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September 21, 2016

B.C. Sustainable Energy Association
c/o William J. Andrews, Barrister & Solicitor
1958 Parkside Lane
North Vancouver, B.C.
V7G 1X5

Attention: Mr. William J. Andrews

Dear Mr. Andrews:

Re: FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI)

Project No. 3698886

**Multi-Year Performance Based Ratemaking Plan for 2014 through 2019
approved by British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) Order G-138-
14 – Annual Review for 2017 Rates (the Application)**

**Response to the B.C. Sustainable Energy Association and Sierra Club of British
Columbia (BCSEA) Information Request (IR) No. 1**

On August 2, 2016, FEI filed the Application referenced above. In accordance with Commission Order G-122-16 setting out the Regulatory Timetable for the review of the Application, FEI respectfully submits the attached response to BCSEA IR No. 1.

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

Original signed:

Diane Roy

Attachments

cc (email only): Commission Secretary
Registered Parties



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1 **1.0 Topic: Rate increases**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, p.1**

3 “The proposed delivery rates for 2017 flowing from the approved formulas and forecasts
4 set out in the Application, including returning the forecast earnings sharing to customers,
5 result in a 1.2 percent increase over 2016 delivery rates, or an increase of approximately
6 \$7 to the annual bill for an average Mainland residential customer. After consideration of
7 the delivery rate riders which are primarily related to amalgamation, the bill impact
8 change is an increase of approximately 4.6 percent for a Mainland residential customer,
9 a decrease of approximately 6.0 percent for a Vancouver Island residential customer,
10 and a decrease of approximately 12.6 percent for a Whistler residential customer. The
11 delivery rate increase of 1.2 percent before delivery rate riders is below 2017 inflation
12 which is forecast at approximately 2.2 percent.” [footnotes omitted]

13 1.1 Please provide in table format a breakdown of the 2017 proposed delivery rate
14 increases, delivery rate riders and net delivery rate changes for each of the
15 Mainland, Vancouver Island and Whistler residential customer categories.

16
17 **Response:**

18 Please refer to Attachment 1.1 for the requested breakdown of the proposed delivery rates,
19 delivery rate riders and net delivery rate changes as forecast in the Application.

20
21

22
23 1.2 Please provide in table format a similar breakdown of proposed delivery rate
24 increases, delivery rate riders and net delivery rate changes for commercial and
25 industrial customer classes.

26
27 **Response:**

28 Please refer to the response to BCSEA IR 1.1.1, Attachment 1.1.

29

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1 **2.0 Topic: Evaluation of the PBR Plan**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, pp.7-8**

3 “FEI’s capital spending has been consistently above the formula amount in each year of
4 the PBR term to date, and this trend is expected to continue.” [p.7]

5 “Another contributing set of factors consists of capital cost pressures such as the
6 following: ...

7 2. Capital costs required to carry out the Regionalization Initiative discussed above;...
8 [p.8, underline added]

9 “1. ***The Regionalization Initiative*** is aimed at both enhancing the customer experience
10 and achieving a more efficient process in the field. In the first part of 2016, efforts
11 continued on transitioning more functions to the regions. By the end of the first quarter of
12 2016, the Pre-requisition, Closing and Hazards functions were successfully transitioned
13 into the regions. This phase represents the second phase of the Regionalization
14 Initiative that began in 2014 with the transitioning of the Field Dispatch and Planning and
15 Design groups to the regional locations. The changes have enabled optimal decision
16 making, and have been found to be more cost-effective and to serve customers better.
17 The first full year operating under a regional business model was 2015. Annual O&M
18 savings in 2015 were approximately \$0.9 million compared to 2013 actuals. The second
19 phase of the Regionalization Initiative is expected to result in incremental annual O&M
20 savings of approximately \$1.1 million.” [p.6, underline added]

21 2.1 Is there a circularity between the O&M costs savings attributed to the
22 Regionalization Initiative and the capital costs required to carry out the
23 Regionalization Initiative?
24

25 **Response:**

26 FEI does not see any circularity between the O&M costs savings attributed to the
27 Regionalization Initiative and the capital costs required to carry out the Regionalization Initiative.
28 The Regionalization Initiative required the expenditure of capital and O&M in 2014 for Phase 1
29 and in 2016 for Phase 2. These expenditures are more than offset by the annual O&M savings
30 starting in 2015. The expenditures and savings attributable to the Regionalization Initiative are
31 set out in Tables C-1 and C-2 in Appendix C2.

