thereby disadvantaging the participation of the people of Vancouver Island, those most directly impacted by the decision to be made. Refusing the request for just one minute of cross-examination time by John Hill, who appeared marginally late after traveling here by ferry. Rejecting a request from Shadybrook Farm for minor adjustments to hearing start times to respect the needs of ferry travel.

Limitation of the time available for cross-examination

Page: 2755

of B.C. Hydro panels, while leaving more than ample time for cross of Intervenor panels. Adoption of a decision date of February 17th, a date which is integral to the EPA under review, as the time driver for this hearing. Adopting this date without receiving submissions from the parties.

After accepting a compressed time frame to accommodate B.C. Hydro, viewing favourably many of their consequent pleas concerning the burden of Information Requests. Readily ruling in favour of B.C. Hydro concerning the confidentiality of the EPA, despite the fact that Hydro, in redacting the EPA document, was clearly in contravention of an earlier Commission order. Stating on the record that the interests of Duke Point Power are congruent with the public interest in this matter. Allocating dramatically more time on a per capita basis for cross-examination of Intervenors who questioned the EPA than for cross-examination of the proponents, B.C. Hydro and Pristine Power.

Proceeding Time 11:30 a.m. T39

However, my concern regarding bias became a real apprehension when I studied the records of the ex parte In Camera session held on January 19th. The ostensible reason for holding an In Camera session, as I understand it, is to elicit further evidence of a

nature that would, if revealed in public, give 1 information that could do commercial damage to a 2 party. Any other use of *In Camera* meetings is 3 prejudicial to the interests of other intervenors and 4 causes concern that there may be matters being 5 discussed in secret that should be public. 6 7 Upon careful inspection of the transcript, it is apparent to me that within the first two minutes 8 of the *In Camera* session, the Chairperson was declaring his opinions or decisions about the central 10 issues of the hearing. For example, starting at page 11 1741, line 26, the Chairperson states: 12 "It may be that the coincidence that both 13 portfolios are the same proponent is helpful 14 in moving us to the outcome that's in the 15 customer's best interest." 16 In my reading of this extract, it is clear 17 18 to me that the Chair has already decided that the Duke 19 Point proposal with duct firing is the outcome that he wishes to achieve, and that he is seeking ways of 20 rendering a decision that will achieve this outcome. 21 In fact, he goes so far as to next state: 22 "So you know now what I want to try to do. 23 I need your help in telling me how I can get 24 there." 25

Page: 2756

In my view, this is a clear declaration of

Page: 2757

the intention of the Panel to seek B.C. Hydro's assistance in engineering the Panel's desired outcome, namely altering or manipulating the EPA, which is for Duke Point without duct firing, not the most costeffective choice, so as to allow a decision in favour of Duke Point with duck firing, felt by the Chairman to be the more cost effective outcome but not the subject of the EPA under review.

At page 1742 starting at line 12, Ms. Hemmingsen states:

"I would also like to get the dual fuel capability option in there as well, to mitigate the Terasen impacts. So perhaps there could be a recommendation that stems from the decision that the contract is supportive, but it's recommended that B.C. Hydro secure these additional features."

The Panel, without also inviting input from other parties -- woops, sorry, I've included -- the Panel, in privately soliciting B.C. Hydro's input as to what might be included in the final decision of the Panel, without also inviting input from other parties, is, I believe, acting improperly. The recurring theme of the discussion during this *In Camera* session seems to be, if we, that is, the Panel and B.C. Hydro, work privately together, we can work out something that

Page: 2758

read this as a statement that the Commission is

1 seeking a way to sidestep the approval or the denial -- or denial of the EPA as filed, and instead is 2 seeking a means to approve a project that was not the 3 winner of the CFT process, and does not have an EPA 4 under consideration with the Panel. The Panel appears 5 to be trying to engineer this outcome irregardless of 6 7 any evidence that has been or will be presented in the remainder of the hearing. 8 At page 1750, starting at line 2, 9 Commissioner Hobbs states: 10 "But nevertheless that approach may have 11 some merit in it. I'd like your comments 12 13 now with respect to whether there is any merit in that approach." 14 I respectfully submit that it is most 15 16 improper for the Commission to be asking the proponent for their views on the approach the Commission might 17 18 choose to take, without all parties being present. Unless all parties are equally invited to present 19 their views for the consideration of the panel, it 20 implies bias towards the one party that is so invited. 21 22 When at page 1752, starting at line 12, the 23 Chair states: 24 "I think we should. So I'd ask you to do That means that we'll need to have 25

another in-camera session in order to do

1 that." The implication is clear, that the view of the panel 2 is that B.C. Hydro and the panel are somehow joined 3 together in working towards a mutual objective, namely 4 approval of DPP with duct firing; and that it is 5 acceptable that this collaboration occur without any 6 7 other parties being privy to it. At page 1754, starting at line 6, the 8 Chairman makes the incredible statement that: 9 "What helps, though, if we look at the 10 numbers. There is only -- there are only 11 two bids that are, if you will, in the 12 13 game." This is such a blatant expression of the pre-judgment 14 of the outcome of the hearing in advance of evidence 15 16 and argument that no further comment is necessary. The Chair then continues: 17 18 "And that may help with respect to that concern. It may be that we are able, 19 because of that, to restrict this to just 20 those two portfolios. Because the others 21 are so far out of the money." 22 This clearly shows that the Chair has already, in his 23 24 own mind, determined that all other portfolios are out of consideration. Again, the inference of bias is so 25

Page: 2760

obvious that it requires no further comment.

1 At page 1756, starting at line 11, Mr. Fulton points out to the Chair that there is already 2 potentially apprehension of bias amongst other 3 parties, regarding decisions being made outside the 4 public process. 5 "Mr. Chairman, I do want to speak to the 6 7 point of having more than one *In Camera* session, and it's to this effect -- that 8 we've indicated that there are potentially 9 two In Camera sessions. My concern would be 10 that if we start adding *In Camera* sessions 11 to this proceeding, that we can't accomplish 12 in the two, that there will be a heightened 13 level of concern from the other 14 participants, and the public, that decisions 15 16 are being made outside the public process. So to the extent that we can keep the number 17 18 of In Camera sessions to two, that would be 19 my preference and my recommendation." I can assure both Mr. Fulton and the panel 20 that my level of concern at this point was 21 significant, and continues to be so. 22 On page 1757, starting at line 22, the 23 24 Chairman states: "Right. I also think it's preferable if 25 26 counsel provides comment with respect to

Page: 2762

this *In Camera* session, than I do."

My understanding of this comment is that the Chair, at this point, recognizes that there will be an apprehension of bias amongst those excluded from this secret session, and would prefer to not be the one to provide comment, in a belated effort to distance himself from the consequences of the *In Camera* session.

I submit that the evidence of the *In Camera* session clearly demonstrates that the panel has prejudged the desired outcome of the hearing and is desirous of finding a means to award an EPA to that outcome, namely DPP with duct firing.

Proceeding Time 11:40 p.m. T41

The difficulty, it seems to me, is that although the CFT process selected DPP without duct firing as the least cost option, the CFT itself also provided numbers that showed that DPP without duct firing was not as cost effective as DPP with duct firing.

Under the terms of the CFT, B.C. Hydro had only two choices: complete an EPA for DPP without duct firing, as the least cost bid as selected by the CFT process, and try to get the remaining 28 megawatts later, which is what they chose to do; or not sign an EPA with any bidder. B.C. Hydro clearly chose the

Page: 2763 former. 1 The fact that DPP with duct firing has been shown to be more cost effective than DPP without duct 2 firing, and that the Panel's stated preferred option 3 is to approve DPP with duct firing even though the EPA 4 is for DPP without duct firing, clearly shows that the 5 Panel is convinced that the most cost effective 6 7 solution is not the EPA. That they have come to this conclusion in 8 advance of hearing all the evidence and argument is 9 clear indication that parties have grounds for 10 reasonable apprehension of bias. All the evidence 11 clearly points to the Panel having reached conclusions 12 and made a decision in advance of hearing all the 13 evidence and the argument. 14 In light of these circumstances, I conclude 15 16 that the Commission Panel, whether consciously or unconsciously, would not decide this proceeding 17 18 fairly. Consequently I believe that the Panel, and by 19 that I mean both members of the Panel, have no choice but to disqualify itself. 20 Thank you very much. 21 Mr. Hill. 22 MR. FULTON: SUBMISSION IN SUPPORT OF NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. HILL: 23

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my submission C13-6 as my position in this matter.

I must present myself as an example of the

Page: 2764

right-minded, reasonably informed individual. I don't believe that I'm without bias in the issue. I don't believe that there are any bystanders in this process, as all British Columbians use and will be affected by power and its price.

I can do naught but listen to the legal arguments made for the Panel's consideration. The reasonableness in the Machiavellian sense cannot be questioned by me. The process that has been pursued by B.C. Hydro, and I must submit, supported by the Commission, either by decision in conferences and hearings or by silence in the CFT process, leave me in great doubt as to the likelihood that the outcome was other than preordained.

I ask you to consider my position as I attempt to prepare an argument to support an outcome which, however sensible and obvious, does not conform to the apparently previously crafted reasonable outcome. I ask you to consider the future of this -- as you consider the future of this hearing, I ask you to understand my difficulty in rounding up the confidence to present and argue a conflicting case.

Thank you.

MR. FULTON: Mr. Chairman, I believe that concludes the list of the people who are speaking in favour of the motion, who have indicated to me that they wish to do

1 So I'll just canvass the room to see if I've missed anybody. 2 No one is coming forward, Mr. Chairman, so 3 that does complete the list of those who are in favour 4 of the motion. 5 6 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. We will now hear from those 7 who oppose the motion, and we will break at 12 o'clock. 8 Proceeding Time 11:45 a.m. T42 SUBMISSION OPPOSING NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. SANDERSON: 10 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will probably 11 MR. SANDERSON: -- in fact, I will assuredly take us beyond noon, so I 12 13 will try and find a convenient spot around noon to break. 14 I want to begin by saying, fairly simply 15 16 and directly, that the application before you, in my respectful submission, is entirely without merit. I'm 17 18 frankly surprised and a little disappointed at the 19 support that it's managed to attract. In my respectful submission, the Commission must guard 20 against, and not allow itself to be, frankly, bullied 21 into abdicating the serious responsibilities that it 22 has under The Utilities Commission Act. 23 You've heard much this morning about the 24 integrity of the process, the importance of the 25

Page: 2765

process, and that part of what my friends have said, I

Page: 2766

completely agree with. But I also think that you must have in your mind the importance of the substantive responsibilities you have, and those being exercised in the manner that the *Act* contemplates.

I don't envy you the position that leaves you in. That is, you have a difficult decision to make, I accept that, and you have that decision to make because any time allegations of the nature that have been made this morning are made, it puts you in an uncomfortable position. And I'm sympathetic with that. But having said it, whatever your personal discomfort is, you have to separate yourself from that, with great respect, and make the decision that you believe to be correct on the law in light of the significant obligations you've got under the Act.

In responding to what I've heard this morning, I want to make a clear distinction between three quite distinct arguments; two of which I somewhat anticipated, one of which I had no reason to anticipate, and I think was totally inappropriately made.

The first area and general issue that I'll deal with, is the *in camera* nature of the exchange that took place that's reported in transcript Volume 8. And that, I say, I had notice of, and was prepared to talk to, because it's clear in Mr. Andrews'

Page: 2767

submission, and I'll stress that it's only Mr.

Andrews' motion that I'm speaking to here -- he
defined the parameters of what this hearing this
morning is about. And what he did, in my respectful
submission, was confuse, combine, and conflate two
different complaints.

One, the first one, I've just said, is the in camera session. The second, and I submit an entirely distinct submission, is an apprehension of bias. And as I will elaborate in a moment, I consider to be -- I consider the two to be quite distinct. And I'm quite prepared to deal with both.

Proceeding Time 11:48 a.m. T43

The third was introduced by Mr. Wallace in his submissions. It's that third that I say was introduced quite inappropriately, and that is what I can only characterize as a long complaint about all of the process and all of the decisions that the Commission has reached, decisions which, as I'll elaborate in the third part of my argument, have been fully addressed by this Commission in considered reasons, some of which have been the subject matter of applications for reconsideration, some of which haven't, but which it was quite unnecessary and inappropriate to raise again this morning, because they don't go to the two issues that are really

implicated by Mr. Andrews' motion.

Dealing now with the first of those two matters raised by Mr. Andrews, and that is the effect of the In Camera proceeding on the procedural fairness and natural justice issues that he raises, I think we just need to look at the facts. And the basis of Mr. Andrews' submission is that in holding part of the hearing In Camera the Commission is inappropriately receiving information which other parties are either unaware of or don't have the opportunity to comment on. And frankly, if that's what the Commission did or were doing, and if it didn't have a compelling reason to do it, I would agree with Mr. Andrews.

Page: 2768

If you look through the submissions that have been made to you, certainly by B.C. Hydro and I think also by Duke Power throughout the submission, and if you review your own reasons in the major decision dealing with that issue, which was G-119-04, I think the record discloses (a) a complete understanding by all parties invoking confidence and the Commission of the importance of limiting in every way possible the extent of that information which would be kept in confidence; and (b) the importance of allowing, to the maximum extent possible, full comment by everybody on as much of that information as could be released, consistent with the obligation of

Page: 2769

confidentiality, that the Commission had accepted in G-119-04.

Whether -- and speaking frankly, I think

B.C. Hydro has always been troubled with how that last sharing was going to be accomplished, depending on the nature of the information that the Commission ultimately would consider to be central to its considerations.

The concerns we may have had with respect to that, however, have been entirely dealt with by the ultimate release of the transcript of the In Camera session. What the Commission was looking for was a way to receive the In Camera information with respect to unsuccessful bids in a way that allowed fair comment on it, by virtue of Duke Point's waiver of confidentiality with respect to its own information, and by virtue of the fact that the issue that the Panel chose to pursue with the Hydro witnesses related solely to information that related to Duke. Any problem with confidentiality was eliminated, and the in camera session could be, and was, released.

Proceeding Time 11:51 a.m. T44

So in my respectful submission at that point, where we are, and where the process is, is where we would have been if the exchange that occurred had happened at the end of Panel 2, in the main

Page: 2770

hearing, in the public portion of the hearing.

