# BCUC approves final rural electricity rates for Nelson Hydro customers

**Nelson, BC** (July 8, 2026) — The British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) has approved the electricity rates for Nelson Hydro's rural customers for 2026 and 2027.

The approved increases are 15.98% in 2026 and 1.95% in 2027.

These rates have been in effect on an interim basis since January 1, 2026; since the approved rates did not change, customers will not see any adjustments or credits on their bills.

The 2026 increase is largely the result of a province-wide BCUC review that updated how financing costs are calculated for smaller utilities like Nelson Hydro. Because that review took several years to complete, some costs were temporarily deferred. With the review now complete, those deferred costs are being recovered through the approved 2026 rates.

The 2027 increase reflects the ongoing cost of providing electricity to rural customers. This includes buying power, maintaining and replacing aging electrical infrastructure, and continuing to provide safe and reliable service. Nelson Hydro rates continue to be competitive compared to neighbouring utility providers.

Providing multi-year rate approvals gives customers greater certainty about future electricity costs while reducing the time and expense of annual regulatory applications. Multi-year rate plans also help Nelson Hydro plan infrastructure investments and maintain reliable service more efficiently.

The BCUC regulates electricity rates for Nelson Hydro customers who live outside Nelson city limits. Rates for customers within the City of Nelson are approved by Nelson City Council, which are currently decided on an annual basis.

For more information, visit https://www.nelson.ca/931/How-Rates-are-Set