32 As shown in the response to CEC IR 1.5.2, customers and FEI’s shareholder will have each
33 received a net benefit over the term of the PBR and FEI’s lower O&M costs due to this initiative
34 will continue to benefit customers through lower rates into the future.



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1 FEI also notes that the Regionalization Initiative provides benefits in addition to achieving O&M
2 savings. Specifically, the Regionalization Initiative enhances the customer experience,
3 achieves a more efficient process in the field and enables quicker decision making.

4
5

6

7 2.2 Does the Regionalization Initiative have a positive net financial impact (savings)
8 taking into account both O&M and capital spending? Please explain how FEI
9 conducts this analysis.

10

11 **Response:**

12 Yes, the Regionalization Initiative has a positive net financial impact (savings) taking into
13 account both O&M and capital spending. FEI assesses the financial impacts for a project such
14 as the Regionalization Initiative by comparing the costs of the initiative to the savings and
15 determines if there is a positive financial benefit.

16 Please refer to the response to CEC IR 1.5.2 which shows that customers and FEI's
17 shareholder will have each received a net benefit over the term of the PBR due to the
18 Regionalization Initiative.

19

20

21

22

23 2.3 Please explain whether or how the capital spending deadband (one-year and
24 two-year) in the PBR framework affects the determination of net benefits of a
25 cost savings measure that has both O&M savings and capital costs, such as the
26 Regionalization Initiative.

27

28 **Response:**

29 The capital spending dead band in the PBR framework could be considered to affect the
30 determination of net benefits of a cost savings measure to ratepayers over the PBR term. The
31 effect of exceeding the capital dead band is that there is no earning sharing on the amount of
32 capital expenditures outside the dead band. Instead, capital expenditures outside the dead
33 band are added to rate base in the following year.

34 However, it is difficult to assess how capital spending in excess of the dead band actually
35 affects the net benefits of a particular cost savings measure. The exact levels of capital



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1 spending each year are difficult to forecast, and it is difficult – if not impossible - to identify which
2 specific project or projects will cause the capital spending to be above the dead band. It is
3 therefore difficult, if not impossible, to say whether the capital expenditures on a particular cost
4 saving measure should be assessed as being subject to earnings sharing or not.

5 Thus, FEI does not consider the operation of the dead band in its financial evaluation of projects
6 in general. FEI also notes that, as with the Regionalization Initiative, a particular initiative may
7 have benefits that are not related to financial impacts, and these non-financial benefits will be
8 considered in project evaluation regardless of the capital dead band.

9

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1 3.2 Is the increased in-line inspection activity referred to page 8 indicated by the
2 2015 uptick in Total km of Distribution System Mains surveyed shown in Table
3 13-17?
4

5 **Response:**

6 No. The increased in-line inspection activity is unrelated to leaks on distribution system mains.
7 As noted in response to BCSEA IR 1.3.1, FEI only uses in-line inspection tools in its
8 transmission (not distribution) pressure pipeline system.

9 The increase in Total km of Distribution System Mains in Table 13-17 reflects the increased total
10 km of Distribution System Mains in the system due to additions over time.

11

12

13

14 3.3 Please explain the “evolving industry practice” concerning in-line inspection
15 activity.
16

17

17 **Response:**

18 Please refer to the response to BCUC IR 1.9.11 for a discussion of the changes in industry
19 practice concerning in-line inspection activity.