There's no party who's in any different position today than they would have been if, at the end of Panel 2, the Chair had asked exactly the same questions that were asked and recorded in the *in camera* session, if Ms. Hemmingsen had responded in exactly the same way that she did there, and if the submissions that I made were exactly the submissions I made there.

and frankly frequently do happen, at the end of various panels' submissions. There is a frank and open "what if" sort of dialogue going on between the panel of witnesses and the Chair. And this Commission has engaged in those kinds of open policy debate, if you'll have -- if you can characterize it that way, on a consistent basis for many years, and this panel in particular has done that.

Once that was released publicly, we're in exactly that situation. And so, as I'll come to in a minute, when we come to look at the bias issue, we ought to do it completely unencumbered with the in camera aspect. The in camera aspect was rendered meaningless by the release of the transcript.

There has been much talk this morning about how it was that it was in camera in the first place.

I think it's important to go back there, and analyze

Page: 2771

why the session was in camera. The first thing is that we had the ruling of the Commission, a ruling which all parties to this proceeding, however much they may wish to ignore it this morning, I think, were accepting in the context of the process as it pursued; that is, that information of unsuccessful bidders would not be released. We had that Order, and then we had a panel of witnesses from Hydro who had available to them all of the results of the QEM model.

The panel of witnesses from Hydro was put up to speak to one issue and one issue only, and that was the QEM process. In my opening, and in the testimony of that panel, it was made clear that they would speak only to the QEM. That if people wanted to compare Tier 1, Tier 2 and no award, what's been characterized by the Chair as the central issue in the hearing, that would have to wait till Panel 4. That was the panel that would speak to that.

Panel 2 completed its testimony, there was unfettered cross-examination of that panel, there was -- all parties participated in asking questions with respect to it. The end of that, the Chair asked a question of Mr. Soulsby, at page 1718 of Volume 8, which has been referred to by other counsel, I won't take you there again. And having got a response, indicated that he thought to go further he needed to

Page: 2772

Page: 2773

quite openly indicated you were going to engage in.

If parties now are going to hold up the *In*Camera session as being something which in and of

itself discloses a bias, or is otherwise unfair, it

was quite wrong of them not to have signaled that to

you then. You were given no warning that people were

going to object to the *In Camera* session that you were

about to engage in, to deal with the issue that you

raised by Mr. Soulsby at that reference.

Mr. Chairman, any doubt about what -- I may say as well that the onus, I think, on the parties to complain about the process if they had trouble with it further, has also got to be assessed in the context of the exchange that had happened in response to B.C. Hydro's letter -- or the letter I wrote on B.C. Hydro's behalf, on January 10th. In that letter you'll recall that as one of the procedural issues that I sought to identify at the time and obtain clarification on, was the issue of confidentiality.

Proceeding Time 11:58 a.m. T46

And at paragraph 12 of that letter on page 4, the letter says this:

"Where the Commission does hear *In Camera* evidence, B.C. Hydro respectfully submits it will be very important in the interests of transparency that the Commission provide a

full and complete description of the nature of the evidence it has heard *In Camera*, and the influence that evidence had, if any, on its final decision. The reasons ought to discussion this portion of the proceeding as fully as is possible without disclosing the particular data in respect of which confidence has been invoked by the unsuccessful bidder in the first place."

Now in response to that letter, the

Commission issued its January 11th letter, which became

Exhibit Number A-24, and in that the Commission Panel

sought participant comments with respect to the

submissions in my letter. There were comments and

then there was subsequently the Commission's order for

process that came out of those prehearing exchanges.

No one complained about that outcome, that is, the letter that was issued in response to those exchanges, and certainly B.C. Hydro assumed that was the set of rules under which the process was being conducted. In my respectful submission, everybody else had reason to believe those were the rules, and if they didn't like them then that was their time and that was the place where their complaints should have been lodged.

In that respect finally on the *In Camera*

Page: 2775

not fatal and the Commission Panel concludes

Page: 2776

that one of the Tier 1 portfolios should be accepted, should the Panel disallow the selected or filed EPA and state that it would accept a new EPA with DPP that includes the duct firing?

We expect that participants will want to draw their own conclusions from this new evidence, and may also identify additional issues that may arise from the evidence, and this will be particularly important in the context of the legislative parameters for us and what options are available to us under Section 71 of the Act."

Now, I don't think any reasonable person reading that and reading the *In Camera* transcript, any reasonable person with any attempt to be fair-minded, could think that those questions addressed first to Panel 2, could have meant anything other than reconcile for us -- and this is a point I think it was Mr. Wallace made; reconcile for us your contention that you put forward the best outcome, when the Tier 1 portfolios you were looking at may have disclosed something that's more in the interests of customers. It's a within Tier 1 comparison that's going on to panel that had as its exclusive area of testimony and responsibility the QEM model that only looked at the

Page: 2777

Tier 1 outcomes.

Proceeding Time 12:02 p.m. T47

All that was done in the Tier 1 -- or, sorry, in the QEM analysis, was to compare the Tier 1 outcomes, because they never went to Tier 2 within the QEM.

That's all that panel could talk to, and what I think you have to read the redacted transcript and this passage to be saying is, I wish to compare within Tier 1 the different portfolios and understand (1) what you're saying, B.C. Hydro, was the best one, and (2) if it's one other than the one that won the bid, under the rules of the CFT, what it is you say I should do about it? Further, I want all other participants to make comment on that same issue.

transcript, you'll see, there's expressions by the Chair, by Mr. Fulton, and by myself, all saying, "These are issues which are going to have to be addressed in argument by all parties." No reasonable person could possibly read that transcript and think there was any thought in anyone's mind, and most of all in the Chair's mind, that the issues being discussed that flowed out of the confidential information relating to the bid with duct firing, were not going to be fully debated on the record. And what was being looked for in the exchange was, how are we

1 going to get there? Meaning, how are we going to allow that information to be shared to allow this 2 important issue to be dealt with? This important 3 issue being the concern that the Tier 1 outcome being 4 put forward wasn't the Tier 1 outcome that was most in 5 customers' interests. 6 7 And I'll close on this note, that in none of that could any fair-minded person think any 8 discussion was going on for what would become a Panel 4 issue, and that is the comparison of whatever that 10 Tier 1 outcome was with either the Tier 2 outcome that 11 Mr. Weisberg wants you to consider, or the no award 12 outcome that Mr. Wallace, Mr. Bois want you to 13 consider, and various other parties, no doubt, will 14 fall somewhere in there. Those were on the table with 15 16 this panel, and there's nothing in any of the transcript that would suggest to the contrary. 17 18 Proceeding Time 12:05 p.m. T48 And Mr. Chairman, that takes me to noon, or 19 five past, and it's probably a good place for a break. 20 THE CHAIRPERSON: We'll adjourn now until 1:30. 21 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 12:05 P.M.) 22 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED AT 1:30 P.M.) TO1A 23 24 THE CHAIRPERSON: Please be seated. Mr. Sanderson, you may proceed. 25 26 MR. SANDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Page: 2778

Page: 2779

Mr. Chairman, I had indicated there were three topics I was dealing with, the first of which was the *in camera* session and the whole issue of confidentiality. I'm almost done with that, but I do have two observations to make with reference to one case. That case is a decision of the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench, which has not previously been referred to, and that's *R. v. Trang*, which I've distributed just now to my friends.

This is an enormously complicated case, Mr. Chairman, although it does bear some similarities to this. It's a criminal law case, and of course that is the kind of case which imposes the highest degree of procedural fairness, et cetera, on the parties. So the first thing to note is that this is a case in which the standards are set, or the bar is set at the highest it possibly can be.

It has some characteristics in common with this in that it seems as if defense counsel for a number of parties bounded together at a point in the proceeding and brought an application which complained of any number of different procedural steps along the way, with which they took issue. And the result is — what they sought, in light of that, was the particular Judge hearing it to recuse himself, and on the grounds that he had demonstrated a bias.

Proceeding Time 1:33 p.m. T2A

Page: 2780

And so the matter was referred to another judge of the same bench, the original judge having declined to hear it.

And in dealing with that, there are some instructive comments. One of the issues that had arisen was information received, In Camera because there were apparently some national security issues or some such matters invoked with respect to certain aspects of the evidence. And there's a discussion of that. It starts at the bottom of page 20 in paragraph 72, and you'll see at the top of page 21 there's a reference to a decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in Ruby, and actually all of page 21 and over onto the top of page 22 are in fact quotes from the Ruby decision. And it's really the quotes from the Ruby decision that I wanted to rely on with respect to the In Camera aspect, and this is starting at the bottom of page 21, paragraph 40 and it says this:

"As a general rule, a fair hearing must include an opportunity for the parties to know the opposing party's case so that they may address evidence prejudicial to their case and bring evidence to prove their position..."

And there's some citations for that.

1 "The exclusion of the appellant from portions of the government's submission is 2 an exceptional departure from this general 3 The appellant operates in an 4 informational deficit when trying to 5 challenge the legitimacy of the exemptions 6 7 claimed by the government. However, the general rule does tolerate 8 certain exceptions. As indicated earlier, some situations require a measure of 10 11 secrecy, such as wiretap and search warrant applications. In such circumstances, 12 fairness is met through other procedural 13 safequards such as subsequent disclosure, 14 judicial review, and rights of appeal." 15 16 Now in my respectful submission, this Commission, in a way that at this point at least is 17 18 unchallenged, determined that we were in such a 19 circumstance. That is, we needed to have confidentiality attached to certain information. 20 Τt made that determination in what I submit were in a 21 very carefully reasoned decision, balancing the public 22 interest that it recognized in favour of both 23 disclosure and confidentiality. 24 If you'd look at the discussion in the 25 26 transcript around process, in the confidential

Page: 2782

transcript, some of which was highlighted by some of my friends this morning, I think you'll see that there is a communal effort, if I can put it that way, to determine how to develop the procedural safeguards that will allow all parties to make submissions with respect to the information which was being disclosed in confidence. That the adequacy of those procedural safeguards that were ultimately developed through that discussion surely cannot be questioned because in the end, the answer was, we'll disclose all of it.

So that now that all of the *In Camera* session has been disclosed, as I said earlier this morning, the adequacy of the procedural safeguards that were developed around that information and around that process are surely beyond dispute.

Proceeding Time 1:36 p.m. TO3A

I do, while I have *Trang* in front of everybody, want to also point out that it is authority for a proposition that I began my submissions with, and that is that the Commission has a duty to weigh the public interest, not just with respect to the appearances which were addressed at such length today, but also the carrying-on of its own duties, and for that I refer you to page 39 of the decision, the very concluding paragraph, paragraph 155. And it is a result and a conclusion which, at the end of my

Page: 2783

remarks, I will be urging upon you, and that's this: "In the end result, I concluded the Applicants have failed to show a basis for a reasonable apprehension of bias on the part of Binder J. on any of the grounds alleged, either individually or collectively. Although a judge may have a duty to recuse when disqualified, a judge equally has a duty to continue when there is no valid reason for recusal..."

So that takes me, Mr. Chairman, to the whole question of reasonable apprehension of bias, and as I say, I'm making these submissions on the basis that what's been said was said on the public record, and the question before you is, does a reasonable person on the basis of those have a reason to apprehend a bias?

Mr. Andrews and others have referred you to the Committee for Justice and Liberty v. The National Energy Board decision, and as they did with the debate with respect to Commissioner Birch's recusal, they referred to only a portion of the relevant law as it's found there, in the judgment -- the dissenting judgment of Mr. Justice Grandpré. And I don't know whether you still have a copy of that case, but I know it's been entered, and I will just read what I read on

Page: 2784

helped me, to point out. So 394 is labelled "Part 1"

1 at the bottom of the page there, and that's where the seminal passage begins. My friends have taken you to 2 it. 3 What they have not taken you to is the 4 paragraph commencing at the bottom of the page: "I 5 can see no real difference..." 6 "I can see no real difference between the 7 expressions found in the decided cases, be 8 they reasonable apprehension of bias, 9 reasonable suspicion of bias, or real 10 likelihood of bias. The grounds for this 11 apprehension must however be substantial, 12 and I entirely agree with the Federal Court 13 of Appeal, which refused to accept the 14 suggestion that the test be related to the 15 very sensitive or scrupulous conscience." 16 And then it goes on and it says: 17 18 "This is the proper approach which of course 19 must be adjusted to the facts of the case." 20 And that's a very important comment, in my respectful submission. 21 "The question of bias in a member of a court 22 of justice cannot be examined in the same 23 24 light as that in a member of an administrative tribunal entrusted by statute 25

with an administrative discretion exercised

Page: 2786

in the light of its experience and that of its technical advisors."

And then the case goes on to discuss the particular nature of the duties of the National Energy Board that were in issue in that case.

But the point being made is two things.

One, there isn't an absolute standard that applies in every circumstance. You have to look at the facts of the case, you have to look at the public duties that the tribunal is performing in determining whether what it did was appropriate or not and gave rise to a reasonable apprehension of bias to a reasonable, as opposed to a very sensitive or scrupulous conscience.

That test, as I see it, can be broken down into three pieces. In order -- well, the three pieces, I guess, could be said to encompass three notions. The first is the notion of the reasonable, fair-minded and fully informed person. The second I'll characterize as the notion of substantiality. That is, the apprehension must be more than a suspicion or a sensitivity, because to impugn the impartiality of a decision-maker is not a trivial thing, and the integrity of the decision-making process requires that mere suspicion or sensitivity not interfere with the carrying out of the public obligations that the decision-maker has.

Page: 2787

And then third, as I think that paragraph clearly discloses, the notion, the test involved is flexible in application depending on the context of the tribunal and of the specific of decision to be made.

So I'll talk about both of those -- well, I'm sorry, all three of those tests, in that sequence. And that takes me to parsing, if you will, I think perhaps, I think, more closely than we've heard today, the words that I think set off this whole chain of events, and those are the words that appear at page 1741-42 of the transcript. That's Volume 8. And in my respectful submission, the sentence which, taken out of context, causes the most basis for concern in terms of an apprehension of bias, is the sentence or the two sentences that begin at line 4.

And these sentences have been chosen in the transcription to be laid out as a separate paragraph. As I read the whole passage, that's perhaps not in a drafting sense particularly accurate. They're integrally related with the previous sentence. The sentence at line 4 and 5 or the sentences, I guess, is:

"So you know now what I want to try and do.

