

Diane Roy

Director, Regulatory Services

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September 1, 2015

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 or the Company) – Fort Nelson Service Area

Gas Cost Reconciliation Account (GCRA), Gas Cost Recovery Rates,

2015 Third Quarter Gas Cost Report

The attached materials provide the FEI 2015 Third Quarter Gas Cost Report for the Fort Nelson Service Area (Fort Nelson) as required under British Columbia Utilities Commission (the Commission) guidelines.

Based on the five-day average of the August 12, 13, 14, 17, and 18, 2015 forward prices for natural gas (five-day average forward prices ending August 18, 2015), the September 30, 2015 GCRA deferral balance is projected to be approximately \$238.6 thousand surplus after tax (Tab 1, Page 2, Column 2, Line 28). Further, based on the five-day average forward prices ending August 18, 2015, the gas purchase cost assumptions, and the forecast gas cost recoveries at present rates for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2016, and accounting for the projected September 30, 2015 deferral balance, the GCRA ratio is calculated to be 123.7% (Tab 1, Page 1, Column 3, Line 10), which falls outside the 95% to 105% deadband. The tested rate decrease that would produce a 100 percent commodity recovery-to-cost ratio is calculated to be \$0.493/GJ (Tab 1, Page 1, Column 5, Line 30), which falls within the \$0.50/GJ rate change threshold. The results of the two-criteria rate adjustment mechanism indicate that a rate change is not required at this time.

A summary of the forward prices is provided on Tab 1, Page 4, and a summary of the recorded and forecast monthly GCRA balances is provided on Tab 1, Page 5.



Provided in Tab 2 are the details of the forecast gas costs for Fort Nelson. The Company requests the information contained in Tab 2 be treated as CONFIDENTIAL.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Consistent with past practice and previous discussions and positions on the confidentiality of selected filings (and further emphasized in the Company's January 31, 1994 submission to the Commission) FEI is requesting that this information be filed on a confidential basis pursuant to Section 71(5) of the *Utilities Commission Act* and requests that the Commission exercise its discretion under Section 6.0 of the Rules for Natural Gas Energy Supply Contracts and allow these documents to remain confidential. FEI believes this will ensure that market sensitive information is protected, and FEI's ability to obtain favourable commercial terms for future gas contracting is not impaired.

In this regard, FEI further believes that the Core Market could be disadvantaged and may well shoulder incremental costs if utility gas supply procurement strategies as well as contracts are treated in a different manner than those of other gas purchasers, and believes that since it continues to operate within a competitive environment, there is no necessity for public disclosure and risk prejudice or influence in the negotiations or renegotiation of subsequent contracts.

SUMMARY

The Company requests approval for the gas cost recovery rates for Fort Nelson to remain unchanged at October 1, 2015.

The Company will continue to monitor the forward prices and will report these results in the 2015 Fourth Quarter Gas Cost Report.

We trust the Commission will find the attached to be in order. However, should any further information be required, please contact Doug Richardson at 604-592-7643.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

Original signed by: Ilva Bevacqua

For: Diane Roy

Attachments

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - FORT NELSON SERVICE AREA GAS COST RECONCILIATION ACCOUNT (GCRA) RATE CHANGE TRIGGER MECHANISM FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 AT EXISTING GAS COST RECOVERY RATES FORWARD PRICES - AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 17, AND 18, 2015

Line No.	Particulars Particulars		Annual (\$000)	Percentage	Energy (TJ)	_	nit Cost (\$/GJ)
	(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)		(5)
1	RATE CHANGE TRIGGER MECHANISM						
2	Projected Grossed-up GCRA Balance as at September 30, 2015		\$ (322.4)				
3	(Tab 1, Page 2, Col 2, Line 21)						
4							
5	Forecast Incurred Gas Costs - October 2015 to September 2016		\$ 1,565.2				
6	(Tab 1, Page 2, Col 14, Line 16)		Φ 4 500 0				
7	Forecast Recovered Gas Costs - October 2015 to September 2016		\$ 1,536.9				
8	(Tab 1, Page 2, Col 14, Line 7)						
9 10	Forecast Recovered Gas Costs	\$ 1,536.9					
11	Ratio = Forecast Incurred Gas Costs + Projected GCRA Balance	\$ 1,242.8	=	<u>123.7</u> %			
12	Forecast incurred das costs + Projected dona balance	Φ 1,242.0					
13							
14							
15							
16	BALANCING REQUIREMENT						
17	(applicable when Rate Change Trigger Mechanism Ratio falls outside 95% to 105% de	eadband and	d outside ± 9	0.50/GJ thresh	old)		
18	(/		
19							
20	TESTED RATE						
21							
22	Forecast 12 Month Sales Recovery Energy October 2015 to September 2016				595.8		
23	(Tab 1, Page 2, Col 14, Line 2)						
24							(1*)
25	Projected GCRA Balance at September 30, 2015 (Line 2)		\$ (322.4)			\$	(0.5411) (1*)
26	Forecast GCRA Activities - October 2015 to September 2016 (Line 5 minus Line 7)	ı	28.4			\$	0.0477 (1*)
27	(Over) / Under Recovery at Existing Rates	:	\$ (294.0)				
28		•					
29							(44)
30	TESTED RATE (DECREASE) / INCREASE					\$	(0.493) (1*)