20

21

22

23 3.3.1 What are the driving forces behind this increased stringency concerning
24 in-line inspection activity? For example, reduced cost of escaped
25 product, safety, reduced methane emissions?
26

27

27 **Response:**

28 FEI believes the primary driving forces with respect to evolving in-line inspection practices for
29 “sweet” natural gas pipelines, as owned and operated by FEI, are as follows:

- 30 • Industry failure history;
- 31 • Potential safety-related consequences associated with natural gas transmission pipeline
32 failures;



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- 1 • Increased prevalence of management systems in the area of pipeline integrity, improving
2 focus on proactive threat management and continual improvement;
- 3 • Improved understanding of potential pipeline hazards by pipeline operators, through
4 such resources as industry committee participation, operator and regulator presentations
5 at conferences, and industry research;
- 6 • Regulator expectations for transmission pipeline performance;
- 7 • Public expectations for transmission pipeline performance; and
- 8 • Technology improvements.

9
10

11
12 3.4 To what extent is the increased in-line inspection activity responsible for FEI's
13 2105 GHG reported emission emissions (120,997 tCO₂e) being lower than the
14 2014 figure (140,507 tCO₂e) shown on page 145?

15
16 **Response:**

17 FEI does not consider increased in-line inspection to be responsible for the reduced GHG
18 reported emissions between 2014 and 2015.

19 Failure rates associated with the FEI transmission pressure pipeline system are sufficiently low
20 as to typically result in a negligible effect on FEI's annual GHG emission reports.

21
22

23
24 3.5 Does FEI anticipate that in-line inspection activity will increase above 2015 levels
25 in 2016 and subsequent years in the PBR period?

26
27 **Response:**

28 Yes. Please refer to the response to BCUC IR 1.9.9.1 for a forecast of in-line inspection capital
29 expenditures through the PBR period.

30
31
32



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1 3.6 Does the increase in in-line inspection activity have material cost implications?

2

3 **Response:**

4 Yes. Please refer to the response to the response to BCUC IR 1.9.9.1 for the capital cost
5 implications associated with the increase in in-line inspection activity.

6

7

8

9 3.7 Please confirm, or otherwise explain, that in-line inspection activity is categorized
10 as capital sustainment as distinct from O&M.

11

12 **Response:**

13 Yes, in-line inspection is considered a “major inspection” which FEI treats as capital.

14

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1 **4.0 Topic: Capital Dead Band**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, p.13**

3 “FEI has evaluated its alternatives and believes that it is in the best long-term interest of
4 customers to pursue the capital spending program it has planned that will result in the
5 dead band being exceeded, not only in 2016, but in some of the remaining years of the
6 PBR term. It is clear that the capital spending is required and it is the right thing to do to
7 limit increasing risk exposure in the system, and avoid unplanned and urgent capital
8 work. It is also required to provide FEI the ability to work in an efficient and cost-effective
9 manner and realize productivity efficiencies and operational savings during the PBR
10 term.”

11 4.1 What are the earnings consequences to FEI shareholders of FEI’s capital
12 spending exceeding the dead band within the term of the PBR?

13
14 **Response:**

15 The capital dead band applies to capital spending above or below the capital formula amounts.
16 FEI has responded to this question in the context of its capital expenditures being above the
17 capital formula amounts.

18 Under the PBR Plan, for capital spending that is above the formula amount and below the dead
19 band, FEI’s shareholder foregoes the earnings on one-half of the cumulative variance. The
20 foregone earnings are calculated as the variance in cumulative capital spending multiplied by
21 FEI’s allowed equity percentage multiplied by FEI’s allowed ROE, grossed up for income tax
22 and then multiplied by one-half.

23 Under the PBR Plan, and as summarized in Section 1.4.4.3 of the Application, capital spending
24 that exceeds the dead band during the term of the PBR is excluded from the earnings sharing
25 calculation discussed above. Instead, any capital spending above the dead band is added to
26 rate base at the beginning of the following year, such that FEI’s shareholder only foregoes
27 earnings for the period of time between when the capital expenditure is incurred and the
28 beginning of the following year.

29 After the term of the PBR, all prudently incurred capital (including the cumulative spending
30 above the formula and below the dead band) will be added to rate base and attract the allowed
31 return on equity.