I need your help in telling me how I can get
there."

Page: 2788

The crux of the matter is, well, what is it that you, Mr. Chairman, were saying that you wanted to try to do, and what was it that you were inviting the B.C. Hydro Panel to assist you with? To find an answer to that, you have to read the passage immediately preceding. And first of all, at line 22 you draw a conclusion, and that is -- and that's based on the answer you've received. You say

Proceeding Time 1:45 p.m. T05A

You say,

"...I thought your answer would be just what it is, that but for the rules of the CFT, you would have chosen Pristine with duct firing."

So it does appear to me that the Commission is drawing a conclusion on the evidence provided by Ms. Hemmingsen, and that conclusion is that, but for the rules of the CFT, B.C. Hydro would have chosen Pristine with duct firing. That's conclusory, but it's conclusory of what that evidence meant to you, put to the witness you'd just heard it from.

And then, you move on to the "So what?", if you will, of that piece of evidence. You say, "It may be." Now, I stress as no one else has, "It may be." Not that it is, not that anything is a certain state of affairs, but rather they may be, and to emphasize

Page: 2789

it, you say, "I don't know enough about this yet."

So, the incompleteness of your thinking and your knowledge with respect to the issue couldn't be more transparent than in that first part of that sentence. And then you say

"...but it may be that the coincidence that both portfolios are the same proponent is helpful in moving us to the outcome that's in the customer's best interest."

So the next thing is, the thing that you're trying to do, as identified in line 4, is to get to the customer's best interest. And you're conjecturing that the coincidence of the same bidder being involved may, in this specific context, that is in the with-orwithout duct firing context, assist you in getting to the customer's best interest.

Does it suggest anywhere that you are selecting Duke as being the best overall to get to the customer's best interests? Does it suggest anywhere that you've rejected either the Tier 2 or no award? It doesn't say anything about Tier 2 or no award. It doesn't bear any interpretation that would hint you were going there. And indeed, if you work through the transcript thereafter, you'll not see any place at which those issues, that is the next issues, which are what you identified previously as the fundamental

Page: 2790

issues in the proceeding, are brought in. And when I said this morning I didn't see how any fair-minded person could read this that way, that's what I meant. You just can't take this sentence and fairly extrapolate it, I don't think, in the way that has been done.

There is one reference to what has become known as cost effectiveness, which is the broader questions that Mr. Weisberg in particular, in his submissions, raises. And the question of a comparison between the Tier 1 outcome on the one hand, and Tier 2 and no award on the other, and that's, as far as I can see in this transcript, exclusively a comment of mine at page 1752. And at that page, where it seemed as if the discussion was moving in that direction, at line 16 I said this:

"Mr. Chairman, there is an element of costeffectiveness here, so maybe we can deal
with this again at the end of Panel 4."
And after that, there's a discussion about how, if
necessary, there would be a session with Panel 4.

So it seemed clear to me in reading this, that in your mind at least, the next set of issues, that is the issues around comparing the Tier 1 outcome, whether it be the one that was before you or the optimum one that you'd talked about in here, that

Page: 2791

is the with-duct-firing version, how that then is compared to Tier 2 and no award is going to be the subject matter of any session that you have with Panel 4, that having been the pre-ruling. And that having been the way in which B.C. Hydro had identified it would present its evidence.

So, would a reasonable, fair-minded and fully -- person believe the Commission Panel has already made up their minds on the matter, that is, the big issue before them, reading that? I don't think so, Mr. Chairman.

requires substantiality. And as I've said, the bar is set high. I'll make reference to -- I'm not sure I need to distribute, but -- a decision -- I have it here, if anyone needs it, but I don't really want to burden the record if we don't have to. This is a decision of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Summary Conviction Appeal Court, dated May 5th, 2001. It can be found at (2001) O.J. 2054. It's *R. v. J.F.* In paragraph 39 of that decision, it's simply observed by Justice Hill that:

"A public allegation of bias and prejudice against a judicial officer is warranted in only the clearest of cases, where the evidence is manifest enough to a very

Page: 2792

careful reflection as to the seriousness of the imputation by counsel. Advancing an entirely unmeritorious allegation of judicial bias and prejudice is unfair to the trial court, abuses the appellate process, and encourages disrespect for the administration of justice."

Proceeding Time 1:50 p.m. T6A

Now, I rely on that passage to say that there is a heavy burden on the applicants here, and there is a heavy obligation on the Commission to stay the course unless that high bar is met, because to do otherwise is to put the proper administration of this process under its Act at risk of non-substantial allegations of apprehension of bias by those who simply don't like the procedural rulings or some of the other decisions that the Commission may have made. The mere fact that people think that the process is other than best suits them or their client is not a basis for alleging an apprehension of bias.

We come now, then, to the specific bias that is alleged here. And I want to say it did get pretty confused, as I said at the outset this morning. When I went into this argument I thought once we were past the *In Camera* notion, the issue raised -- and to be fair, spoken to by Mr. Andrews; raised in his

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Page: 2793

submission and I think fairly spoken to in his submissions, is a preliminary view has been formed. So the bias has a specific character, that is, you've made up your mind.

There's very few cases that deal with that, and I'll come to the ones that do, but that's a relatively rare form of bias application or at least basis for recusal, because it's a very difficult thing to demonstrate. But the remarks you heard today went way beyond that. They tried to find the bias in all kinds of procedural inequities that people were alleging. And I will come to that at the end of my remarks, but in brief my submission there will be, the question of the fairness of the overall proceeding is entirely distinct from a bias allegation. proceeding is unfair, people have their remedies on appeal, if they feel moved to do so after they see the Commission's decision. And that's the proper way to deal with those things if there's a need to deal with those things.

The unique bias allegation here, I think, is restricted to the notion that the Commission has predetermined the issue. The only place that anyone has suggested that can be found, the only evidence of that in any of the conduct of the Commission, is in the Volume 8 transcript at the remarks I've already

Page: 2794

referred to.

And so you have to take those remarks and hold them up against the other precondition decisions. And the most prominent of those is the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in Newfoundland Telephone Company v. Newfoundland Board of Commissioners.

Again, counsel have referred to it, but I'm going to actually refer to it in some detail.

I know this has been distributed, you may have it, but because I'm going to be going through it I do have extra copies if you need them. I put a few copies behind me in case there are those who need to have reference to it. And I'm looking at the online version.

This is the decision involving the Public Utilities Board in Newfoundland and it is probably the leading case on disqualification on this basis. And basically what happened in this case was that a noted consumer advocate was appointed to that board, and the board member was disinclined to adopt a different public stature than he had displayed previously, I think it's fair to say from reading the decision, and was very open with the press and the public about what he was thinking, both before the decision started -- sorry, before the hearing started and after.

Proceeding Time 1:55 p.m. T07A

Page: 2795

plan,' he continued, adding that if the

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Page: 2796

1 executive employees want more money to put in their pensions they should take it out of 2 shareholders' profits." 3 So the applicant, going into this hearing, was facing 4 the prospect of having heard an application by someone 5 who pretty clearly was more than a little skeptical of 6 7 what they were going to hear. Now, later in the Court's reasons, the 8 Court determined those remarks did not constitute the 9 basis for an apprehension of bias. They were made 10 before it started and while, as the Court 11 characterizes them, they were "colourful" and strongly 12 expressed, they didn't disclose the level of closed-13 mindedness or the level of predetermination required 14 in and of themselves to require Mr. Wells to recuse 15 himself or to render any decision in which he 16 participated bad. 17 18 Shortly after he made those remarks, the hearing started on December 19th, and then it appears 19 that Mr. Wells went back to the press on December the 20 20th, and on what is now the second day of the hearing, 21 22 he is quoted in the newspaper as having said, and this 23 is paragraph seven:

"'I don't think those expenses can be justified,' said Mr. Wells. 'I'm concerned about bias the other way.'"

Page: 2797

he's back in the press again, and here he says -- and

1 this is in the middle of the page --"'I can't see what circumstances would 2 justify that kind of money,' Mr. Wells said. 3 'I don't think the ratepayers of this 4 province should be expected to pay that kind 5 of salary. The company can bloody well take 6 7 it out of the shareholders' profits.' Mr. Wells said he doesn't know when the case 8 will be before the court, but said that if 9 he is biased, it is on the side of the 10 consumers who pay too much for their phone 11 bills." 12 13 And so on. I won't burden with any more, Mr. Chairman. 14 What I'm getting to is this. Mr. Wells 15 16 ultimately was found to have been biased, and that the telephone company's concern about his conduct was 17 18 sufficient to raise a reasonable apprehension of bias 19 that rendered the ultimate decision invalid. egregious nature of what was being said, the absolute 20 clarity of the finality of the decision, the colourful 21 expression of a refusal to change his mind, couldn't 22 have been more apparent. 23 24 Proceeding Time 2:00 p.m. T8A And to try and compare the transcript from 25 26 Volume 8 and hold it up against that, and suggest that

1 the standard that is implicit in these remarks is somehow met in those, I think is to stretch credulity. 2 There is simply no comparability between what's gone 3 on in this hearing and what was going on in that 4 process. And the standard that is found in that 5 Newfoundland Telephone Company case is one that I 6 7 think is fairly consistently held. It is a high standard and it's not going to be one that my friends 8 can easily meet. 9 Just before I leave the decision, I think 10 11 it was Mr. Quail who took you to this decision as well. He referred you to paragraph 39, and if I can 12 13 just take you there for a moment because he stopped in the middle of the paragraph. I think he read to about 14 the middle of the sentence that says in paragraph 39: 15 16 "Procedural fairness then required the board members to conduct themselves so that there 17 18 could be no reasonable apprehension of 19 bias." And he stopped there, and I'd like to go on and read 20 the rest: 21 "The application of that test must be 22 flexible. It need not be as strict for this 23 24 Board dealing with policy matters as it would be for a board acting solely in an 25

adjudicative capacity. The standard of

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Page: 2800

conduct will not of course inhibit the most vigorous questioning of...witnesses and counsel by board members."

And then goes on:

"Wells' statements, however, were such, that so long as he remained a member of the Board hearing the matter, a reasonable apprehension of bias existed."

So what's being said here, I think, again is that the discussion of policy matters which went on after the exchange which I've focused on at 1741 and 1742 of the transcript, is something which was appropriate in light of the circumstances of this Panel and its obligations. There are policy aspects, you're looking at the public interest and trying to decide whether to use your authority to intervene in a contract in the public interest. That is a policy issue. The rights, if you will, that are being interfered with, the parties that have vested rights that are being interfered with in that process are the contracting parties. The rest of the participants are participating in the context of the submissions they can make and the input they can give with respect to the public interest, i.e. matters of policy. And I do suggest that in looking at the context of what you're doing, that's part of the background circumstances

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Page: 2801

important in determining whether it was appropriate for you to go on and discuss the policy implications of the facts, which up to that point have been confidential, that you disclosed or obtained in your discussion with Panel 2.

It was said by many that, you now, that -this morning, that that discussion needn't have been confidential, it went on for far too long and far too far. I think that's, with great respect, quite wrong. If you look at the transcript you'll find that so long as Duke's confidential information was held in confidence, the redactions kept occurring. In other words, when Mr. Fulton and I redacted the transcript for the purpose of not allowing it to be known that it was the duct firing option that was being talked about, and it appears some will say we were unsuccessful in that endeavour but that was the nature of the endeavour; that the redactions continue till quite near the end of the exchange, right up through till 1754, because there were things said all the way through that only made sense in reference back to the two Duke bids and the comparison that was being made of them. So it was quite necessary, if that discussion was going to go on, that it remain In Camera until the confidentiality was waived by Duke.

There's one other case that I wanted to

Page: 2802

make reference to because I think it is the only other case of significance that I found where a decision—maker was disqualified for a preliminary view, if you will, and I feel obliged to bring it to your attention. Now Mr. Kleefeld is going to tell me I'm going to pronounce this as badly as I pronounce his own name, so you'll forgive me but I think it's either "Mignott" or "Migno", depending what nationality that gentleman was, and I don't know. Or I guess -- I'm not sure if it was gentleman or not, actually.

In any event, that was a case in which at the first day of a hearing, the lawyer for the party whose -- I think it was an immigration hearing.

Proceeding Time 2:05 p.m. T09A

The lawyer for the party who had made the application asked for leave to go back to her office and obtain some more law. She wanted to go and get some references. And the client, that is the applicant, deposed in an affidavit that the adjudicator hearing it, having declined to allow counsel to go and get the cases, said to the client, "There's no point in her going to get the cases because the decision's already been made." And she swore an affidavit and filed it with the Court, and sought review, on the basis of predetermination, because the hearing was still in mid-hearing.

Page: 2803

1 The Court, in reaching its decision, in paragraph 8 at page 5 of the version that I've handed 2 up, says this: 3 "The question is not whether actual bias 4 existed. The question is whether a 5 reasonable apprehension of bias could be 6 7 raised in the mind of a knowledgeable and reasonable person. The decision in this 8 case is very much dependent upon exactly 9 what was said. If the adjudicator merely 10 indicated he was tending towards a certain 11 decision, or was working on a text which it 12 13 is contemplated would become part of that final decision, then, I don't think one 14 could say that a reasonable apprehension of 15 16 bias was raised. If, however, the adjudicator said that a decision had been 17 18 made and, then, later, when challenged on that statement, attempted to explain by 19 saying that the decision he had referred to 20 was only preliminary, in my view, such 21 comments could raise a reasonable 22 apprehension of bias." 23 And then they go on to say, in paragraph 9: 24 "In this case, I have to accept the 25 26 affidavit of the applicant to the effect

Page: 2804

that it was the latter which occurred."

So in order for the Court to conclude that there was an apprehension of bias, they had to accept the uncontradicted evidence in the affidavit that an unqualified decision was expressed to have been made by the adjudicator himself.

Again, applying that standard here, it is inconceivable to me that this transcript, in Volume 8, discloses an unqualified final decision. I've said it discloses not even a predisposition, frankly. It's focused on a narrow issue, but if that submission's not accepted, and someone can succeed in broadening the significance of the words used, to say a final decision was made and is evidenced there, I think is still beyond what the words will bear.

Mr. Chairman, there are -- there's a lot of law, where a reasonable apprehension of bias obligations -- or, allegations have been made, and not succeeded. I'm not going to take you through them all. I don't think that they add to, in the end, the submissions I've made.