Notes: Slight differences in totals due to rounding.

Pre-tax opening balances are restated based on current income taxes, to reflect grossed-up after tax amounts.

^(1*) Gas cost recovery rates in tariff are set at 3 decimal places . Individual rate components are shown to 4 decimal places.

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - FORT NELSON SERVICE AREA RECOVERED AND INCURRED COSTS SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2015 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 AT EXISTING GAS COST RECOVERY RATES FORWARD PRICES - AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 17, AND 18, 2015

	FORWARD PRICES - AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 17, AND 10, 2013																									
Line No.	e Particulars	c	Oct-15	N	lov-15		Dec-15	J	Jan-16	F	eb-16	N	Mar-16	Apr-16	M	lay-16	J	un-16	,	Jul-16	Δ	ug-16	S	Sep-16	F	12 month orecast Total
	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)	(8)		(9)		(10)		(11)		(12)		(13)		(14)
1	RECOVERED GAS COSTS																									
2	Total Sales - TJ		43.5		71.5		89.8		106.9		77.2		73.7	43.3		23.9		15.4		10.5		13.9		26.3		595.8
3	T-Service UAF - TJ		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0	0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.1
4																										
5	Recovery on Sales - \$000	\$	112.1	\$	184.3	\$	231.6	\$	275.6	\$	199.1	\$	190.1	\$ 111.8	\$	61.7	\$	39.8	\$		\$	35.9	\$	67.7	\$	1,536.6
6	Recovery on T-Service UAF - \$000	_	0.0	_	0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0	 0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.0		0.2
7	Total Forecast Recovered Gas Costs - \$000	\$	112.1	\$	184.3	\$	231.7	\$	275.7	\$	199.1	\$	190.1	\$ 111.8	\$	61.7	\$	39.8	\$	27.1	\$	35.9	\$	67.7	\$	1,536.9
8																										
9																										
10																										
11	INCURRED GAS COSTS																									
	Purchases - TJ (1*)		43.5		71.5		89.9		107.0		77.3		73.8	43.4		23.9		15.4		10.5		13.9		26.3		596.5
13																										
14	Average Cost of Gas Purchased - \$/GJ		2.0795		2.6719		2.7566		2.7726		2.7887		2.7336	2.3520		2.5110		2.3558		2.4667		2.4545		2.4099		2.6241
15 16	Forecast Incurred Gas Costs - \$000	\$	90.5	\$	191.2	\$	247.8	\$	296.6	\$	215.5	\$	201.7	\$ 102.1	\$	60.1	\$	36.4	\$	25.9	\$	34.2	\$	63.3	\$	1,565.2
17			-						-													-			-	<u> </u>
18																										
19																										
20	GCRA BALANCE																									
21	Opening Balances (Pre-Tax) - \$000 (2*)	\$	(322.4)	\$	(344.0)	\$	(337.2)	\$	(321.0)	\$	(300.1)	\$	(283.7)	\$ (272.1)	\$	(281.8)	\$	(283.4)	\$	(286.8)	\$	(287.9)	\$	(289.6)		
22	Forecast Activity - \$000		(21.6)		6.8		16.2		21.0		16.4		11.6	(9.7)		(1.6)		(3.4)		(1.2)		(1.7)		(4.4)	\$	28.4
23	Closing Balances (Pre-tax) - \$000	\$	(344.0)	\$	(337.2)	\$	(321.0)	\$	(300.1)	\$	(283.7)	\$	(272.1)	\$ (281.8)	\$	(283.4)	\$	(286.8)	\$	(287.9)	\$	(289.6)	\$	(294.0)		
24																										
25																										
26	Tax Rate		26.00%		26.00%		26.00%		26.00%		26.00%		26.00%	26.00%		26.00%		26.00%		26.00%		26.00%		26.00%		
27																										
	Opening Balances (After-Tax) - \$000	\$	(238.6)	_	(254.6)		(249.5)	\$	(237.6)	\$	(222.0)		(209.9)	(201.3)		(208.5)		(209.7)		(212.2)		(213.1)	_	(214.3)		
29	Closing Balances (After Tax) - \$000	\$	(254.6)	\$	(249.5)	\$	(237.6)	\$	(222.0)	\$	(209.9)	\$	(201.3)	\$ (208.5)	\$	(209.7)	\$	(212.2)	\$	(213.1)	\$	(214.3)	\$	(217.6)		