32

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1 **5.0 Topic: Emissions Regulations Deferral Account**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, p.63; p.101, pdf p.110**

3 FEI seeks approval of a five year amortization period for the existing Emissions
4 Regulations deferral account, commencing in 2017. [p.2]

5 “In 2016, FEI collected pre-tax revenues of \$2.4 million (\$1.8 million after-tax)
6 from the sale of credits earned under the Renewable Low Carbon Fuel
7 Requirements Regulation (RLCFRR).

8 The RLCFRR was introduced in order to reduce the carbon intensity of
9 transportation fuels. The carbon intensity of both compressed natural gas (CNG)
10 and liquefied natural gas (LNG) fall below the maximum carbon intensity limit set
11 by the RLCFRR; therefore FEI earns credits from the sale of CNG and LNG for
12 use in transportation applications. FEI issues a request for proposal to potential
13 buyers to ensure it maximizes the value of these credits for the benefit of
14 ratepayers. FEI will continue to generate credits in the future as the sale of CNG
15 and LNG for transportation increases.” [pp.63-64]

16 5.1 Please explain how the amortization of the ERDA balance (as proposed) is
17 treated under the PBR formula.

18
19 **Response:**

20 The PBR formula only applies to “regular” capital expenditures and O&M expenses as
21 discussed in section 6.2 and 7.2 of the Application. Amortization of deferral accounts, including
22 the ERDA, is treated the same during the PBR period as it would be under a cost of service
23 model. The amortization of the ERDA, and all other deferral accounts which are amortized, is
24 included in the overall calculation of FEI’s cost of service (as shown in the financial schedules in
25 Section 11, Schedule 16, Line 19) under FEI’s PBR plan.

26
27

28
29 5.2 Under the proposed amortization of the balance of the ERDA over five years is it
30 only the YTD 2016 balance that is amortized? If additional RLCFRR revenues
31 flow into the ERDA in the rest of 2016 and future years will it be the current
32 balance of the ERDA on which the amortization amount is calculated?

33



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1 **Response:**

2 The proposed amortization for 2017 only relates to the projected 2016 balance of the account at
3 the time of filing the Application. Amortization in future years will be adjusted to capture any
4 new actual or projected activity in the account between each of the Annual Review filings.
5 Therefore, any additional RLCFRR revenues and any related costs that flow into the ERDA in
6 future years will also be amortized over five years beginning the following year.

7



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1 **6.0 Topic: Service Quality Indicators – Emergency Response Time**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, p.133, pdf p.142**

3 The Emergency Response Time results for 2015 (97.3%) and YTD 2016 (97.4%) show
4 improvement over the results for 2014 (96.7%). The results remain above the threshold
5 (96.2%) but below the benchmark (97.7%).

6 FEI states: “The improved response time since 2014 in all operating zones is a reflection
7 of a combination of factors including a decrease in the number emergency events and
8 changes made to technician shift schedules starting January 2015. The changes to shift
9 schedules were made to provide more emergency response capacity in the late
10 afternoon and early evening.”

11 6.1 Does FEI plan to take further steps toward bringing the Emergency Response
12 Time results up to the benchmark? If so, what steps? If not, why not?

13
14 **Response:**

15 FEI is not planning further steps at this time as results are trending positively and are close to
16 the benchmark.

17



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1 **7.0 Topic: SQI – Telephone Service Factor (Emergency)**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, pp.133-134, pdf pp.142-143**

3 “The 2015 result was 97.6 percent which was better than the benchmark of 95 percent
4 approved by the Commission. The June 2016 year-to-date performance is 98.7 percent
5 which is also better than the benchmark.”

6 7.1 Does FEI intend to manage toward achieving a TSF (Emergency) result that
7 exceeds the benchmark? If not, why not?

8
9 **Response:**

10 No, FEI actively manages staffing levels on an hourly and daily basis according to forecast call
11 volumes and the benchmark TSF.

12 The benchmark TSF is based on a balance of costs and service quality. To the extent that a
13 higher TSF is targeted, additional costs would need to be incurred.

14



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1 **8.0 Topic: SQI – All Injury Frequency Rate**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, pp.134-135, pdf pp.143-144**

3 “The 2016 June year-to-date annual AIFR is 1.39 as a result of 6 Medical Treatment and
4 4 Lost Time injuries.”