I do want to deal briefly with Mr.

Wallace's submissions in particular, dealing with the broader procedural complaints. And I said at the outset I think -- and I say again, that those (a) are completely outside the scope of anything Mr. Andrews

raised, or Mr. Andrews quite properly dealt with in his submissions. They have to do with a complaint about the entire process. While I say they have no merit, if JIESC disagrees with that submission, the proper course is for them to take steps with respect to those decisions, not to allege bias, and not to interfere with this procedure that is now in place, and this hearing that's now in place. And in the end, once they have a decision, they'll no doubt consider the overall conduct of the hearing, together with the decision they obtain and the reasons for it, and conclude what further relief, if any, they think it's appropriate for them to seek.

But that shouldn't give rise to the motions we've heard today, and it shouldn't give rise to them particularly -- and I use this word carefully, but it's particularly inappropriate where the Commission has issued reasoned decisions on precisely these points and indeed, reconsideration has been sought. And in some cases declined, in one case, I think, still outstanding. But we've argued this again and again. And to re-argue it here, I say, is just inappropriate.

Proceeding Time 2:10 p.m. T10A

When I make those submissions, at the heart of them is the notion that really Mr. Wallace

Page: 2806

complains of two things. The first is he doesn't accept there was ever a need for an expedited process. In one of my many previous submissions, I've handed up a chronology of the Commission's rulings with respect to the need for expedition. It goes back 18 months to the VIGP decision. It's been a consistent theme. All parties have known about it. The Commission has articulated in any number of different ways why it felt that was necessary. And indeed, the 90 days which gives rise to the need for a decision by February 17th was arrived at because the Commission advised Hydro that it didn't think it could get through the process it believed was necessary in the 60 days that the original CFT called for.

And you may recall that the CFT in one of its earlier incarnations in the fall of 2003 provided for 60 days' termination right after -- sorry, a termination right if the Commission hadn't yielded a decision within 60 days. The Commission wrote back and said it thought that provision should be extended to 90, and that's what was done. And so all parties have known from very early on in this process that the Commission at least had committed to endeavour to make its decision within 90 days, and that the whole process was set up to accommodate that.

Now, I'm not asking that the JIESC accept

Page: 2807

that that's the end of the story, but it should be the end of the story for today in respect of that. This is not the place to complain about that long-ago decision.

The second thing is that I think they continue to complain that information of unsuccessful bidders should not be made public. That is, the confidentiality order. Again I go back to the very carefully reasoned G-119-04 and say, if the Commission does the parties the courtesy of providing full, complete and well articulated reasons as to how it's balanced public interests, the parties can do the Commission the courtesy of focusing their complaint on that decision if they don't like it, indicating what they find wrong in the way the Commission has balanced its public interest, and taking it to a higher court if that's what they need to do. And to wrap it up in bias I just think is not the right approach at all.

I do need to comment as well that the Commission ought not to let it get sandbagged -- let itself be sandbagged, if you want, on one additional issue. You have been criticized today by a number of parties, again Mr. Wallace first, I think, and then others, for the balance with respect to the hearing of evidence. That is, five days for the Hydro panels and five days later -- and it's been said that I've had a

Page: 2808

much easier row, along with Mr. Keough, to hoe because we've had more time for our cross-examinations et cetera.

Mr. Chairman, we laid out in a letter of
January 10th some procedural submissions. The
Commission received those, said, consistent with the
ruling that we've been making for a long time, that is
that we have to get this done within the 90-day
window, we are going to try and complete this by
January 28th. We would like to hear whether the
submissions that Hydro has made around when -- or the
time allotted for different panels, amongst other
things, is appropriate.

There were some very long submissions in response. Not one of them, not one made the complaint that we've heard so often today. If any of them had that concern, the concern that the balance that we had proposed between five days for Hydro and the balance for the rest, was inappropriate, they had an absolutely obligation to come forward with that complaint, rather than now turn on you and say, "Oh, you're showing bias by having done what you were asked to do and to which we didn't object."

They chose instead to attack the notion of getting it done in the time allotted at all. And fair enough, that was their right to do. But they can't

Page: 2809

complain now for having said nothing, that they don't like the result. And indeed, frankly, in putting that proposal together, I had no doubt in my mind that if we'd said, "Well, you know, give twice as long to Hydro as you give to everybody else," we would have heard complaints about that from exactly the other side when we were here this morning. In other words, there was no procedure which was going to satisfy everybody, but my point is this one wasn't attacked by anybody. And if they want to make their point now they should have done that.

Proceeding Time 2:15 p.m. T11A

Mr. Chairman, that's what I have to say about the overall procedural things. And I want to close with this. This hearing has been going on now for most of the time that was allotted for it. We are very nearly finished. All of the parties have chosen to have you hear the evidence, with the exception of GSX CCC, who I understand are prepared to proceed today. All of the undertakings and additional information that hasn't yet been filed will be completely — the filings will be complete today once — and we're ready to do that now.

And so that all that's left is rebuttal and final argument. Administrative efficiency, here, demands that this process be completed. If parties

Page: 2810

wish to pursue their remedies, and ultimately the submissions that I've made here today are accepted, and it's concluded there is no reasonable apprehension of bias, huge prejudice will have done to the public interest and to the interests of the contracting parties before you, by your standing down. We will not have a decision, and the process will have ended. I'm not sure what happens next, but whatever it is, the results are unhappy for the public interest as we would have it, at least, and certainly they're unhappy for the parties.

If we continue, and a Court does determine, ultimately, that there was a reasonable apprehension of bias, and your ultimate decision is struck down in consequence, the parties are no worse off than they would be from your recusing yourself, and the only prejudice suffered by anybody else is today, the evidence heard over the balance of today -- or, sorry, the evidence heard tomorrow, I hope only tomorrow, and the final arguments were made unnecessarily. That, at this stage of this proceeding, when it's almost over, is a very minor prejudice indeed, set up against the other.

And for that, I want to close with a reference to the Canadian Judicial Council's "Ethical Principles for Judges." And that's a lengthy

Page: 2811

document, much of which is not germane to this. And I don't by any means suggest we're in this circumstance, but I cite this just to make the point that you can't ignore where you are in the process in terms of determining what your obligations are. The principles for judges, at paragraph E.17, say this, under the heading "Necessity".

"Extraordinary circumstances may require departure from the approaches discussed above. The principle of necessity holds that a judge who would otherwise be disqualified may hear and decide a case where failure to do so would result in an injustice. This might arise where an adjournment or mistrial would work an undue hardship or where there is no other judge reasonably available who would not be similarly disqualified."

Now, I don't suggest for a minute we're in that circumstance, but I just suggest that that passage demonstrates that for judges, they're there to soldier on and complete their work even if, in normal circumstances, there might be a reason why they shouldn't, if the requirements of justice in the circumstance require that. And if you look further in to where that comes from, the remedy for those who, as

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Page: 2812

1 here, allege more serious problems that they say underlie everything, they have their appellate rights, 2 they've got the other safeguards the Acts give them to 3 prevent permanent prejudice. But the loss of this 4 process is a permanent prejudice that can't be 5 remedied if wrongly opposed. 6 7 Those are my submissions, Mr. Chairman. Thank you. Mr. Keough, I think we'll THE CHAIRPERSON: 8 take a break at about quarter to three. 9 SUBMISSION OPPOSING NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. KEOUGH: 10 I hope I'm done by then, Mr. Chairman. 11 MR. KEOUGH: Mr. Chairman, Ms. Boychuk, Duke Point Power 12

Mr. Chairman, Ms. Boychuk, Duke Point Power opposes the motion brought by the GSX CCC et al., requesting an Order that the Commission Panel hearing this case disqualify itself on the grounds of a reasonable apprehension of bias and a denial of procedural fairness and natural justice during the hearing.

We will be submitting to you that the GSX CCC motion is ill-founded and, in fact, ill-conceived. We will be submitting to you that it relies on only a partial statement of the relevant law, that it severely mischaracterizes the matter which underpins the motion itself, and that in fact it is grounded in little more than pure conjecture. There is simply no evidence to support the motion.

Proceeding Time 2:20 p.m. T12A

Page: 2813

Mr. Andrews starts his submission to you by, in our view, restricting the scope of the test to be applied to only the quote from the Supreme Court of Canada decision in The Committee of Justice and Liberty et al. v. The NEB et al. that he cites on page 1 of his submission to you. While not taking issue with this single paragraph which Mr. Andrews has recited, he has ignored other very important aspects of the consideration of an application regarding an apprehension of bias. In this regard we would note that the allegations of procedural fairness and natural justice, or a denial of those, but we submit to you that the grounds do not stand on their own and are wholly unsupported once the allegations of bias are disposed of.

One need only turn the page in the Committee for Justice and Liberty decision, as Mr. Sanderson did, to find the following quote, and I think he read from this as well but it's important:

"This is the proper approach which of course must be adjusted to the facts of the case. The question of bias in a member of a court of justice cannot be examined in the same light as in a member of an administrative tribunal entrusted by statute, with an

administrative discretion exercised in light 1 of its experience and that of its technical 2 advisors." 3 The court then goes on to cite approvingly 4 from Tucker L.J. in Russell v. Duke of Norfork et al. 5 further down the page, as follows: 6 7 "There are, in my view, no words which are of universal application to every kind of 8 inquiry and every kind of domestic tribunal. 9 The requirements of natural justice must 10 depend on the circumstances of the case, the 11 nature of the inquiry, the rules under which 12 the tribunal is acting, the subject matter 13 that is being dealt with, and so forth." 14 We would likewise point you to the 15 Weiwaiken Indian Band v. Canada decision that was 16 discussed earlier in these proceedings, and that's, I 17 18 think, available here, but the cite is [2003] 2 S.C.R. 19 259. And in that case the Supreme Court states as follows. It's at page 4 of the excerpt that was over 20 on the table anyway. And there it says: 21 "In light of the strong presumption of 22 judicial impartiality, the standard refers 23 to an apprehension based on serious grounds. 24 Each case must be examined contextually and 25

the inquiry is fact-specific."

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1 Now, we submit that these cases clearly require that you must look at the specific facts, and 2 more importantly, the specific context in assessing an 3 allegation of reasonable apprehension of bias. 4 has to ask, what is the context of the debate that is 5 occurring here? What are the specific facts here? Τt 6 7 has to be a very fact-specific decision. Now, Mr. Sanderson appropriate noted to you 8 the point that this whole event occurred in the 9 context of B.C. Hydro's witness Panel Number 2. 10 cannot lose sight of that fact. You cannot lose sight 11 of the subject matter of that panel, the purpose of 12 their testimony, and the reasons they were presented 13 to you. 14 You also need to take a look at the facts 15 16 regarding the precise questioning that was going on. Mr. Chairman, I'm starting with the question posed by 17 18 you to the B.C. Hydro panel at Volume 8 of the transcript, page 1717, and that was in the non-19 redacted version. 20 So in order to get the context, one has to 21 ask what is being discussed? What is the scope of 22 this discussion? Well, it's pretty clear. 23 discussion involves the model, the portfolio tab. 24 Proceeding Time 2:25 p.m. T13A 25

Turning the page to page 1718, we see at

Page: 2816

lines 9 and 10 that the summary results are being discussed, and if we go on, we see that you're talking about the ranking of the portfolios and a conclusion that could be drawn from the numbers. That is clearly all that is being discussed.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if we fast-forward to the redacted version of the transcript, at page 1741, again Volume 8, it's clear that the Chair goes back to the very same results summary. So the issue has not changed and the context has not changed. When you follow through the discussion on the next two, three or four pages, the scope and the context never change.

What is noteworthy is that there is absolutely no discussion, no evidence, absolutely nothing to support what I will call Mr. Andrews' sleight of hand, which sees him in almost every paragraph of his submission make reference to the most cost-effective option for meeting the identified capacity need on Vancouver Island. There he's trying to quote what you've called "the central issue in this proceeding," or the main issue. It was never discussed. Look at the words.

The GSX CCC is deliberately attempting to completely mischaracterize the context in which the exchange they assert is offensive is taking place.

There was no mention in the whole exchange to

Page: 2817

achieving the most cost-effective option for the needed capacity on Vancouver Island.

Now, we submit to you, Mr. Andrews knows this, because it's patently obvious on the face of the record that that discussion does not take place. It is equally clear, we would submit to you, that this mischaracterization is designed to elevate this debate to a context that would go to the main issue before the Commission, and thereby somehow bootstrap the GSX CCC's, what we submit are unfounded allegations. We submit to you Mr. Andrews knows the discussion took place in the narrow confines of a summary of the model.

He also knows that if this were to be the focus of his submissions, they would be viewed as groundless. So he jumps the great divide. And he asserts that the discussion was all about the central issue in this case. Well, we would submit to you, on any read, reasonable man or not, that is quite simply not the case.

The GSX CCC has badly mischaracterized the context of this whole exchange, and we're simply going to call them on that.

We submit it is equally clear from the remarks of the Chair that he is seeking to advance the best interests of customers by this narrowly-focused

Page: 2818

inquiry. We would submit to you that, contrary to what you've heard, this is wholly consistent with your public interest mandate that the Commission must perform, and the decision you are -- the determination, I suppose, you must make pursuant to Section 71 of the Act.

The clear context of the Chairman's remarks is regarding the pursuit of this mandate on a specific issue. Not a predetermination or pre-judgment of the issue before the Commission for consideration and ultimate decision.

Proceeding Time 2:30 p.m. T14A

At the highest, the Chair is seeking advice on how he can reach this public interest goal in the context of this specific issue.

Now, when I was talking about Mr. Andrews' leaping the great divide to the most cost-effective option language that he uses numerous times in his submission, I think it is informative to take a look at what is on the record regarding what constitutes this assessment of the most cost-effective option. And the record is littered with it, but the most handy one last evening for me was at Volume 7 of the transcript, page 1377, where Ms. Hemmingsen talks about the cost-effectiveness issue. And here's a number of things that she says you take into account

Page: 2819

that the words that were used in the discussion in no

Page: 2820

way convey a position that the Commission's mind is made up on anything, and surely not on the overall matters that are before you which were not even being discussed.

Now, as Mr. Sanderson has done, I want to take you to some of the words that people have focused on, because I think they've glossed over some of the most important ones. Again if we look at page 1741 of the formerly redacted version of the transcript at line 25, all you have to do is read the words. They start: "It may be..." and I stress the word "may". Then it's followed: "I don't know enough about this yet..."

