



Invitation to Comment on BC Ferries' Proposal for Electrification of Six Island Class Vessels

The British Columbia Ferry Commission, the independent regulator of British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. ("BC Ferries"), is inviting public comments on BC Ferries' proposed Island Class Electrification Program ("ICEP"). BC Ferries proposes to upgrade its six existing Island class vessels to enable operation in battery-electric mode exclusively. Upgrades to enable rapid charging will be made at up to nine terminals on the routes connecting Powell River and Texada Island (route 18 - one vessel), Nanaimo Harbour and Gabriola Island (route 19 - two vessels), Campbell River and Quadra Island (route 23 - two vessels) and Port McNeill with Malcolm Island and Cormorant Island (route 25 - one vessel).

BC Ferries has submitted an application pursuant to Section 55(2) of the Coastal Ferry Act ("Act") seeking the commissioner's approval of the ICEP major capital expenditures. In considering the public interest, the commissioner may approve a major capital expenditure if the proposed major capital expenditure is:

- a) reasonable,
- b) prudent, and
- c) consistent with
 - (i) the current Coastal Ferry Services Contract, and
 - (ii) any long term capital plan established by the ferry operator

BC Ferries' application is available at <https://www.bcferrycommission.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/ICEP-s55-application-website-2021-05-28.pdf>

Comments or submissions can be sent by email to: info@bcferrycommission.com or by mail to:

BC Ferry Commission
PO Box 9279 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J7

The deadline for public comments or submissions is June 30, 2021. Comments or submissions received may, at the sole discretion of the commissioner, be published on its website.