5 8.1 Please confirm, or otherwise explain, that the YTD 2016 AIFR figure is adjusted
6 for being only one-half a year.

7
8 **Response:**

9 No adjustment to the data was required to calculate the June YTD 2016 AIFR of 1.39 for being
10 based on one half of a year.

11 The AIFR calculation is defined as: (Number of Employee Injuries X 200,000 hours) divided by
12 Total Exposure Hours Worked.

13 The reported June YTD 2016 AIFR was calculated using actual Exposure Hours, Medical
14 Treatment and Lost Time Injuries through the end of June 2016. No adjustment is required to
15 the 200,000 hours used in the calculation as that figure is used to express the AIFR result in a
16 standard equivalent to the number of lost-time injuries in relation to 200,000 hours. The
17 200,000 hours represent the equivalent of 100 workers working one full year.

18

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1 **9.0 Topic: SQI – Responsiveness to Customer Needs**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, p.137, pdf p.146**

3 “The Billing Index indicator tracks the effectiveness of the Company’s billing system by
4 measuring the percentage of customer bills produced meeting performance criteria. The
5 Billing Index is a composite index with three components:

6 Billing completion (percent of accounts billed within two days of the billing due
7 date);

8 Billing timeliness (percent of invoices delivered to Canada Post within two days
9 of file creation); and

10 Billing accuracy (percent of bills without a production issue based on input data).”
11 [underline added]

12 “The Billing Index is impacted by factors such as the performance of the Company’s
13 billing system, weather variability, which can cause a high volume of billing checks and
14 estimation issues, and mail delivery by Canada Post.” [underline added]

15 9.1 How does “mail delivery by Canada Post” impact the Billing Index when the index
16 component is delivery of invoices to Canada Post?

17
18 **Response:**

19 Mail delivered by Canada Post does not impact the Billing index. Delivery delays by the print
20 vendor in getting the invoices to Canada Post do impact the billing index.

21 There was a typographical error on page 137, lines 27-29, of the Application. The Application
22 should have read as follows:

23 The Billing Index is impacted by factors such as the performance of the Company’s billing
24 system, weather variability, which can cause a high volume of billing checks and estimation
25 issues, and delivery to Canada Post.

26



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1 **10.0 Topic: SQR – Telephone Service Factor (Non-Emergency)**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, pp.139-140, pdf pp.148-149**

3 “The 2015 result was 71 percent which was better than the benchmark of 70 percent.
4 The June 2016 year-to-date performance is 70 percent which is equal to the
5 benchmark.”

6 “The Commission approved the revised target of 70 percent in mid-September 2014. In
7 2015 and subsequent years, actual results are expected to be reflective of the revised
8 target of 70 percent.”

9 10.1 Is the fact that the YTD 2016 results for TSF (Non-Emergency) (70%) are the
10 same as the benchmark (70%) the outcome of an intention to manage to the
11 benchmark?

12
13 Response:

14 Yes. Please also refer to the response to BCSEA IR 1.7.1.

15

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1 **11.0 Topic: SQI – Telephone Abandon Rate**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, p.142, pdf p.151**

3 “The Telephone Abandon Rate is an informational [sic], measures the percent of calls
4 abandoned by the customer before speaking to a customer service representative.
5 Abandon rates can be due to waiting times, or due to customers receiving their required
6 information through informational messages in the Company’s Interactive Voice
7 Response (IVR) system such that the customer no longer needs to speak to an agent.”

8 11.1 Please confirm that calls abandoned due to waiting times is a negative indicator
9 of customer satisfaction whereas calls abandoned due to the required
10 information having been provided by IVR without speaking to an agent is a
11 positive indicator of customer satisfaction.

12
13 **Response:**

14 Not confirmed.

15 Customer satisfaction is driven by a variety of factors and one cannot say that call abandonment
16 due to wait times and IVR messages are negative or positive indicators of satisfaction. FEI
17 believes a primary driver of customer satisfaction is whether FEI resolves the issue that led to
18 the customer’s call. For example, an IVR message may provide information about an outage
19 but a customer may have low satisfaction simply because an outage has occurred. Or, a
20 customer may abandon a call due to wait times, but may subsequently call back or contact the
21 Company through another means, achieve a resolution, and be highly satisfied as a result.