If you go back to line 21 on that page:
"This may..." and again I stress "may", "...be an area
where I can add some value to customers." These words
clearly do not convey a position, or even an
impression, that the Chair's mind is made up about
anything.

Look over the page to 1742, lines 20 and 21: "If". "If the Commission issues a decision that approves Portfolio 3..." The clear words are that you are exploring this possibility, not that you've already made up your mind and decided that this will be the case. In fact, the next comment recognizes that this raises a legal issue that will have to be

1 the subject of subsequent debate. Proceeding Time 2:35 p.m. T15A 2 I'd like to look at these comments in the 3 context of the question frequently posed by the courts 4 in situations such as this, relating to the open-5 mindedness of the adjudicator. And I'm going to cite 6 from a case just briefly, and I have it available, but 7 I'm -- I'll give people a cite, and if they want a 8 copy, I can get it for them. But it's Thompson vs. 9 Chiropractors' Association of Saskatchewan, [1996] 10 11 S.J. 11, Q.B. MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Chairman, may I ask that copies of the 12 case be made available? It's not fair for counsel to 13 cite cases without providing copies. If he's got them 14 here, especially. 15 16 MR. KEOUGH: Mr. Chair, I am certainly prepared to make it available as I stated. I'm not sure my friend need 17 rush to the podium, but I will oblige him. 18 MR. FULTON: I do want to say something here, Mr. 19 Chairman, because, you know, fairness has taken up all 20 the day today. 21 Proceeding Time 2:36 p.m. T16A 22 But it seemed to be my recollection this 23 24 morning, when Mr. Andrews was talking about cases, there was one case in particular that he referred to 25 26 that he didn't have, which was a labour case.

Page: 2821

Page: 2822

does not ordinarily constitute bias if there

Page: 2823

is an ability and a willingness to change
the opinion when appropriate. It is this
flexibility or open-mindedness which must be
present."

We submit to you that the wording used by you, Mr. Chairman, that we've cited repeatedly here throughout the transcript, clearly indicates that your mind is still open, and that no decision has been reached. There is nothing in the GSX CCC's submissions or, we would submit, in the comments of others, to support a contrary view.

I would like to look at certain of the comments that were made, specific comments made, in the GSX CCC motion. At page 1, paragraph number 1, at the bottom, there's two points there. First, we are not sure what Mr. Andrews is relying upon to support his restrictive interpretation of the Commission's discretion or jurisdiction regarding the receipt of confidential information.

I think it's pretty clear here, as Mr. Sanderson has noted, that we were dealing with information related to a non-winning bidder, and that issue had been disposed of without anyone contesting it long before. And it was clear that that was the type of information that was being discussed.

We would also submit to you that the --

1 this aspect of Mr. Andrews' complaint is rendered academic with the disclosure of the redacted 2 transcript. 3 Proceeding Time 2:40 p.m. T17A Now if we flip the page to page 2, 5 paragraph 2, this is where Mr. Andrews commences his 6 7 unsubstantiated speculation of what is involved in the situation before you. He says that ex parte In Camera 8 hearing -- sorry, 9 "The ex parte In Camera hearing was not for 10 the permissible purpose of receiving 11 confidential information." 12 I think I've just disposed of that. I think the 13 subject matter of the *In Camera* was appropriate, and 14 until Duke Point Power waived the confidentiality, it 15 16 was information that was appropriately held in confidence pursuant to your earlier order. We would 17 18 submit to you that the facts disclosed by reading that transcript clearly support this, and that everything 19 that occurred In Camera was appropriately done so. 20 The balance of this paragraph, Mr. 21 Chairman, constitutes little more than wild 22 speculation on the purposes for which the In Camera 23 session was supposedly held. There are simply no 24 facts to support these assertions. 25

Page: 2824

Paragraph 3; now, notwithstanding what Mr.

Andrews asserts here as the Commission Panel clearly told B.C. Hydro, there is again nothing on the record to support these hollow assertions. The transcript which has been provided confirms that this assertion is indeed baseless. It appears that the GSX CCC is simply making up positions and stating conclusions that simply do not exist.

The same comments apply to paragraph number 4.

In paragraph number 5, Mr. Andrews is speaking to conclusions regarding the most costeffective option before you've heard the evidence.

Again, Mr. Chairman, this goes back to my comments that he's badly mischaracterized what's happened here, and I don't think I say more.

I thought I heard him this morning essentially withdraw paragraph number 6.

point, I suppose, but again it's wrong. There was considerable discussion of the potential legal implications of what had occurred on the record, and it's equally clear that the issue would be put on the record for public debate. And as Mr. Sanderson mentioned, it was raised by him and that's at transcript 1752, it was raised by you, Mr. Chairman, at 1753 and 1755, and it was also raised by Mr. Fulton

Page: 2826

at 1755. So any suggestion that this legal debate was not going to occur and in a complete manner on the public record, is contrary to the very evidence that's there.

Furthermore there haven't been any other *In Camera* sessions, and unless something magical happens that we get one of the B.C. Hydro panels back, or it happens in rebuttal, I suppose, I don't think that there's anything other than academic interest in reading the balance of this paragraph.

Paragraph number 8, I think I've covered it off by my earlier comments. The last sentence on this point on page 3, we would submit to you is also a misstatement of the situation, and I think the actual transcript of the events confirm that the exact opposite is true. I know my friend said he wrote the submission before he got the transcript. He didn't take the time to correct for that, but I think if you look at the transcript you will find the opposite is true from what he says.

Paragraph 9, I think there Mr. Andrews speaks of implications. I think that's an inappropriate word to use there. I would use "unsubstantiated speculation" as being more accurate in terms of what he engages in.

Proceeding Time 2:44 p.m. T18A

Page: 2827

Paragraph number 10, this paragraph speaks to impressions. I can only say that I think if you read the transcript to the *In Camera* session, which has been disclosed, it properly characterizes what's going on. It certainly indicates that the scope of the *In Camera* discussion was within the context of your earlier ruling on confidentiality. I just don't think his position is accurate.

The parties that are bringing forward or supporting this motion, Mr. Chairman, see what they want to see in isolating certain words of the transcript. But I think when you read the actual words, what they want to see is simply not there. I think when you read the words in context, which you have to do, there is simply nothing to support the motion.

Mr. Chairman, before I sit down I do want to make some comments on a couple of the specific arguments that were raised this morning. I think I probably effectively dealt with Mr. Andrews because I think his positions were as outlined in his argument and he followed through on them.

The same cannot be said of Mr. Wallace.

And I endorse the remarks made by Mr. Sanderson, and in fact I had meant to say at the outset we endorse the submissions he has made in their totality. But

Page: 2828

Mr. Wallace goes far beyond speaking to the issues raised in Mr. Andrews' motion. I do think it was incumbent upon him to file his own Notice of Motion if he were going to embark upon this. And if what he had said to you contained any substance, I would probably complain. However, since that is not the case, we will let his remarks stand unchallenged -- unchallenged in the sense of demanding procedural fairness.

Mr. Wallace burdened the record this morning with an extensive list of complaints regarding the procedural record to date, some of which he's already complained to you about and you've made rulings on; some of which he's complained to you about, made applications for reconsideration, and you've made rulings on; some of which he's complained about and left it at that.

As Mr. Sanderson said, this is not the forum to deal with those issues. I think my friend Mr. Wallace clearly knows what his rights are if at any stage, including at the end, he thinks he has been unfairly treated from a procedural point of view. He has remedies, he should follow them. But they are not issues going to the matter of a reasonable apprehension of bias. I'm going to submit to you, you can totally discount or disregard the submissions made

Page: 2829

to you by Mr. Wallace on these matters.

Proceeding Time 2:48 p.m. T19A

Mr. Wallace cited from the Newfoundland
Telephone case, and Mr. Sanderson spoke from it
extensively, and I don't think I need take up any more
of your time with it, other than to make two points.
The first being, if people haven't read it, they
should read it for its intrinsic humour value, because
it does show what is described charitably as the
colourful nature of the positions advanced by the
parties involved. But on a serious note, I think it
does stack up well against a comparison of this case
versus that case, and what is needed to show a
reasonable apprehension of bias in a pre-judgment
circumstance. And of note is the fact that the Court
of Appeal actually didn't disqualify Mr. Wells. So I
would just leave that at that.

I think my next remark is reserved for Mr. Weisberg. No one can doubt his undaunting effort to get his client's project repeatedly before the Commission as one that should be seriously considered and pursued. He has taken that at every opportunity to reiterate his evidence on that point. So, you know, I think he's done a remarkable job of reiterating that in the context of this process as well.

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The other thing I've got here, and it's probably not fair to say it this way, but nonetheless, it's written, so I'm going to say it. No one will ever accuse Mr. Weisberg of not having an active imagination. He lists a series of inevitable conclusions that must be drawn. The problem is, those inevitable conclusions and the things he says flow from them are pure conjecture, and they have absolutely no basis.

He also made a comment that the Green Island evidence appears to have already -- I'm not sure I got this down right, already rejected, because their options show portfolios at a fraction of the cost. And he's back into giving -- reiterating the evidence. I think that that's not a fair read of anything that occurred here. I think the discussion rather confirms that the subject matter was with respect to the narrow focus of the model, and the two points in the model that were being discussed between the panel and the witnesses. I think it's a really -a gigantic leap to get to Green Island's evidence, which I know is of most importance to him, in the context of this discussion. So I just don't think there's any casual link there that he would have you make.

Proceeding Time 2:52 p.m. T20A

Page: 2831

collaborate with Mr. Sanderson. And I say that only

Page: 2832

because his analysis and mine ended up being very similar, but it was quite independently developed.

This motion is a difficult one for the Commission Panel members to consider in that it suggests bias or prejudgment or unfairness on the part of the panel members. And in deciding the motion, you will have to consider the submissions you heard today, but you must consider them from the perspective of sort of the informed third party. And that's a very difficult task, to almost remove yourself from where you are and stand aside, and look from the perspective of a third party; an informed but disinterested bystander.

Proceeding Time 3:20 p.m. T22A

And I should say at the commencement as well that I haven't fully participated in this hearing, and therefore am not able to address the procedural concerns which were raised by Mr. Wallace and followed by others. And I'll confine my primary submissions to the allegations of bias that are set out in the motion of Mr. Andrews. But I do have a couple of comments on the arguments of Mr. Wallace and others, that do relate to the scope of the hearing, the timing of cross-examination, and other procedural issues.

In preparing for my appearance before you

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today, what I examined was the motion that was filed, Exhibit C20-35. And as I understand it, all participants were invited to submit motions by Monday I looked at my e-mail, and made enquiries, but the only one I learned of was Mr. Andrews' motion. And in that motion, Mr. Andrews refers to 10 numbered paragraphs that relate to the in camera session. allegations respecting bias all turn on the in camera session and what was said there. And it doesn't appear to me that there is any motion before you that properly raises issues of bias that are now raised by Mr. Wallace. Mr. Wallace has, in effect, put forward a list of his unhappiness respecting procedural matters. But those, as far as I can see, are not before you in form of a motion. Mr. Wallace could have filed a motion and chose not to.

And while, as I said, I haven't fully participated in the hearing, I have read some of the multitude of e-mail that has come across my computer, and skimmed some it, read some of it; I have to say I deleted some of it. But from my recollection, many, if not most, of the submissions of Mr. Wallace relating to procedural matters appear to have been dealt with earlier in the hearing, and in some cases, appear to have been dealt with more than once already. And in sort of my concluding comment on those

Page: 2834

procedural issues, I submit that applications alleging bias should not be founded on unhappiness over procedural rulings.

Turning then to what is in Mr. Andrews' motion, and when I, as I say, looked through it to try to discern what it was that was the heart of the complaint, and this is where my analysis is quite similar to that of Mr. Sanderson's, I concluded there were really two areas. There was a complaint about the *in camera* session, and there was a complaint about bias, in terms of pre-judgment.

In dealing with that first item, the in camera session, Mr. Andrews appears to be saying that -- well, he does say quite openly that he doesn't challenge the right of the Commission to have in camera sessions. But appears to be saying that the in camera session was dealing with something that shouldn't be -- have been dealt with on a confidential basis, or an in camera basis. And says that the Commission took the opportunity of that session to discuss matters which should have been dealt with in public.

Proceeding Time 3:25 p.m. T23A

I looked to see what was the subject matter of the *In Camera* session, how did it arise. And I submit that the session arose because in the public

Page: 2835

session there arose an issue about another portfolio that appeared to have a lower cost to the customers. And as I understand it, the details of that unsuccessful bid, that other portfolio, are confidential. The financial details of that are not in the record that I and Intervenors can see. That is confidential information.

And it seems to me that the only practical means for the Commission to obtain information on that other bid, to explore the issue that arose as a result of the Chair's questions, is to do exactly what they did. There was no other practical means for this Commission to explore the question of was there another bid that was more in the interests of the customers; did it have higher customer value.

And so from my submission, the request for and the fact of that In Camera session does not indicate bias or a reasonable apprehension of bias. The request for and the existence of that session demonstrates that the Commission Panel was attempting to obtain information that might be relevant to the issue of whether or not the EPA is in the public interest. That was the only practical means of obtaining that information. And so to suggest that there was something wrong or improper or that an In Camera session, what went on in it, demonstrates bias,

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I just can't see that that can be supported.

Leaving the *In Camera* nature of the session, the other sort of topic of Mr. Andrews' motion is that the words that were used in that session demonstrate in effect a pre-judgment of issues. And I must say that I simply can't support that argument, and think it wrong.

The Commission Panel had before it information which suggested that this other option which we now know as the Duke Panel duct firing option, might be more cost-effective. So the information indicated that the EPA may not be -- EPA bid that was before the Commission may not be the most cost-effective option. And in some way the supporters of the motion twist what is an appropriate examination of the relative merits of these two proposals and what is the Commission to do with the fact that there may be another option out there that is more costeffective. The supporters of the motion twist that into a conclusion that the Panel has already predetermined the results of this hearing. And how one can go that far from what was said by the Commission is really beyond me.

The Commission, I submit, was doing what it should do, and that was look into the issue of whether or not there's something else out there that may be of

greater value to the customers. And that was done in an *In Camera* session, but then the transcript was released, and so not only did the intervenors and all participants have available the question and answer that had been given in the public session between the Chair and Ms. Hemmingsen, in terms of another -- something else that maybe have greater value to customers, but the participants then had available to

them a transcript which raised this issue.

