



November 11th, 2021

BY E-MAIL

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Subject: Access to information request DAI-2021-0293

Good day.

We are writing in response to your request for access to information received on October 12th, 2021, in which you have requested the following:

“... Please provide any analysis or reports that examine what would need to happen with the province's electricity system if:

- consumers in the province switched to electric vehicles instead of diesel/gas-powered; and/or*
- if natural gas was phased out in the province as a fuel for heating and consumers used electric heat instead*

(Changes would include: new generation capacity required transmission/distribution system upgrades, other requirements, the cost for the changes, etc.)..”

In response to the first part of your request, we do not have any documents describing what would need to happen to the electricity system in the event of an “overnight” conversion of the entire internal combustion vehicle fleet to electric vehicles. This is outlined in section 1 of the *Act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information* attached; however, Hydro-Québec publishes every three years an Electricity Supply Plan providing its load forecasts and supply for the Quebec market over a ten-year period. Hydro-Québec updates annually its load forecast to include the impact of the increased penetration of electric vehicles on the energy and capacity requirements. The impacts of the electrification of transportation and the conversion of buildings are also included in the forecast available on the *Régie de l'énergie's* Website¹: The Plan is reviewed annually² by the *Régie de l'énergie* and the documents are public and available through the *Régie de l'énergie's* Website³

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¹ <http://publicsdc.regie-energie.qc.ca/projects/529/DocPrj/R-4110-2019-B-0005-Demande-Piccc-2019-11-01.pdf>; (only available in French) and press release: <http://news.hydroquebec.com/en/press-releases/1775/electricity-demand-growth-on-the-rise-in-quebec/>

² http://www.regie-energie.qc.ca/audiences/Suivis/Suivi%20HOD_PlanAppro2020-2029/%C3%89tat%20d'avancement%202021.pdf (only available in French)

³ http://publicsdc.regie-energie.qc.ca/_layouts/publicsite/ProjectPhaseDetail.aspx?ProjectID=529&phase=1&Provenance=B&generate=true (only available in French)

Also, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) drafted a report with ICF titled Grid Readiness which looks at the impact of vehicle electrification on the Canadian provinces' electrical grid. The executive summary of this report is available online⁴ and you can request a copy of the official report on the NRCan website⁵.

Regarding the second part of your request, in addition to the information above concerning the Electricity Supply Plan which also applies, we do not have documents outlining to such a conversion that would see natural gas used for heating phased out and replaced by electric heat instead. This is outlined in section 1 of the *Act respecting access to documents held by public bodies and the protection of personal information* attached. However, please find enclosed a link to a regulatory filing submitted to the *Régie de l'énergie*⁶ in case R-4169-2021 regarding the conversion of natural gas heating systems to **dual fuel** systems primarily using electricity during cold weather periods for our residential and commercial-institutional clients. As the proceedings are ongoing, additional documents will be made available online through the *Régie de l'énergie's* Website⁷.

An application for review of this decision may be submitted to the Commission d'accès à l'information. A note outlining the process is enclosed.

Yours truly,

Person in charge of access to documents and protection of personal information

Isabelle Morier for Karine Charest

Encl.

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https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/sites/www.nrcan.gc.ca/files/Executive%20Summary%20ICF_English.pdf

⁵ <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy-efficiency/transportation-alternative-fuels/resource-library/3489>

⁶ http://publicsde.regie-energie.qc.ca/projets/597/DocPrj/R-4169-2021-B-0005-Demande-Picce-2021_09_16.pdf (only available in French)

⁷ http://publicsde.regie-energie.qc.ca/_layouts/publicsite/ProjectPhaseDetail.aspx?ProjectID=597&phase=1&Provenance=B&generate=true (only available in French)