22
23

24
25 11.2 Does FEI have any way to estimate whether the slight uptick in the YTD 2016
26 Telephone Abandon Rate over the previous years is the result of increased
27 numbers of abandoned calls because of waiting times or IVR, or both?

28
29 **Response:**

30 No, FEI does not have a way to estimate the impact of wait times or IVR on the telephone
31 abandon rate.

32



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1 **12.0 Topic: SQI – Transmission Incidents by Severity Level**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, p.143, pdf p.152**

3 “As also indicated in the table above, from January 1, 2016 to June 30, 2016, there has
4 been one Level 1 reportable incident. The Level 1 incident was on March 21, 2016 and
5 involved a leak detected during leak survey on a section of the pipeline approved to be
6 replaced in Burnaby as part of the LMIPSU Project. The repair was completed and the
7 pipeline was re-gasified on March 24, 2016.”

8 12.1 Briefly, what is the degree of completion of the Lower Mainland Intermediate
9 Pressure System Upgrade (LMIPSU) project?

10
11 **Response:**

12 The LMIPSU project is currently focused on detailed engineering, stakeholder engagement,
13 permitting and construction execution planning. The detailed engineering is 30% complete.
14 Construction is expected to commence in Q1 2018 with completion in Q4 2018.

15 In responding to this IR, FEI identified a typographical error on page 132 of the Application in
16 Table 13-1, Approved SQI, Benchmarks and Actual Performance. The reported number for the
17 informational SQI Transmission Reportable Incidents for 2015 should be 3, instead of 2 as
18 shown in the table. Three reportable incidents for 2015 is consistent with the detailed
19 description of Transmission Reportable Incidents starting on page 142 of the Application and
20 included in Table 13-14.

21

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1 **13.0 Topic: SQI – Leaks per KM of Distribution System Mains**

2 **Reference: Exhibit B-2, pp.144-145, pdf pp 153-154**

3 The August 2016 B.C. Climate Leadership Plan ([https://climate.gov.bc.ca/wp-](https://climate.gov.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/13/2016/06/4030_CLP_Booklet_web.pdf)
4 [content/uploads/sites/13/2016/06/4030_CLP_Booklet_web.pdf](https://climate.gov.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/13/2016/06/4030_CLP_Booklet_web.pdf)) states that B.C. is
5 launching a strategy to reduce methane emissions in the upstream natural gas sector.
6 The Plan states on page 15:

7 “The legacy phase will include targets for reducing fugitive and vented emissions
8 from extraction and processing infrastructure built before January 1st, 2015. This
9 will include: A 45 per cent reduction of these emissions by 2025, estimated at an
10 annual reduction of 1 million tonnes for 2025...

11 13.1 Is it FEI’s understanding that the B.C. Government’s strategy to reduce methane
12 emissions in the “upstream natural gas sector” includes in its scope FEI’s
13 distribution system mains?
14

15 **Response:**

16 No. Distribution assets such as mains are not upstream natural gas assets and would therefore
17 not be included within the upstream natural gas sector.

18
19

20
21 13.2 Does FEI anticipate increasing its distribution system leaks survey activities as a
22 result of the Climate Leadership Plan or otherwise? If so, please describe the
23 anticipated increased activities. If not, why not?
24

25 **Response:**

26 At this time, FEI does not anticipate increasing its distribution system leaks survey activities.
27 Leak survey activities are currently carried out in accordance with governing standards and
28 accepted industry practice.

29
30

31
32 13.3 Regarding Table 13-16: June 2016 Year-to-Date Five Year Rolling Average,
33 should the Five Year Rolling Average in the last row read 0.0060 rather than
34 0.0073?
35



FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI or the Company) Multi-Year Performance Based Ratemaking Plan for 2014 through 2019 Annual Review for 2017 Rates (the Application)	Submission Date: September 21, 2016
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1 **Response:**

2 In Table 13-16: June 2016 Year-to-Date Five Year Rolling Average, the Five Year Rolling
3 Average in the last row should read .0066 rather than .0073. An incorrect number was used in
4 the calculation.