Proceeding Time 3:30 p.m. T24A

Page: 2837

And when I look at it, I don't see how that can be said to be pre-judging things. If anything, what that initial exchange in the public proceeding, and then the subsequent release of the transcript; what that does is point out to parties that there is another issue. Now, I can't disagree that this becomes complicated by the confidential nature of some of the information. But I look at it and say, what would the disinterested bystander have the Commission do? Would we have the Commission ignore the fact that there is some relevant information out there? Would we have the Commission ignore the information, and not ask the questions?

I submit that the discussion during the *in* camera session indicates that the Panel was exploring the evidence, that they started -- the discussion

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Page: 2838

starts from the point that the public proceeding left, and the Commission is asking the question of, "How do we deal with the evidence, and the fact that there is a different project out there, that may be better? How do we deal with that?" And I say, the *in camera* session does not indicate that the Commission is intending to approve the EPA. And it appears to me that the *in camera* session may do just the opposite.

The Commission session raises a question that was not on the record earlier. That question relates to the B.C. Hydro data that indicates that another project may be of greater customer value. that fact that's now before us, before everyone in this proceeding, is an issue that will have to get resolved at the end of the day. I don't know how B.C. Hydro's going to resolve that, but -- or what submissions they'll make on it, or how the Commission will deal with it, but the fact that it has been brought forward doesn't in any way indicate the predetermination of -- you're going to approve the EPA or you're going to refuse the EPA. I read that material, and I have no idea if you're going to approve the EPA I just know that there's another issue out there that people are going to have to address.

I have one other point that I wish to raise, and I again say I didn't collaborate with Mr.

Page: 2839

Sanderson, and that's the issue of necessity. The principle of necessity is discussed in terms of the legal writings on apprehension of bias, and there are some cases where, even though there has been an apprehension of bias the Court or tribunal has had to deal with it.

There's an old Saskatchewan case where the Judges were deciding on the constitutionality of whether or not judges had to pay income tax. Perhaps this panel could decide that issue as well. And obviously all of the judges had an interest in that, so there was an apprehension of bias that all of them might be biased. But there was no one else to try the case, and so whether or not they were biased was, in effect, irrelevant, because of necessity they had to address the issue — or a judge had to address the issue.

And there's really two aspects I ask you to keep in mind in terms of necessity. One is what Mr. Sanderson said, that in some circumstances an adjournment or a mistrial, as was quoted in that passage from the judge's handbook, or whatever it was, would work undue hardship. And if you were to decide to disqualify yourselves, it's my submission that that could very much work undue hardship.

Proceeding Time 3:35 p.m. T25A

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Page: 2840

There in effect is, in practical terms, there is no other panel of the Commission that can hear this EPA application in the timeframe that is required to meet the timing of this project. submit that Mr. Andrews and his supporters really have two objectives in this proceeding. The first objective is to have the Commission deny B.C. Hydro's application for approval of the EPA. And a second objective is to delay the proceedings to the extent that the Duke Point Project cannot proceed within the timelines required by that project. And if the Commission does disqualify itself, then certainly that second objective will occur. The project will be delayed and I would submit that it will not be able to meet the time limits.

The other aspect of -- other reason I raise the issue of necessity, and I have to say it's not directly on point but -- directly related to necessity but it sort of leads into this topic, is that in some circumstances where a judge or a member of a tribunal is challenged on the basis of bias, the person challenged steps aside simply to avoid a debate. It's much easier to step aside and say, let's start all over and we won't debate whether or not I'm biased; and in some proceedings perhaps that's the appropriate method of proceeding, where it's very early on in the

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Page: 2841

proceedings or before the proceedings get started and there's some sort of a challenge and it may be quite appropriate to step aside.

But this proceeding is well advanced. in the circumstances here, I submit that you should not step aside unless you clearly conclude that there is a reasonable apprehension of bias. As I said earlier, a motion for disqualification on the basis of bias is -- it's a difficult one for the members of the Panel such as yourself. There may be an inclination on your part to disqualify yourselves just to avoid debate or disqualify yourselves just if you have some slight inkling of, well, maybe there is something to the motion. But I say that that's not the appropriate test. You have to look at this -- as Mr. Quail said, bias is to be determined on an objective basis. have to step back, look at this on an objective basis, and don't determine, don't decide to disqualify yourselves just to avoid the debate or just because a number of parties have come forward.

Mr. Lewis for Gold River commented on democracy and he said it wasn't two wolves and a sheep voting on who was going to -- what they were going to have to eat. Equally well, this sort of a motion isn't how many people are on one side or another. Everyone that has made presentations to you, none of

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us can claim to be totally disinterested. All of us

Page: 2842

have a certain objective in mind, our clients have objectives in mind, and you have to in some manner overcome all of that, recognize that all of the submissions are in some way -- are not from disinterested parties, but the test that you have to look at is from the perspective of an informed, disinterested bystander. And would they say, on the basis of what's in front of them, that there is a real likelihood of bias or real apprehension of bias?

And I submit that that informed person, viewing the matter realistically and practically, and having thought the matter through, would conclude that there is no apprehension of bias in this case.

Proceeding Time 3:40 p.m. T26A

I submit that what you did in going into in camera, to look at the issues, was entirely appropriate. What was said in that in camera session followed from the camera -- from the public session; and it is quite appropriate, entirely appropriate, for this Commission to be examining an issue as to which of these options is most in the customer's interest. And you would be wrong not to do that. And in the circumstances, the only way that that could be done was through the in camera session.

Those are my submissions.

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

2 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you.

3 | THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Fulton.

4 | SUBMISSION ON NOTICE OF MOTION BY MR. FULTON:

5 MR. FULTON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can be brief in terms of my submissions.

Page: 2843

I wanted to, first of all, refer the panel to two cases. One has been spoken of already today, that's the Wewaykum Indian Band case. That case was also spoken about on December the 22nd, and I had referred to that case at transcript Volume 12, page 769, lines 19 to 24, and in the context of paragraph 76 and 77 of that case, which relate to the standard being referable to an apprehension of bias that rests on serious grounds, in light of the strong presumption of judicial impartiality, and the fact that the context and the particular circumstances are of supreme importance, and the facts must be addressed carefully in light of their entire context, there being no short-cuts.

That case has been applied now in all jurisdictions, including British Columbia. One case that wasn't referred to last December was the case of *Eckervogt v. British Columbia*, [2004] B.C.C.A. 398, and I'll pass copies of that case up to you. This was a case where a five-Judge panel of the Court of Appeal

decided that it wasn't bound by a decision of a three-member quorum of the Court, in circumstances that were quite similar, but at paragraph 6, Mr. Justice Donald, who spoke for the Court, said:

"I do not feel bound by Golden Valley..."
Which was the earlier case.

"...The majority saw the facts in that case in one way, I see the facts in this case in another. Where differences arise in an appreciation of evidence, reasonable persons may differ without one being right and the other wrong."

And then jumping forward, the issue on that appeal was whether the Board erred in not disqualifying itself on the basis of the reasonable apprehension of bias created by the involvement of a Mr. Greenwood in the hearing, and discussions leading up to the Board decisions after he had applied for, and accepted, employment with the Crown.

At paragraph 22, the Court referred to Wewaykum, and then over to paragraph 31 through to 33, and especially 33,

"The key holding was that disqualification cases are fact specific. A categorical approach, one that leads to automatic disqualification, was rejected..."

Those are the cases that I wish to refer

dispute..."

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1 to, Mr. Chairman. Proceeding Time 3:45 p.m. T27A 2 In terms of contextual matters, for the 3 most part the contextual references in the transcript 4 Volume 8 from the *In Camera* sessions that has been 5 made public, which relate to the Commission not 6 7 predetermining the results, have been referred to -in fact, all of my references to that have been 8 referred to by either Mr. Sanderson or Mr. Keough. 9 There are, however, two references from 10 Commissioner Boychuk that weren't referred to and I 11 think should be on the record, and the first is at 12 1746 over to 1747. Commissioner Boychuk is speaking 13 to Mr. Sanderson and says as follows: 14 "Just to go back to your point, Mr. 15 16 Sanderson, your argument to us would be that we approve the contract as filed and make 17 18 suggestions, am I understanding that correctly? Or are we in a position to --19 let's say we didn't accept that position, to 20 say we're entitled under the Act to not 21 enforce certain provisions." 22 And then the second reference is at page 1748 23 beginning at line 23 over the 1749, line 3: 24 "We're not to argue the legal aspects of it, 25

Page: 2846

but I just wanted to raise that because I

Page: 2847

appreciate your strong position will be what you've suggested it will be, and I'm trying to understand what our options might be, given your legal position and what this Commission has done in the past, recognizing that we're not bound by precedent."

The last area of the record that I wish to address related to something said by Mr. Quail in the course of his submissions this morning, Mr. Chairman, and it probably would be helpful if you had before you Transcript Volume 10, pages 2267 and 2268. Now if you turn to 2268 first, Mr. Quail this morning referenced the Chair's comments at lines 7 to 11 and suggested that those comments created a misleading impression.

In my submission, Mr. Chairman, that is not a reasonable conclusion to draw because the provision — or the extract that was read needs to be read with what appears beginning at page 2267, line 1, where I discuss the *In Camera* session, I say that we've reached an agreement as to what is to be deleted, and then dropping down to — I comment on the fact that Commissioner Boychuk has added back a reference to Ms. Hemmingsen. And then beginning at line 23:

" And I probably should say the areas of redaction, Mr. Chairman, so people will know the type of information that was redacted.

Page: 2848

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Andrews. Proceeding Time 3:52 p.m. T29A 2 REPLY BY MR. ANDREWS: 3 Mr. Chairman, Madam Commissioner. 4 MR. ANDREWS: My reply will roughly follow the points made by the speakers 5 opposed to the motion. The downside of that is, I 6 7 admit that it may appear to jump from point to point. In part I have to say that it puts me in something of 8 an awkward position to be replying on behalf, in a 9 sense, of other counsel who made their own submissions 10 in support of the motion. But I will endeavour to do 11 my best to do justice to their -- to reply. 12 And I will also, as I go, bear in mind what 13 I think is the proper approach to reply, which is not 14 to repeat arguments that were made in the original 15 16 submission, and I will not constantly say that because I'm not mentioning it now, I said it in my first 17 18 submission, and endorse it. I mean my submissions now 19 to be read in conjunction with all of the earlier submissions. And the same goes regarding the 20 submissions by other counsel. 21 Point number one, when I began this 22 morning, I responded to the subject raised by the 23 24 Chair earlier in the morning in which he provided evidence regarding the deliberations between the two 25

Page: 2849

members of the panel, and raised the issue of whether

Page: 2850

that affected the motion that was making. And I referred to a case without citation. I don't have a copy of it, but I can give you the citation for the record. It is B.C. (Labour Relations Board) v. C.D. Lee Trucking Ltd. It is [1998] B.C.J. No. 2776, a decision of Mr. Justice Pitfield. It was appealed unsuccessfully and that decision is at [1999] B.C.J. No. 2063. And the reason that I cited the case is the reference to the persistence of bias, the "bias virus" argument, which is at paragraph 58. And I will read it into the record, because I think it is particularly pertinent here.

This was a case, *C.D. Lee Trucking*, where the Chairman of the Labour Relations Board had taken a phone call from the president of a union which was a party in a proceeding before the L.R.B.

Proceeding Time 3:55 p.m. T30A

The president of the union attempted to persuade the chair of the board to remove the panel chair because of a perception that she was not properly taking in account the union's interests. The chair had phone calls with the panel chair and with another tribunal member who might have stepped in to replace the panel chair who the union was complaining about, and the court states:

"The conversation between the board chair

and the union official infected Ms. Junker ... " 1 She was the panel chair, 2 "...and Mr. Johnson..." 3 The possible panel chair, 4 "...with the apprehension of bias virus. 5 the absence of judicial intervention, the 6 7 bias will persist. This is particularly so given that the chair of the board is charged 8 with the responsibility for the appointment 9 of panels. While the chair may act through 10 a delegate, he ultimately remains 11 12 responsible for the decisions with respect to the appointment of panels." 13 Counsel for B.C. Hydro referred to the 14 application and the Intervenors supporting it as being 15 16 what he referred to as an attempt to bully the Panel. In my submission, the comment itself is barely worth 17 18 reply except that I think obviously it's not supported on the evidence, and secondly that it's inappropriate 19 to insinuate that the Panel would allow itself to be 20 bullied even if there was an attempt to do so. 21 22 Mr. Sanderson appears to focus heavily on the argument, as I understood it, that the questions 23 24 and answers in the *In Camera* session related only to Tier 1, and that somehow that helps his case in ways 25

which I'll respond to.

Now, I think a clear distinction has to be made here between the Tier 1 outcome, which is the DPP without duct firing project, and the EPA that's before the Panel, and the Tier 1 portfolios, of which there were five -- four consisting of a single project, one containing two projects. So when the topic is the Tier 1 outcome, there is only one project being referred to and that is DPP without duct firing.

The questions in the *In Camera* session by definition were not restricted to DPP without duct firing. They had focused on DPP with duct firing. So if you look at that in the context of the principle issue as it has been expressed, which is more costeffective, the Tier 1 outcome or Tier 2 or no award? DPP without duct -- sorry, DPP with duct firing is in the nature of a substitute Tier 2 sort of project. It wasn't one that was proposed by B.C. Hydro, but it is most definitely not the Tier 1 outcome.

So my submission is that by going into an In Camera session to deal with issues that are all about DPP with duct firing, the Commission Panel had already gone beyond the Tier 1 outcome.

