



February 7, 2025

File No. 1-70-23

Premier David Eby  
PO Box 9041 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

Dear Premier Eby:

**Re:** Notice of Delegation arriving at Legislature February 19, 2025

We appreciate the efforts of the provincial government to provide a strong response to the tariff threats from the United States. Your leadership and strong focus on protecting the BC economy is vitally important to see us through the next four years.

In Williams Lake, our focus has been on the "Team Canada" approach and what we can do locally to ensure that we are resilient as possible. These tariff threats are an extremely damaging prospect to a resource-based economy like Williams Lake. We are taking this seriously and are focused on finding a solution.

We must again urge you to consider the Atlantic Power Williams Lake Power Plant and the vital role it will play in keeping our province protected from these threats. The City of Williams Lake has made every effort to keep this issue a focus in Victoria. We have mere weeks to find a solution, or we can expect layoff notices in March.

There is a simple solution here. BC Hydro must come to the table with Atlantic Power to discuss the solutions that have been presented. My understanding is that a few more cents per KWh produced will provide the cushion needed to remain viable while the fiber solutions are found.

In 2024, BC Hydro imported 13,600 gigawatt hours of electricity, at a cost of nearly \$1.4 billion. It is inconceivable that an operating power plant in this province will close down and get stripped for parts when we all know BC is relying on purchasing power from Washington State. We believe that the citizens of British Columbia will agree with us that this is absolutely unacceptable.

Council is committed to coordinating a delegation of Council members, staff, First Nations representatives, local government, union representatives and business leaders to come to Victoria on February 19 to ensure that the voices from the Cariboo region are being heard. We have done everything in our power to help find a solution, and if we must fight for the Williams Lake Power Plant on the steps of the Legislature, this is what we are prepared to do. This facility is critical to our community.

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Council has cancelled its next Committee of Whole Council meeting on February 11 to be available for your government to attend virtually and confirm a concrete plan to keep the plant open.

Should we not hear from your office that BC Hydro is committed to working with Atlantic Power to find a path forward on or before February 12, you can expect to see myself and the large delegation that we are assembling on the steps of the Legislature on February 19.

I can be reached any time at 250.392.0909 or via email at [mayor@williamslake.ca](mailto:mayor@williamslake.ca).

Yours sincerely,



Mayor Surinderpal Rathor

- c: Hon. Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions
- Hon. Diana Gibson, Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation
- Hon. Tamara Davidson, Minister of Environment and Parks
- Hon. Ravi Parmar, Minister of Forests
- Deputy Minister Fazil Mihar, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation
- Asst. Deputy Minister Tim Lesiuk, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation
- MP Todd Doherty, Cariboo North
- MLA Lorne Doerkson, Cariboo Chilcotin
- Chief Willie Sellars and Council, Williams Lake First Nation
- Chief Rhonda Phillips and Council, Xat'sull First Nation
- Chair Joe Alphonse, Chiefs and Council, Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Chair Margo Wagner and Directors, Cariboo Regional District
- President Paul French and Directors, Williams Lake Chamber of Commerce