Notes: Slight differences in totals due to rounding.

^(1*) Purchases include Sales & T-Service UAF quantities, but exclude Company Use Gas quantities.

^(2*) Pre-tax opening balances are restated based on current income taxes, to reflect grossed-up after tax amounts.

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - FORT NELSON SERVICE AREA RECOVERED AND INCURRED COSTS SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2016 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AT EXISTING GAS COST RECOVERY RATES FORWARD PRICES - AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 17, AND 18, 2015

13-24 month												0.04														
Line No.	Particulars Particulars		Oct-16	N	lov-16		Dec-16		Jan-17	F	Feb-17		Mar-17		Apr-17	M	lay-17	J	lun-17	 Jul-17	<u> </u>	ug-17	_s	Sep-17	_	Forecast Total
	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)		(8)		(9)		(10)	(11)		(12)		(13)		(14)
1 2 3	RECOVERED GAS COSTS Total Sales - TJ T-Service UAF - TJ		43.7 0.0		71.9 0.0		90.3 0.0		107.5 0.0		77.8 0.0		74.2 0.0		43.7 0.0		24.1 0.0		15.6 -	10.6 -		14.1 -		26.7 -		600.2 0.1
4 5 6 7 8 9	Recovery on Sales - \$000 Recovery on T-Service UAF - \$000 Total Forecast Recovered Gas Costs - \$000	\$	112.8 0.0 112.8	\$	185.5 0.0 185.5	_	232.8 0.0 232.9	\$	277.2 0.0 277.3	\$	200.6 0.0 200.7	\$ <u>\$</u>	191.4 0.0 191.4	\$	112.7 0.0 112.7	\$	62.2 0.0 62.2	\$	40.2	\$ 27.3 - 27.3	\$	36.4 - 36.4	\$	68.9 - 68.9	\$ \$	1,548.0 0.2 1,548.2
10 11 12 13 14 15	INCURRED GAS COSTS Purchases - TJ (1*) Average Cost of Gas Purchased - \$/GJ		43.8 2.4337		72.0 2.8379		90.4		107.6 2.9781		77.9 2.9715		74.3 2.8914		43.7 2.3672		24.1 2.4027		15.6 2.4062	10.6 2.5130		14.1 2.5076		26.7 2.4459		600.9 2.7825
16 17 18 19 20	Forecast Incurred Gas Costs - \$000 GCRA BALANCE	<u>\$</u>	106.5	<u>\$</u>	204.4	<u>\$</u>	267.8	\$	320.5	\$	231.4	\$	214.8	<u>\$</u>	103.6	<u>\$</u>	58.0	\$	37.6	\$ 26.7	\$	35.4	\$	65.4	\$	1,672.0
21 22 23 24	Opening Balances (Pre-Tax) - \$000 (2*) Forecast Activity - \$000 Closing Balances (Pre-tax) - \$000	\$	(294.0) (6.3) (300.3)		(300.3) 18.8 (281.5)		(281.5) 35.0 (246.5)	\$	(246.5) 43.2 (203.3)		(203.3) 30.8 (172.5)		(172.5) 23.4 (149.1)		(149.1) (9.2) (158.3)		(158.3) (4.2) (162.5)		(162.5) (2.7) (165.1)	(165.1) (0.7) (165.8)		(165.8) (1.0) (166.8)		(166.8) (3.5) (170.3)		123.8
25 26 27 28 29	Tax Rate Opening Balances (After-Tax) - \$000 Closing Balances (After Tax) - \$000	\$	26.00% (217.6) (222.2)	\$	26.00% (222.2) (208.3)) \$	26.00% (208.3) (182.4)		26.00% (182.4) (150.4)		26.00% (150.4) (127.7)	\$	26.00% (127.7) (110.4)	\$	26.00% (110.4) (117.1)	\$	26.00% (117.1) (120.2)	- 1	26.00% (120.2) (122.2)	\$ 26.00% (122.2) (122.7)		26.00% (122.7) (123.4)	\$	26.00% (123.4) (126.0)		

Notes: Slight differences in totals due to rounding.

