



July 30, 2026

The Honourable Adrian Dix, MLA
Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Sent via email: ECS.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Dix,

The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) is the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) area association representing the interests of local governments and member First Nations in the British Columbia region of Vancouver Island, qathet, the Sunshine Coast, Central Coast, and North Coast.

In 2025 and 2026 AVICC member local government representatives endorsed resolutions calling for provincial action to improve energy security in northern Vancouver Island. The resolutions and supporting background information are included for your review and consideration:

- **2025-R3 – Power Supply Investment North Island; and**
- **2026-R1 – Energy Certainty to Support Long-Term Economic Development and Resource Sector Modernization**

Vancouver Island and coastal communities, especially on northern Vancouver Island, face growing energy constraints that limit economic development, industrial modernization, electrification, and investment. Their reliance on electricity generated outside the region and delivered through long-distance and subsea infrastructure creates vulnerabilities related to outages, transmission limits, and peak-demand capacity.

Progress in provincial electrification, industrial decarbonization, transportation electrification, building conversions, and population growth are increasing electricity demand. Although renewable energy projects are advancing, many require long planning, permitting, and construction timelines. Communities are already reporting delayed or cancelled investments due to insufficient power, affecting resource sector modernization, value-added processing, and industrial development.

P.O. Box 28058, Victoria, BC V9B 6K8
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Representing Local Government on Vancouver Island, qathet, Sunshine, North and Central Coasts

The resolutions recognize that energy security is required to ensure the north island has a diverse and resilient economy. Long-term energy certainty requires coordinated planning amongst the Province, BC Hydro, FortisBC, the British Columbia Utilities Commission, local governments, First Nations, and industry. AVICC members believe energy planning and implementation must account for regional economic needs, grid reliability, and the timing required to align electrification goals with infrastructure. Members also support interim energy solutions while Indigenous-led renewable projects advance.

We kindly request your feedback on this matter, including any actions the Province is undertaking to address regional energy capacity constraints to support long-term energy certainty for Vancouver Island communities.

If you have any questions, or require further information, please contact Theresa Dennison, AVICC Executive Director, at 236-237-1202 or tdennison@avicc.ca.

Sincerely,



Vanessa Craig
AVICC President
Director, RD Nanaimo, Area B (Gabriola, Mudge, and DeCourcy Islands)

cc: Mayor Kermit Dahl, City of Campbell River, Mayor.Dahl@campbellriver.ca
Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt, District of Port Hardy, pcorbett-labatt@porthardy.ca
Elle Brovold, City Manager – City of Campbell River, Elle.Brovold@campbellriver.ca
Heather Nelson-Smith, CAO – District of Port Hardy, hnelson.smith@porthardy.ca
Hon. Brittny Anderson, Minister of State for Local Gov & Rural Communities,
MSP.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Attachments:

2025-R3_District of Port Hardy_Power Supply Investment North Island.pdf

2026-R1_City of Campbell River_Energy Certainty to Support Long-Term Economic Development and Resource Sector Modernization.pdf



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