5

FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI or the Company) Multi-Year Performance Based Ratemaking Plan for 2014 through 2019 Annual Review for 2017 Rates (the Application)	Submission Date: September 21, 2016
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1 **14.0 Topic: Data Storage Restriction Removal**

2 **Reference: BCUC Decision and Order G-161-15, October 13, 2015, p.21**

3 “The Panel has considered the submissions from BCOAPO and BCESA regarding
4 reporting requirements and finds that some level of reporting is warranted so the
5 Commission and participants in this proceeding can monitor outcomes, if any, of this
6 decision.

7 **With respect to data and servers located outside of Canada, FEI is to provide the**
8 **Commission with a report prepared by its Internal Audit group detailing:**

- 9 • **any significant security and/or privacy breaches and the resolution process;**
10 **and**
- 11 • **any significant deficiencies identified in processes and controls and the**
12 **remediation process.**

13 FEI is directed to file this report on an annual basis. FEI is to submit the date that is most
14 practical for the company to file this report annually to the Commission by no later than
15 November 30, 2015.

16 The Panel is not persuaded that the report should be reviewed in the annual
17 Performance Based Ratemaking review process. The reporting will allow the
18 Commission and participants in this proceeding to monitor whether FEI is employing and
19 adhering to their identified risk mitigation strategies. Any cost savings associated with
20 storing information outside of Canada will be recognized in the overall operations and
21 maintenance costs included in the Performance Based Ratemaking Annual Review.”

22 14.1 With reference to the Commission’s direction that “FEI is to submit the date that
23 is most practical for the company to file this report annually to the Commission by
24 no later than November 30, 2015,” what date did FEI submit to the Commission?
25

26 **Response:**

27 FEI submitted to the Commission that April 30 of each year would be the most practical date for
28 the Company to file the report.

29
30

31
32 14.2 The following information request is aimed at determining whether or not FEI’s
33 most recent report on data and servers outside of Canada should be reviewed in
34 the present PRB review process: Has FEI filed a report on data and servers



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1 outside of Canada as required by Order G-161-15? If so, please file a copy. If
2 not, when will FEI file a data and servers report?

3
4 **Response:**

5 FEI has filed the report on data and servers outside of Canada as required by Order G-161-15.
6 A copy of the report is provided in Attachment 14.2.

7
8

9
10 14.3 With reference to the Commission Panel’s statement that “Any cost savings
11 associated with storing information outside of Canada will be recognized in the
12 overall operations and maintenance costs included in the Performance Based
13 Ratemaking Annual Review,” please describe any steps FEI has taken to store
14 information outside of Canada pursuant to Order G-161-15 and provide
15 quantification of any associated cost savings.

16
17 **Response:**

18 FEI has not yet stored information on servers located outside of Canada; therefore, there are no
19 associated cost savings.

20

Attachment 1.1

Attachment 14.2

Edward Olson, CPA, CA
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Attn: Ms. Laurel Ross, Acting Commission Secretary and Director
British Columbia Utilities Commission
6th Floor, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2N3

March 31, 2016

RE: Order G161–15, Internal Audit Review of Security and Privacy Breach Environment, 2015

Dear Ms. Ross:

By Commission Order G-161-15, with respect to data and servers located outside of Canada, Internal Audit has performed procedures to review FortisBC Energy Inc.'s ("FortisBC") privacy and security processes, controls, and evidence of any data breaches. The objective of the review was to provide assurance that FortisBC is complying with the order issued by the Commission.

The scope of the review carried out by Internal Audit included review of FortisBC's policies and procedures for the protection of customer, employee and sensitive information located outside of Canada, and records of any significant breaches during the period of October 13 to December 31, 2015.

Based on our review, there were no indications of significant security and/or privacy breaches, or any significant deficiencies in processes and controls.

Should the Commission require additional information related to the content of this report, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address or contact numbers provided above.

Regards,

Original signed by:

Edward Olson, CPA, CA
Director, Internal Audit