^(1*) Purchases include Sales & T-Service UAF quantities, but exclude Company Use Gas quantities.

^(2*) Pre-tax opening balances are restated based on current income taxes, to reflect grossed-up after tax amounts.

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - FORT NELSON SERVICE AREA STATION NO. 2 INDEX FORECAST FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

Line No	Particulars	Forward Pric 13, 14, 17, 2015 Q3 Ga	and 1	8, 2015	Forward Price 15, 19, ar 2015 Q2 Ga	nd 20,	2015	Change in Forward Prices				
	(1)		(2)			(3)		(4) = (2) - (3)				
1	Station No. 2 Index Prices - \$CDN/GJ (1)											
2	2015 April	٨	\$	1.64	Recorded	\$	1.64		\$	0.00		
3	May	l l	\$	2.22	Projected		1.82		\$	0.40		
4	June		\$	2.16	Ī	\$	2.62		\$	(0.46)		
5	July	Recorded	\$	2.20		\$	2.43		\$	(0.23)		
6	August	Projected	\$	1.96	Ÿ	\$	2.45		\$	(0.49)		
7	September	Π	\$	2.06		\$	2.44		\$	(0.38)		
8	October		\$	2.06		\$	2.50		\$	(0.44)		
9	November		\$	2.41		\$	2.64		\$	(0.23)		
10	December		\$	2.54		\$	2.78		\$	(0.24)		
11	Simple Average (Apr, 2015 - Mar, 2016)		\$	2.24		\$	2.49	-10.0%	\$	(0.25)		
12	Simple Average (Jul, 2015 - Jun, 2016)		\$	2.33		\$	2.62	-11.0%	\$	(0.29)		
13	Simple Average (Oct, 2015 - Sep, 2016)		\$	2.41		\$	2.66	-9.5%	\$	(0.25)		
14	2016 January		\$	2.57		\$	2.90		\$	(0.33)		
15	February		\$	2.59		\$	2.86		\$	(0.27)		
16	March		\$	2.50		\$	2.80		\$	(0.30)		
17	April		\$	2.33		\$	2.53		\$	(0.20)		
18	Мау		\$	2.47		\$	2.52		\$	(0.06)		
19	June		\$	2.29		\$	2.58		\$	(0.29)		
20	July		\$	2.37		\$	2.58		\$	(0.21)		
21	August		\$	2.38		\$	2.60		\$	(0.22)		
22	September		\$	2.37		\$	2.60		\$	(0.23)		
23	October		\$	2.41		\$	2.65		\$	(0.24)		
24	November		\$	2.68		\$	2.71		\$	(0.04)		
25	December 2 / A / A / A / A / A / A / A / A / A /		\$	2.87		\$	2.91	7. 50/	\$	(0.04)		
26	Simple Average (Jan, 2016 - Dec, 2016)		\$	2.49		\$	2.69	-7.5%	\$	(0.20)		
27	Simple Average (Apr, 2016 - Mar, 2017)		\$	2.56		\$	2.73	-6.2%	\$	(0.1 <i>7</i>)		
28	Simple Average (Jul, 2016 - Jun, 2017)		\$	2.55		\$	2.76	-7.3%	\$	(0.20)		
29	Simple Average (Oct, 2016 - Sep, 2017)		\$	2.57								
30	2017 January		\$	2.89		\$	3.07		\$	(0.17)		
31	February		\$	2.88		\$	3.02		\$	(0.14)		
32	March		\$	2.76		\$	2.95		\$	(0.19)		
33	April		\$	2.34		\$	2.65		\$	(0.30)		
34	May		\$	2.36		\$	2.64		\$	(0.28)		
35	June		\$	2.34		\$	2.70		\$	(0.36)		
36	July		\$	2.42								
37	August		\$	2.44								
38	September		\$	2.41								