Proceeding Time 4:00 p.m. T31A

If I may refer to the transcript, essentially the most that could be said is that the very first question and the first answer relate to DPP

Page: 2853

without duct firing. The answer being that -confirming that Hydro's position was that, we accept
the DPP without duct firing, troubled by the outcome,
explored it further within the rules, we'd have an
opportunity -- would we have an opportunity, we
confirmed with the independent reviewer that we
couldn't, we would be violating the selection on a
lowest-cost dollar basis. That would be the end of
it. There'd be nothing more to discuss, if it were
only the Tier 1 outcome that were under discussion.
But yet the -- that was just the introduction to the
entire session.

asked the question, but Mr. Soulsby did not answer the question. It was answered by Ms. Hemmingsen. It was a policy-level response. And Ms. Hemmingsen was not only on Panel 2, she was on Panel 4, which dealt with the cost-effectiveness analysis. And further, there are a number of instances where Ms. Hemmingsen refers to DPP with duct firing as being -- using the term -- the cost-effectiveness terminology. And I refer you to page 1751, lines 16 to 20, where Ms. Hemmingsen talks about the suggestion of overturning the Tier 1 outcome, and says,

"I mean, I would be concerned about overturning the competitive process based on

Page: 2854

the rules. I agreed that we all had a concern that it didn't produce the cost-effective -- the most cost-effective outcome in terms of what was bid in. That was a bit of a trade-off in the simplification of the model."

So it's clear that Ms. Hemmingsen's answers are by no means limited to the Tier 1 outcome, she is dealing with the big picture, and that was what the Commission asked her to comment on.

I note too that at page 1752, lines 16 and on, Mr. Sanderson notes specifically that Ms.

Hemmingsen is on Panel 4, and notes that this topic of discussion in the *in camera* session involves implicitly Panel 4 issues, which are costeffectiveness issues, and suggests that they could also be dealt with in the context of Panel 4, which confirms that the subject of the *in camera* session was not restricted to the Tier 1 outcome alone.

Mr. Sanderson also argues that the release of the transcript of the *in camera ex parte* session cures any defect that was -- or would have been caused by the session. And he -- in support of that, he says that the release of the transcript put the parties in the same position as they would have been in if the exchange had occurred in the public hearing at the end

Page: 2855

of Panel 2.

Well, I argue that that is just fundamentally incorrect. First of all, the basis for the reasonable apprehension of bias argument is not only the contents of the *in camera* session. It comes in the context of the hearing as a whole, and the decision to go into the *in camera* session, and the contents of it itself. But secondly, the transcript was not available until after the cross-examination had finished on Panel 3, and after at least my cross-examination had finished on Panel 4.

So, if as Mr. Sanderson's suggested, the exchange that had happened in the *in camera* session had occurred at the end of Panel 2 in a public forum, the intervenors would have been on their feet saying, "This is an interesting discussion, we're entitled to be part of it."

Proceeding Time 4:05 p.m. T32A

So issuing the transcript simply confirmed that there was an important issue discussed by the Panel in the absence of the parties who ought to have been there.

Mr. Sanderson also tries to draw something from what he describes as the Intervenors not objecting to the Commission Panel going into an *In Camera* session. But with respect, the Intervenors had

1 no reason to expect that the Commission Panel would do anything other than obtain confidential evidence from 2 witnesses, as it's fully entitled to do. 3 that the Intervenors would have objected based on 4 speculation is exactly what Mr. Sanderson accuses us 5 of doing in retrospect. We were not speculating. We 6 7 assumed that it would be done properly. Mr. Sanderson refers to the case of Regina 8 v. Trang, and two points in reply. First of all, no 9 one that I have heard has argued that the Commission 10 Panel has no authority to hear confidential 11 information in the appropriate circumstances. 12 So that, I think, is simply off the mark. 13 Secondly, in the context of Trang, Mr. 14 Sanderson expressed surprise at Mr. Wallace's 15 16 arguments, and I would note that in my motion itself I state specifically that the basis for my motion is 17 18 broader than reasonable apprehension of bias, and that I expect that other parties will present their own 19 reasons in support of the motion. 20 Okay, Mr. Andrews, can you repeat that 21 THE CHAIRPERSON: for me, please? 22 In my motion I state: 23 MR. ANDREWS: 24 "Please note this application is based on grounds broader than those I identified 25 orally on January 22nd..." 26

Page: 2856

Page: 2857

et cetera, with the reference.

"I anticipate that other parties may choose to support this motion for reasons of their own that may or may not coincide precisely with the reasons set out herein."

And the grounds for the motion are expressly, reasonable apprehensive of bias and denial of procedural fairness and natural justice during the hearing.

Now, if counsel had any concerns about that, he was entitled to ask for particulars and didn't. So, and I guess I would also argue that there was nothing in Mr. Wallace's submission that I heard that would take counsel by surprise. He was referring to everything that's on the record and quite properly so. In fact, Mr. Sanderson and other speakers against the motion argued that what Mr. Wallace complained of was already the subject of decisions.

Well, that, with respect, on that topic, first of all to the extent that items that he dealt with had in fact been the subject of panel decisions, does not mean that those points are not relevant to an allegation that the hearing as a whole has not been conducted in accordance with procedures of natural -- principles of natural justice and fair procedures. Indeed, that's what's supposed to happen. You're

Page: 2858

supposed to make a motion if you don't like the procedure, and if you get a decision and you get a reconsideration decision then you live with it. But that applies to the actual decision. It doesn't mean that you can't, in combination with other factors, point to that as an instance of supporting the allegation that you haven't had a fair hearing.

In addition, a number of the points raised by Mr. Wallace are the subject of the reconsideration application which is before ht Panel now and on which a decision has not been made.

Mr. Sanderson referred to the Committee for Justice and Liberty case, and he had three points that he was drawing from it, one being that there is no absolute standard. He argued that the bar is set high. I don't quarrel with that, I don't think the issue is going to be resolved by -- in the abstract, wording as to whether the bar is set high or set low.

Proceeding Time 4:10 p.m. T33A

He then talked about substantiality, and I think what that amounted to was, he was saying that on his reading of the transcript of the *in camera* session, there was nothing wrong, and I -- so I won't reply to that beyond saying -- referring you to all the arguments that have been made by the supporters of the motion

Page: 2859

To the extent that he was arguing that a disqualification for apprehension bias should be not — should not be made lightly, of course I agree. And Mr. Johnson, to jump ahead, argued that you should not disqualify yourself because of a desire to avoid debate. And I totally agree with that, and I'm not asking or suggesting that you would do that. While that may be a practical approach that's taken before a panel is assigned to a case, that is completely inappropriate by this point in a hearing.

And lastly, he referred to the nature of the decision to be made, and I'm not sure what point he's trying to make there, because the decision actually in the *Committee for Justice and Liberty* was a National Energy Board decision which is in a very similar position to the B.C. Utilities Commission in terms of the similarities and differences between it and a court.

There's been quite a bit of discussion of the Newfoundland case. First, there are helpful statements in that case to do with the law as a whole, and my submission -- the factual basis of that case is totally different than what is alleged here. That was a case involving an individual who had a prior preconceived opinion -- a personal attitude, and that there are other cases of that sort, but this is not

Page: 2860

one of them. So, to say that somehow we should -- the Panel should draw some comfort from the fact that even though Mr. Wells was found to have -- create a reasonable apprehension of bias, but Mr. Wells used colourful language which the Chair of this panel does not, that somehow that should mean that this panel is not creating a reasonable apprehension of bias -- I think that that's a straw man argument, and the case is not pertinent in terms of the facts.

Now, in that case, they also talk about the nature of the decision. And Mr. Sanderson argued, regarding paragraph 39 of the case, that the -- that a discussion of policy was appropriate. And my reply there is that certainly the topic that the Commission was raising in the *in camera* session was a very appropriate and important topic. What was totally inappropriate was that was it was happening in an *ex parte in camera* session.

And the next key point that follows here is that the allegation is that the panel, the Commission panel, did not express a fixed opinion as to how it was going to get there. It did not say, and we certainly are not alleging, that it said, "This is how we're going to do it, we're going to approve the EPA with conditions, or we're going to do this, or we're going to do that." What it said is that the

Page: 2861

Commission panel knows where it wants to go, and invited submissions from Hydro on how to get there.

It was the panel saying that it knows where it wants to go that encapsulated the -- having made up its mind. And there were two aspects of that. One is that DPP without duct firing, is not the most costeffective.

Proceeding Time 4:15 p.m. T34A

And (2) on a very different issue, is that DPP with duct firing is the optimal option for the ratepayers. Those are the two key points that the Commission expressed that it had a fixed opinion on, it knew where it wanted to go and on which it was seeking input as to how to get there.

Now, it was argued by Mr. Sanderson that for some reason this policy discussion had to be made *In Camera*, and that that was shown by the redactions which were illustrated by the unredactions afterward. In my submission, that argument is simply without merit.

The fact it's sprinkled through this discussion of an important legal and policy issue were references to DPP with duct firing, doesn't mean that the discussion had to be done ex parte and in camera. And the fact that the whole -- that the unredactions were later made illustrates that there was nothing in

Page: 2862

those references that had to be done on an ex parte in camera basis.

The Mignott, M-I-G-N-O-T-T, case was one in which the decision-maker expressed an unqualified decision about the outcome of the case. And in that case there were issues about whether it was a matter of one phrase or one sentence. Here it's not a matter of one phrase or one sentence. There are phrases and sentences that are particularly telling, but in my submission they are supported by the context of the In Camera sessions and the events that preceded it, and even without those key phrases the argument would still be substantiated.

In response -- in reply, rather, to Mr. Sanderson's response to Mr. Wallace's arguments, I've mentioned that my letter gives notice of arguments that Mr. Wallace ended up bringing. Those arguments provide a context that both stand on their own in terms of the allegation of lack of fairness, and they provide a context for the reasonable apprehension of bias argument. As I mentioned earlier, at least some of those points are the subject of an undecided reconsideration request.

Mr. Sanderson interestingly referred to a list of references to the desirability of an expedited hearing in the context of responding to Mr. Wallace.

Page: 2863

I note that Mr. Sanderson's list comes in his response argument on my reconsideration motion, which has not been decided yet, and so therefore he is essentially doing the same thing, that is going back to the arguments on previous issues, that he accused Mr. Wallace of doing.

And lastly on that whole list of Mr.

Sanderson and Mr. Wallace, Mr. Wallace's earlier application was not a reasonable apprehension of bias argument as was implied, so to the extent that Mr.

Sanderson was arguing that Mr. Wallace was bringing the same motion twice, that would not be correct. And I'm not sure if I'm characterizing Mr. Sanderson's argument accurately, but if that's what he was suggesting, that would not be correct.

Mr. Sanderson said that no one complained about the schedule, and that somehow that excuses or explains what happened at the *In Camera* session. Two points. First of all, the schedule was an order, not an invitation for submissions. And secondly, my reconsideration request argument does object to aspects of the schedule that involved curtailing cross-examination by the Intervenors.

Proceeding Time 4:20 p.m. T35A

Mr. Sanderson argued that administrative efficiency demands that the process be completed. He

Page: 2864

argued that there's a huge prejudice for the public interest if you stand down. And he appeared to argue that if you don't stand down and it goes to the Court of Appeal and is struck down there, that there's no prejudice to the public -- the public interest.

In reply, number one, B.C. Hydro has a contractual obligation to endeavour to have this EPA approved by this Commission. So it shouldn't be taken as any surprise that B.C. Hydro takes the position, quite properly, that it does, that it wants a decision by this panel. But that does undermine any suggestion that B.C. Hydro's in a position to argue to this Commission about the broader administrative efficiency aspects of your decision. Because it has no opportunity, legally, pursuant to contract, to take a contrary position even if administrative efficiency did suggest a different outcome.

And secondly, unless B.C. Hydro is saying that it will not proceed with DPP unless and until the B.C. Court of Appeal finally deals with any appeal resulting from this panel's decisions, then I submit that the Commission panel should discount counsel's argument that there is no prejudice.

Mr. Sanderson put to you an excerpt from the Ethical Principles for Judges. In brief, my reply is that I don't believe that that particularly helps

Page: 2865

the panel. The principles state -- and re-state, paraphrase, essentially, the test set out by De Grandpré in *Committee for Justice and Liberty*, and I don't think it really stands for anything more than that.

Turning to Mr. Keough's response, he began by noting that I restricted the quote from De Grandpré in Committee for Justice and Liberty to the statement of the legal test, ignoring the other aspects. The other aspects which he brought to your attention are that the approach to a reasonable apprehension of bias case must be suited to the facts of the case, with which I totally agree, and which is exactly what I did in my motion. I turned to the facts of the case rather than talking about how it was important to turn to the facts of the case.

Mr. Keough made a point about how there has to be a distinction drawn between cases involving courts and cases involving tribunals. Again, that doesn't get him very far, because the Committee for Justice and Liberty involved the National Energy Board.

He cited the Wewaykum case for a strong presumption of judicial impartiality. I don't dispute a strong presumption of judicial impartiality, and I note freely that there is an oath of office under The

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Utilities Commission Act; but, with respect, that doesn't in and of itself assist an analysis of the facts that are pertinent to this particular reasonable apprehension of bias argument.

Now, Mr. Keough, like Mr. Sanderson, tried to develop the thesis that the *in camera* session was not dealing with the most cost-effective option. And he refers to page 1741.

