



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. 27984

VIA E-MAIL

*janet.fraser@bctc.com, bctc.regulatory@bctc.com
bchydroregulatorygroup@bchydro.com
regulatory@fortisbc.com*

February 19, 2009

SECTION 5

TRANSMISSION INQUIRY

EXHIBIT A-1

Ms. Janet Fraser
Director, Regulatory Affairs
British Columbia Transmission
Corporation
Suite 1100, Four Bentall Centre
1055 Dunsmuir Street PO Box
49260
Vancouver, B.C. V7X 1V5

Ms. Joanna Sofield
Chief Regulatory Officer
British Columbia Hydro and Power
Authority
17th Floor - 333 Dunsmuir Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 5R3

Mr. David Bennett
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs &
General Counsel
Regulatory Affairs Department
FortisBC Inc.
1290 Esplanade
PO Box 130
Trail, BC V1R 4L4

Dear Ms. Fraser, Ms. Sofield and Mr. Bennett:

Re: Section 5 Transmission Inquiry
Project No. 3698545

Subsection 5(4) of the Utilities Commission Act ("Act") provides that the Commission must conduct an inquiry ("Transmission Inquiry") to make determinations with respect to British Columbia's infrastructure and capacity needs for electricity transmission and, pursuant to subsection 5(5), must commence that inquiry by March 31, 2009 unless otherwise ordered by the Lieutenant Governor in Council; and

Section 4 of the Act states that:

- 4 (1) The Commission
 - (a) must sit at the times and conduct its proceedings in a manner it considers convenient for the proper discharge and speedy dispatch of its duties under this Act
 - (2) The chair may organize the commission into divisions.
 - (3) The commissioners must sit
 - (a) as the commission, or
 - (b) as a division of the commission.

Section 4 of the Act proceeds to state that if commissioners sit as a division, the division has all the jurisdiction of and may exercise and perform the powers and duties of the commission, and a decision or action of the division is a decision or action of the commission. Section 4(6) of the Act states that the chair may designate a commissioner to serve as chair at any sitting of the commission or a division of it.

Pursuant to Section 4 of the Act, Len Kelsey, as Chair of the British Columbia Utilities Commission, has appointed Commissioners Keith Anderson, Dennis Cote, Mike Harle, Liisa O'Hara and Ross Ravelli to the Panel to conduct the Transmission Inquiry pursuant to Section 5 of the Act. Commissioner Liisa O'Hara has been designated as Panel Chair.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

Erica M. Hamilton

JWF/yl

cc: Mr. Dan T. Potts, Executive Director
Joint Industry Electricity Steering Committee
(Email: danpotts@shaw.ca)
British Columbia Public Interest Advocacy Centre
(Email: support@bcpiac.com)
Mr. David Austin
Independent Power Producers Association of BC
(Email: daustin@securitieslaw.bc.ca)
Mr. Steve Davis
Independent Power Producers Association of BC
(Email: svdavis@shaw.ca)
Mr. Chris P. Weafer
Owen, Bird
(Email: cweafer@owenbird.com)
Mr. William J. Andrews
(Email: wjandrews@shaw.ca)
Mr. Thomas Hackney
BC Sustainable Energy Association
(Email: thackney@shaw.ca)