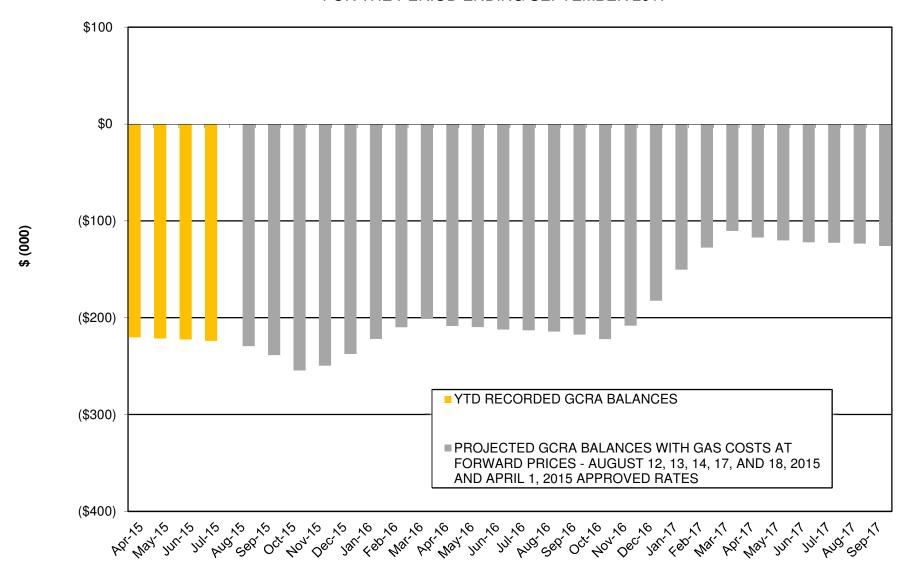
Notes: (1) Average of daily prices is used for recorded months.

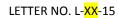
Tab 1 Page 5

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - FORT NELSON SERVICE AREA GCRA AFTER TAX BALANCES (\$000) FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AT EXISTING GAS COST RECOVERY RATES

Line No.	Pa	rticulars	2015 Q3 Ga: April 1, 2 Forward Prices - 17, and	015 F Augu	Rates ist 12, 13, 14,	2015 Q2 Gas Cost Report April 1, 2015 Rates Forward Prices - May 13, 14, 15, 19, and 20, 2015 (3)							
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	2015	Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec	Recorded Projected	***	(220.3) (221.5) (222.4) (223.9) (229.5) (238.6) (254.6) (249.5) (237.6) (222.0) (209.9) (201.3) (208.5) (209.7) (212.2) (213.1) (214.3) (217.6) (222.2) (208.3) (182.4) (150.4) (127.7) (110.4) (117.1) (120.2) (122.2) (122.7) (123.4)	Recorded Projected	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	(220.3) (242.8) (241.6) (240.8) (240.3) (241.0) (241.6) (225.0) (198.3) (160.4) (134.3) (111.0) (110.0) (108.0) (107.2) (106.2) (105.0) (101.9) (80.1) (44.2) 6.7 41.8 72.7 75.8 77.6 79.8					
30		Sep		\$ \$	(126.0)								

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - FORT NELSON SERVICE AREA GCRA AFTER TAX BALANCES BY MONTH FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 2017







ERICA M. HAMILTON COMMISSION SECRETARY Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com web site: http://www.bcuc.com SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250
VANCOUVER, B.C. CANADA V6Z 2N3
TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700
BC TOLL FREE: 1-800-663-1385
FACSIMILE: (604) 660-1102
Log No. xxxx

DRAFT ORDER

VIA E-MAIL

gas.regulatory.affairs@fortisbc.com

Ms. Diane Roy Director, Regulatory Services FortisBC Energy Inc. 16705 Fraser Highway Surrey, BC V4N 0E8

Dear Ms. Roy:

Re: FortisBC Energy Inc. Fort Nelson Service Area 2015 Third Quarter Gas Cost Report

Further to your September 1, 2015 filing of the 2015 Third Quarter Gas Cost Report (the Report) for the Fort Nelson Service Area. The Commission acknowledges receipt of the Report and accepts the recommendation that the gas cost recovery rates remain unchanged at October 1, 2015.

The Commission will hold confidential the information in Tab 2 of the Report.

Yours truly,

Erica M. Hamilton Commission Secretary

September XX, 2015