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December 24, 2013

Via Email
Original via Mail

British Columbia Utilities Commission
6th Floor, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC
V6Z 2N3

Attention: Ms. Erica M. Hamilton, Commission Secretary

Dear Ms. Hamilton:

Re: FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI)

**Application for Approval of a Multi-Year Performance Based Ratemaking (PBR)
Plan for 2014 through 2018 (the Application)**

Reply Submission regarding EEC Funding

In accordance with the regulatory timetable set out in Commission Letter dated December 18, 2013, Exhibit A-17, FEI, FortisBC (Vancouver Island) Inc. and FortisBC (Whistler) Inc. (together the FEU) are filing these comments in reply to intervenor submissions on the FEU's EEC funding request.

As the intervenor submissions are in support of the FEU's request, the FEU reply only to the BCPSO's request for confirmation that:

- The \$15 million will be used to fund existing programs at approximately existing levels (i.e., there will not be significant changes to the funding levels of specific programs within FEI's EEC program portfolio); and
- The \$15 million will cover a period approximately equivalent to 45% of 2014 (i.e., a period of time proportionate to the percentage of advance funding sought.

As indicated in the FEU's EEC funding request (Exhibit B-30):

“The FEU believe that approximately 50% of the proposed 2014 expenditures [for existing programs] outlined in Table 1 above and in more detail in Appendix B, or \$15 million, will sustain the previously approved programs until the Commission issues its Decision on the PBR Application. As noted in the FEU’s responses to IRs, the FEU tend to experience more spending in the latter half of the year. For this reason, the FEU believe that \$15 million will be sufficient to continue its existing programs even if the Commission’s Decision is delayed beyond mid-2014.”

The FEU are proposing to continue existing EEC activity at levels currently being undertaken; however, actual expenditure is dependent on customer uptake of the EEC programs. As the FEU tend to experience more spending in the latter half of the year, the FEU believe that the requested level of funding will sustain the existing programs until a Decision is reached in this proceeding, the timing of which is not certain.

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

Original signed:

Diane Roy

cc (e-mail only): Registered Parties