



July 3, 2019

Sent via eFile

**FORTISBC MULTI-YEAR RATE PLAN APPLICATION
FOR 2020 TO 2024 EXHIBIT A-5**

TO: FortisBC Energy Inc.
FortisBC Inc.
Registered Parties

Re: **FortisBC Energy Inc. and FortisBC Inc. – Multi-Year Rate Plan Application for 2020-2024 – Project No. 1598996 – Procedural Conference**

On March 11, 2019, FortisBC Energy Inc. and FortisBC Inc. (collectively, FortisBC) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for approval of a proposed Multi-Year Rate Plan (MRP) for the years 2020 through 2024, pursuant to sections 59 to 61 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (Application).

By Order G-64-19 dated March 20, 2019, the BCUC established a regulatory timetable for the proceeding, including a workshop on key elements of the Application, one round of BCUC and intervener information requests (IRs), FortisBC responses to IRs and a procedural conference. That procedural conference is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 1125 Howe Street, 12th Floor in Vancouver.

FortisBC and/or interveners are requested to address the items below at the procedural conference:

1. Whether interveners intend to file intervener evidence and if so, the subject matter of the evidence.
2. Whether the review of the Application should proceed by way of a written or oral public hearing, or some other process. If an oral public hearing is proposed, please identify the specific matter(s) that should be addressed through that process and the rationale.
3. Steps and timetable associated with the recommended regulatory review process, including periods of unavailability if an oral public hearing process is proposed.
4. FortisBC is requested to provide the following information regarding the future filing for approval by the BCUC of interim 2020 rates for FortisBC Inc. and FortisBC Energy Inc.:
 - a. Whether a joint interim rate application or separate applications will be filed;
 - b. The expected timing of the interim rate application(s);
 - c. The proposed review process for the interim rate application(s); and
 - d. The basis upon which interim rates are proposed to be set, including identification of any information that will be used to set interim rates that has not been included within the Application.
5. What alternatives would be available to the BCUC for setting permanent rates for 2020 in the event that some or all of the elements of the rate-setting mechanisms proposed in the Application are not approved? As part of this response, please also address the following:

- a. What additional information not currently in evidence would be required?
 - b. What impact would such a determination have on interim 2020 rates? For instance, would FortisBC propose that interim rates remain in effect subsequent to such a determination? What should the proposed process and basis be for setting permanent 2020 rates in the event of such a determination?
 - c. Is it appropriate to consider alternatives to the proposed MRP rate-setting mechanisms in the current proceeding? If not, what would be the appropriate process and timing to review these alternatives?
6. Any other matter that will assist the BCUC to efficiently review the Application.

If FortisBC or other parties consider it more efficient to provide submissions in writing prior to the procedural conference, they are invited to do so on or before **10 a.m., Monday, July 8, 2019**. All submissions should be filed electronically via the BCUC's eFiling system.

Participants are requested to email the Commission Secretary by **Friday, July 5, 2019** at Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com to confirm their attendance at the procedural conference.

Interveners who wish to participate by telephone conference should notify Hal Bemister at Allwest Reporting Ltd. (604-683-4774) prior to the procedural conference.

After the procedural conference, the BCUC will issue a further procedural order and regulatory timetable for the review of the Application. If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned for more information.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary

SW/dg