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ERICA HAMILTON COMMISSION SECRETARY Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com web site: http://www.bcuc.com

VIA EMAIL gas.regulatory.affairs@fortisbc.com

November 29, 2012

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

Dear Ms. Roy:

Re: An Application by FortisBC Energy Inc. Regarding 2012 Fourth Quarter Gas Cost Report and <u>Rate Changes effective January 1, 2013 for the Fort Nelson Service Area</u>

Further to your November 22, 2012 filing of the above noted Report, enclosed please find British Columbia Utilities Commission Order G-180-12.

FortisBC Energy Inc. noted in a footnote on confidential Tab2 Page 1 that an adjustment was applied to the Gas Cost Reconciliation Account (GCRA) in 2012 to account for an over-allocation of gas costs to Fort Nelson. The Commission wishes to note that it has concerns regarding the nature of this error and will explore the matter in the review of the 2012 status report for the Fort Nelson GCRA.

cms Enclosure



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## IN THE MATTER OF the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473

and

An Application by FortisBC Energy Inc. Regarding 2012 Fourth Quarter Gas Cost Report and Rate Changes effective January 1, 2013 for the Fort Nelson Service Area

BEFORE: L.F. Kelsey, Commissioner C.A. Brown Commissioner B.A. Magnan, Commissioner D.M. Morton, Commissioner

November29, 2012

## ORDER

## WHEREAS:

- A. By Order G-27-12 dated March 9, 2012, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) approved the Gas Cost Recovery Charge for the FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) Fort Nelson Service Area, effective April 1, 2012;
- B. On November 22, 2012, FEI filed its 2012 Fourth Quarter Report on the Gas Cost Reconciliation Account (GCRA) balance and gas cost recovery charges for the Fort Nelson Service Area effective January 1, 2013, that were based on the five-day average of the November 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7, 2012 forward prices (2012 Fourth Quarter Report);
- C. The 2012 Fourth Quarter Report requested approval for the gas cost recovery charges for natural gas customers in Fort Nelson Service Area to remain unchanged, effective January 1, 2013;
- D. The 2012 Fourth Quarter Report requested approval for an increase of \$0.156/GJ to the delivery related Revenue Stabilization Adjustment Mechanism (RSAM) Rate Rider 5, from the current \$0.011/GJ refund amount to a charge of \$0.145/GJ, effective January 1, 2013;
- E. FEI requests that the forecast gas cost information for Fort Nelson in Tab 2 of the 2012 Fourth Quarter Report be held confidential on the basis that it contains market sensitive information;
- F. The Commission has determined that the requested changes, as outlined in the 2012 Fourth Quarter Report, should be approved.

BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Order Number G-180-12

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BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION

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**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to section 61(4) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves the Gas Cost Recovery Charge to remain unchanged at January 1, 2013.
- 2. The Commission approves resetting the RSAM rates applicable to the affected rate classes within the Fort Nelson Service Area, effective January 1, 2013, as set out in the 2012 Fourth Quarter Report.
- 3. FEI is to provide a descriptive explanation of the final rates, by way of a bill insert or bill message to all affected customers, to be submitted to the Commission prior to its release, with the next monthly gas billing.
- 4. The Commission will hold the information in Tab 2 of the 2012 Fourth Quarter Report confidential.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, In the Province of British Columbia, this

TH day of November 2012.

BY ORDER

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D.M. Morton Commissioner