Proceeding Time 4:25 p.m. T36A

He referred to the transcript in the hearing prior to the Commission going into the In Camera session, and argued that the topic discussed in the public portion was the context, scope and ranking of portfolios within the CFT. And he argued that the same issue was raised in the first question of the In Camera session. And from that I believe he was asking you to conclude that that meant the entire In Camera session had to do with the ranking of the portfolios and not to do with what is the most cost-effective option, and that therefore it's impossible to read the transcript as a conclusion by the Panel that it has made a decision regarding DPP with and without duct firing. And he notes that there's no mention of a most cost-effectiveness, and I'm not sure if he was referring to just the page 1741 or the whole In Camera session. I thought he meant the whole In Camera

1 session but perhaps he did not. In any event, on page 1751, Ms. Hemmingsen 2 clearly uses the term "cost-effective" as I referred 3 to earlier. And as I said earlier as well, there 4 would be no point in the Commission discussing the 5 ranking of the portfolios, except in the context, by 6 7 this stage in the hearing, of comparing, as it did, DPP with duct firing to DPP without duct firing, which 8 is totally beyond the call for tenders in terms of its 9 relevance to this hearing. 10 Because it's your submission that DPP 11 THE CHAIRPERSON: with duct firing is a Tier 2 project? 12 Well, I have never understood and I don't 13 MR. ANDREWS: think that Hydro has ever clearly defined what it 14 means by a Tier 2 project. But the Tier 1 projects as 15 I understand them really should be saying portfolios, 16 of which there are five, and one of them is the Tier 1 17 18 outcome. And projects that were bid into the CFT were chosen by Hydro to be in Tier 2, and essentially the 19 whole discussion in the In Camera session was should 20 DPP with duct firing be another project that is 21 compared to the Tier 1 outcome? 22 THE CHAIRPERSON: In your view is DPP with duct firing a 23 Tier 2 portfolio? 24 Well, Hydro has defined what is a Tier 2 25 MR. ANDREWS: 26 portfolio, and the Commission made a ruling on whether

Page: 2867

1 that is a fixed definition which is subject to challenge. So whether it's -- my answer would be, it 2 is apparently being treated by the Panel as like a 3 Tier 2 portfolio in the sense that it appears to be 4 treated as an option in substitution for DPP without 5 duct firing. And if that's the definition of Tier 2, 6 7 then it would meet that definition. And that is the key issue, because once 8 we're talking about comparing the Tier 1 outcome, DPP 9 without duct firing, to anything else, we're talking a 10 comparison of a lot of different projects, not just 11 DPP with duct firing. And the Panel having concluded 12 that the customer's best interests are served by DPP 13 with duct firing, forecloses all the coming evidence 14 to do with other projects that people submit will meet 15 16 the customer's best interests. Mr. -- should I continue? 17 THE CHAIRPERSON: Yes. 18 MR. ANDREWS: Mr. Keough refers in particular to line 25 19 of page 1741 and he points to it as showing some 20 degree of uncertainty or hypothetical characteristic. 21 22 This is where the Chair says, "And I thought your answer would be just 23 what it is, but for the rules of the CFT, 24

Page: 2868

firing...I don't know enough about this yet,

would have chosen Pristine with duct

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Page: 2869

but it may be that the coincidence that both portfolios are the same proponent is helpful in moving us to the outcome that's in the customer's best interest.

So you know now what I want to do. I need your help in telling me how I can get there."

And Mr. Sanderson referred to that as well, I think, in terms of whether the transcript ought to have put a new paragraph in there

Proceeding Time 4:30 p.m. T37A

In my submission, the sentence about it being a coincidence that both portfolios are the same proponent is indeed in the -- in an uncertain tense. It may be, but the uncertain tense applies to the issue which is one that hasn't been discussed so far, which is that DPP with and without duct firing are both by the same proponent, and observing that DPP with duct firing is in some way more cost-effective than DPP without duct firing doesn't answer whether the competitor to DPP with duct firing would be more or less expensive than DPP with duct firing. And my submission is that it was that issue that the panel was addressing when it expressed the uncertainty. The part that is certain is where I want -- what I want to try to do.

The *Thompson* and the *Chiropractors* decision, my submission, adds nothing of particular importance.

Mr. Keough's response to Mr. Wallace's arguments was essentially null -- that is, he didn't respond to the merits of Mr. Wallace's arguments. Mr Keough did say that he was -- he noted that the Federal Court of Appeal did not disqualify the colourful Mr. Wells, but that is a bit of a dead-end argument, because the Supreme Court of Canada did.

In his itemized response to the points in my motion, Mr. Keough said that, regarding paragraph 1 in my motion, the discussion in camera was a non-winning bidder discussion, and was therefore appropriate. My reply is, it was appropriate for that discussion to happen in the context of all of the parties, that the -- that there was no confidential information being sought by the panel beyond the very first question to confirm what it had actually already -- had received. From then on, his comments are largely to simply deny that there are facts to support what he calls the unsubstantiated speculation, and I simply refer you to the arguments that have been made in the original motion and in support of it.

Regarding my point number 7, point number 7 is to do with that the Panel, rather than bringing its

Page: 2871

findings to the attention of the parties other than B.C. Hydro, the Commission Panel in the *in camera* session proposed one or more additional *ex parte in camera* exchanges of information. Mr. Keough's response was that that was dealt with by the fact that the issue would be put on the transcript, but in point of fact, it was not put on the transcript -- I mean, the transcript of the *in camera* session was released, but the Panel did not raise, for the parties' attention, the issue that was discussed in the *in camera* session.

Proceeding Time 4:35 p.m. T38A

The Panel came back from the *In Camera* session and did not raise at the first available opportunity the issues that were discussed in the *In Camera* session.

Mr. Keough's response to Mr. Weisberg's submission is essentially to deny that there's merit to Mr. Weisberg's statements, saying that they're conjectural. I would refer you to the transcript references that Mr. Weisberg provided in support of his submissions. And again, Mr. Keough says that Mr. Weisberg's characterization of the GIE evidence is in some way not accurate or not helpful, and I would refer you back to the transcript references that Mr. Weisberg provided.

Page: 2872

Mr. Johnson's submissions, I can say in reply I certainly agree that the Commission Panel has a difficult task. It has to make a decision from the perspective of a third party, a reasonable person. He — I guess I'll deal with that when it comes up. He commented on Mr. Wallace's arguments that they're not before you in the form of a motion, and I would reply that that is addressed in my letter, Exhibit C20-35, paragraph 3.

He says that an application regarding bias should not be founded on unhappiness with procedural rulings. Obviously I would agree with that statement. Mr. Wallace's submissions go far beyond unhappiness with procedural rulings, and I won't repeat his arguments.

Now, Mr. Johnson correctly noted that I don't challenge that the Commission has the authority to receive in camera evidence. I would also note that he referred to in camera throughout, and of course the issue involves not only in camera but in camera ex parte hearings, which goes to one of Mr. Wallace's main points. And then Mr. Johnson said that he turned his mind to the subject of the In Camera meeting and looked at -- in the public session it was said that another portfolio appeared to have a lowest cost to customers, and that the financial details of that

Page: 2873

would be confidential. And then he goes on to argue that the only practical way to obtain information on that bid was through in camera ex parte.

I don't disagree that to the extent that the Commission needed additional information about the DPP with duct firing bid itself, it would have to do that in camera according to the procedures that it has adopted. But the point is that it didn't have to have an in camera ex parte meeting to discuss the jurisdictional and legal implications, and it didn't have to come to any conclusion about a DPP with duct firing being in the customer's best interests.

So Mr. Johnson's -- the second part of his sentence went on to say the only -- well, he said the only practical way was to do the *In Camera* session to get information on the bid, which I've agreed with, or to explore the issues that arose. That's where I disagree. That the so-called exploration of the issues that arose is what was improper.

Mr. Johnson said that he disagreed with the conclusion that the transcript indicates that the Panel had reached a pre-judgment. He said that the Panel had information that DPP without duct firing was not the most cost-effective option, and with that I agree. That panel had that information, and is in fact the appropriate measure -- cost-effectiveness

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Page: 2874

being different than being the successful bidder in the CFT process.

Proceeding Time 4:40 p.m. T39A

He argued that what he called an appropriate examination of the relative merits of two projects was twisted into a conclusion that the panel has pre-judged the outcome of the hearing. I disagree. I don't think there's any question that the two decisions had been formed, and that's evident from the transcript, as I've said. The first that DPP without duct firing is not the most cost-effective project, yet was still the winner of the CFT, and secondly that DPP with duct firing is optimal. says that this information points out that there's another issue, and that the Commission should examine it, and my reply is simply that the Commission in the in camera hearing suggested examining it further, but through further ex parte in camera meetings, and after there had been evidence heard, and cross-examination completed.

He says that the -- that it -- that the circumstances don't prove that the Commission is intending to approve the EPA. I agree. That's where the Commission says, help me to find how to do it. And he again talks about another project to be considered. And again, that's right. That was the

Page: 2875

whole point of the *in camera* discussion, was comparing two projects; one of them being the CFT winner, and my submission is that once you start comparing that to one other project, you need to compare it to all the other projects that are within the terms of reference.

Mr. Johnson makes an argument of necessity in relation to reasonable apprehension of bias. I would distinguish the Saskatchewan Judges' income tax ruling case on the facts. It is not the case, at least there is no evidence before this panel, that there is no other conceptual way that the Commission, the Utilities Commission under the Act could strike a panel to hear — to review a filing under Section 71.

He argued that an adjournment or a mistrial would work undue hardship, and said that me and GSX CCC have two objectives, the second being to delay the project and kill it. I take offense at that. I think that GSX CCC has participated in this hearing in good faith, and has done everything it can to comply with the accelerated time frame, and, you know, has made its objections in the proper way, and there's no evidence, furthermore, that a ruling on the reasonable apprehension of bias would have a definitive effect on the project. It's a matter of speculation, and concern, but there's no evidence on that.

Mr. Johnson responded to Mr. Lewis, saying

Page: 2876

that it's not a matter of how many people are on one side or another. In reply, I think Mr. Lewis's point went to the importance of the integrity of the Commission panel in the public process, in the public eye. And that that has to be weighed, that the -- in terms of any potential prejudice that might be caused by a delay in a project, whichever project that is has to be weighed against the prejudicial effect on public confidence in the regulatory system if a panel that is subject to reasonable apprehension of bias does not choose to step down.

Proceeding Time 4:45 p.m. T40A

And Mr. Johnson referred to the test which you ought to apply and it is a good point to frame it in that way. He said that you should step aside unless you clearly conclude that there is a reasonable apprehension of bias. I don't strongly disagree with that qualifier clearly. In my view probably a better way to phrase it is that the test, the appropriate test, is that of correctness.

Proceeding Time 4:46 p.m. T41A

That is you must find as a matter of mixed law and fact whether the motion is correct that there is a reasonable apprehension of bias or violation of natural justice and procedural fairness.

He concluded by saying that it's quite

Page: 2877

appropriate for the panel to examine which option is in the public interest and it would be inappropriate not to. I say I entirely agree if that discussion is happening in public and that it is entirely inappropriate for that discussion to be happening exparte in camera.

Mr. Fulton referred to the Wewaykum case and noted among other things that the context and circumstances are of supreme importance in a reasonable apprehension of bias case, have to be looked at in detail. I endorse that and would ask that the Panel bear in mind the importance of developing a record when it makes its decision. That it keep in mind the importance of full written reasons or oral reasons that will be transcribed so that the record of the decision-making process is complete.

And similarly Mr. Fulton cited the Eckervogt case. In paragraph 47, and I won't read it, there is again a reference of the importance of a record being established and, of course, these reasonable apprehension of bias cases are fact specific. Eckervogt, on its own facts, is a different basis of bias than this one.

Mr. Chairman, Madam Commissioner, that concludes my submission unless you have any questions.

26 THE CHAIRPERSON: No.

That concludes the hearing of Mr. Andrews' 1 notice of motion. That brings us -- Mr. Andrews, my 2 next question will be to you. That brings us to 3 4 tomorrow. The Panel will adjourn and reserve at least 5 until tomorrow morning. If we proceed tomorrow, that 6 7 is we dismiss your application, in the event that we dismiss your notice of motion and your application, 8 will your panel be ready to proceed? MR. ANDREWS: Yes it will. 10 Thank you. I think that also means, 11 THE CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Sanderson, that we'll be calling your rebuttal 12 panel tomorrow as well. 13 MR. SANDERSON: Mr. Chairman, similarly, my rebuttal 14 panel will be ready to proceed. 15 The one thing that I did wonder as I 16 watched the clock move on today is whether the 17 18 Commission wanted the morning in order to further 19 consider what it's heard today. If it does, I haven't canvassed this with Mr. Fulton, but I would think 20 certainly if the Commission does determine to proceed, 21 Thursday afternoon and Friday should certainly be 22 sufficient to deal with the evidence, unless Mr. 23 24 Fulton knows more about what's in store for the rebuttal panel than I do. 25

Page: 2878

Proceeding Time 4:50 p.m. T42A

1 In other words, I don't think that the cross-examination of GSX CCC, should they proceed, 2 will be lengthy, and I don't of course knows what's in 3 store for rebuttal. But we're sort of throwing out 4 there the notion that commencing tomorrow in the 5 afternoon may be a possibility, if that makes it 6 7 easier for the Commission to deal with what it has on its plate. 8 THE CHAIRPERSON: That is an attractive offer or 9 suggestion. 10 Mr. Fulton? 11 It find it appealing as well, Mr. Chairman. 12 MR. FULTON: 13 I just wanted to say that the only party that's indicated that they wish to make a presentation 14 is the Village of Gold River, and so I would 15 16 anticipate that that would not take very much time. I'll canvass with the people at the end of the day 17 18 today who has cross-examination for Gold River. 19 haven't seen their statement yet, so that that may well determine how long people are going to be with 20 cross-examining Gold River, although I wouldn't expect 21 22 it to be a long time in any event. 23 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. Are there any other matters until we 24 25 adjourn? Mr. Keough. 26 MR. KEOUGH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a

Page: 2879

1 filing. It was filed electronically yesterday and we move on to file it in the hearing room. And this is 2 the Duke Point Power Limited Partnership responses to 3 undertakings, and they're bundled together in one 4 They were numbered with exhibit numbers, but 5 package. Mr. Fulton advises me I got it wrong, and the exhibit 6 7 number for the package should be C17-20 and it's just a three-page attachment to a brief cover letter with 8 those attached. THE HEARING OFFICER: Marked C17-20. 10 (DUKE POINT POWER LIMITED PARTNERSHIP RESPONSES TO 11 UNDERTAKINGS, MARKED AS EXHIBIT C17-20) 12 13 MR. KEOUGH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. 14 While we're on the subject of exhibits, Mr. 15 MR. FULTON: 16 Chairman, there is one correction on the transcript. Sorry, while we're on the subject of exhibits, there 17 18 is one correction to the transcript. At transcript 19 2543 there's a reference to Exhibit 9-20. That should 20 be Exhibit C9-20. (EXHIBIT 9-20 REMARKED AS EXHIBIT C9-20) 21 Mr. Chairman, just before Mr. Andrews 22 MR. SANDERSON: finished his reply, I obtained a dispensation from Ms. 23 24 Cane. She has been diligently preparing all of the outstanding responses we'd undertaken to have today. 25

Page: 2880

They are there. We could do it tonight. On the other

1	hand, there is no need that I can see to do it
2	tonight.
3	So if you'd prefer, rather than my going
4	through all that paper according to the script she's
5	developed, that I do that tomorrow, I'm happy to do
6	whichever you prefer.
7	THE CHAIRPERSON: I think tomorrow is preferable.
8	Is there anything else before we adjourn?
9	We are adjourned until tomorrow at 1:30.
10	(PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED AT 4:53 P.M.)
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Page: 2881