



Just and Reasonable

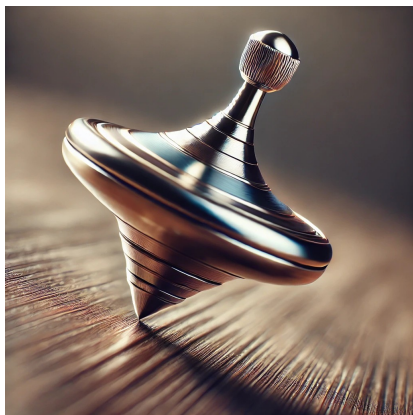
Promoting good governance in BC's energy sector

Welcome to the first Just and Reasonable newsletter of spring.

As always, please forward this email to anyone you think might find it interesting. It's free, there's no advertising, and the email list will not be shared. Click [here to sign up](#).

"The Editor"

Feature articles



How much will BC Hydro bills really go up on April 1?

The claim that BC Hydro bills will increase by an "average" of 3.75 percent contains enough spin to make you dizzy. In fact, almost 80 percent of BC Hydro residential customers may experience bill increases higher than 3.75 percent on April 1. Low-income customers may fare the worst.

[Read the article](#)



Was the BC government's recent Order to the BCUC legal?

The Utilities Commission Act prevents the government from overriding a BCUC decision. It may have done just that.

[Read the article](#)

In other news

The BCUC Utilities Commission (BCUC) [approved](#) BC Hydro's rates application for the next two years without a hearing. The BCUC had been [ordered](#) by the BC government to approve the rates.

The BC government has [announced](#) it will scrap the provincial Carbon Tax on April 1; previously it had only confirmed that it would not raise the tax on that date. Consumers will save about 17 cents a litre on gasoline purchases. There is still no word on how BC will recoup the lost \$1.5B in revenue that the carbon tax was expected to generate in the coming fiscal year.

Business in Vancouver [reports](#) that BC is no longer the Canadian leader in electric vehicle (EV) sales, a spot ceded to Quebec. Analysis suggests that "flat-lining" EV sales could be partly due to market saturation, but that increased incentives could still increase sales.

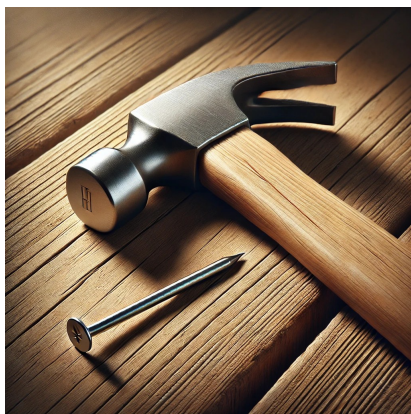
The CBC [reports](#) that at least seven "large-scale hydrogen projects" in BC are being cancelled or paused. Challenges include the cost of electricity supply and transportation safety issues.

Cedar LNG [announced](#) it is to receive \$200 million in funding from the federal government. The floating facility, near Kitimat, BC, is expected to be in service by late 2028.

88 percent of Canadians rate oil and gas as "highly important" to Canada's current economy, an all time high since tracking began in 2020, according to a [public opinion survey](#) conducted by the University of Ottawa's Positive Energy program and Nanos Research.

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Recent articles



BC government hammers another nail in the coffin of BCUC independence

In bypassing the regulator, the government has set rates for BC Hydro that are probably too low. This will create big problems down the road, just like it did last time.

[Read the article](#)

BCUC improves regulation of



BC's thermal energy systems

The BC Utilities Commission has deregulated many thermal energy systems and strengthened consumer protection. It could have gone a bit further, though.

[Read the article](#)



BC Hydro's plans to keep bill increases low are under pressure

BC Hydro's third-quarter financial results are out. The promise of limiting bill increases to 2.3 percent for the next four years is looking distinctly shaky.

[Read the article](#)

Events



PACIFIC ENERGY INNOVATION ASSOCIATION

PEIA Energy Breakfast Meeting

The Pacific Energy Innovation Association will hold a breakfast meeting at 7:30 am on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. The subject is "The R&D of energy: resilience and diversity."



CAMPUT Annual Conference

The Canadian Association of Members of Public Utility Tribunals, CAMPUT, will hold its annual conference from May 4 to 7, 2025, in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

[See all upcoming](#)

Diversion

To welcome in the spring, here's the Apple Blossom cocktail. It's also a good way to use up the Calvados that's been lurking in the back of the drinks cabinet.

Ingredients:

- 2 shots Calvados
- 1 shot sweet vermouth
- 2 dashes orange bitters

Instructions:

1. Stir ingredients with ice
2. Strain into a chilled glass
3. Garnish with a thin slice of fresh apple

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