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VIA E-MAIL

April 23, 2009

SECTION 5

TRANSMISSION INQUIRY

EXHIBIT A-6

To: Long-Term Transmission Inquiry Participants

Re: British Columbia Utilities Commission
Project No. 3698545/Order G-30-09
Inquiry into British Columbia's Long-Term Transmission Infrastructure

April 27 Procedural Conference Issues

Further to the Commission's Inquiry into British Columbia's electricity transmission infrastructure and capacity needs for a 30-year period, the Commission issued Order G-30-09 on March 23, 2009 establishing a Preliminary Workshop, which was held on Friday, April 17, 2009, and a Procedural Conference to be held on Monday, April 27, 2009.

In order to assist in an orderly discussion of the issues at the April 27th Procedural Conference, the Commission Panel is circulating the following list of issues, and requests that Participants making submissions at the Procedural Conference address the issues in the order they appear on the Issues List.

ISSUES LIST

1. The Draft Transmission Inquiry Schedule and Process

- (a) Are there any changes that should be made to the draft Transmission Inquiry Schedule circulated by Staff?
- (b) If so, what are they?

2. The Next Procedural Conference

The Panel presently intends to hold a second Procedural Conference on May 27th to specifically address the scope of the issues to be reviewed in the Inquiry. The Panel intends to request written participant funding submissions approximately two weeks after the Inquiry Panel's determinations resulting from the scoping procedural conference. This timing is intended to provide those who will be applying for participant assistance with some guidance as to the issues that will be within the scope of the proceeding and consequently may be worthwhile pursuing.

- (a) Does a second Procedural Conference on May 27, 2009, and a deadline of Friday, May 15th for the filing of written submissions on scope, present difficulties for Participants?
- (b) If so, what is the nature of the difficulties?
- (c) Would the second Procedural Conference be an appropriate forum to consider, for instance:
- Who will provide information on economic development and its impact on demand in various regions of the province?
 - Who will provide information on exports?
 - Who will provide information on the long-term future of the pulp and paper and forest industries? Will the Joint Industry Electricity Steering Committee be prepared to provide that information?
 - Who will provide information on the potential for generation in various regions? Will Independent Power Producers coordinate their submissions on generation?
 - Who will provide information on protected areas? (government, British Columbia Transmission Corporation ("BCTC"), environmental NGOs [non-governmental organizations]?)
 - Other matters?

3. Technical Workshops

- (a) Should BCTC, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority or FortisBC Inc. host technical workshops during the summer, prior to the filing of evidence, to educate and facilitate further understanding and refinement of the issues?
- (b) If so, how often should they take place and when should they be held?
- (c) What should the workshops focus upon?
- (d) The discussion draft timetable circulated at the workshop allows for workshops on various topics (e.g. domestic demand, generation, transmission, exports, protected areas) in September and October after the evidence is filed. Should Commission staff host those workshops to try to assist in adding to the clarity and completeness of the evidence?

At the April 17, 2009 Workshop, Commission staff circulated a draft Transmission Inquiry Schedule for discussion purposes. A copy of that document is attached for the benefit of participants who were not at that Workshop.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

Erica M. Hamilton

JWF/cms
Attachment

Draft Transmission Inquiry Schedule

April 17	Initial Workshop
April 27	Procedural Conference re scheduling
May/June	Procedural Conference re Scoping of Issues
Sept. 8	Filing of information by Participants (e.g.): BCH & Fortis - Domestic demand BCTC - Transmission BCH & IPP org. - Generation BCH or PowerEx, Alta. & IPP org. - Interprov. & Export trade BCTC, MEMPR - Protected Areas
Sept./Oct.	Workshops on each topic. Scenario development
Oct.	Procedural Conference re scoping, scenarios and scheduling
Oct./Nov.	Regional hearings
Early Nov.	Filing of submissions by BCH, Fortis, BCTC
Mid Nov.	Information Requests – limited and focused
Early Dec.	Information responses
Mid Dec.	Submissions by other parties: First Nations, Local government, etc. No IRs needed
January 11	Inquiry hearing days begin - non adversarial
Feb. 5	Inquiry hearing days must complete
Late Feb.	Final Submissions on issues??
June	Draft Inquiry report distributed for comment