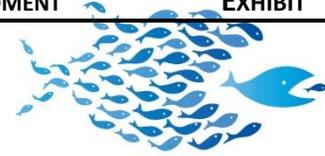


April 14, 2020

VIA E-FILING

Patrick Wruck
Commission Secretary
BC Utilities Commission
6th Floor 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3



BCPIAC
Public Interest Advocacy Centre

Reply to: Leigha Worth
ED@bcpiac.org
Ph: 604-687-3034
Our File: 7500.810

Dear Mr. Wruck,

**Re: British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, FortisBC Energy Inc. and
FortisBC Inc. Evacuation Relief Tariff Amendment Applications
BCOAPO Information Requests No. 2 to FortisBC**

We represent the BC Old Age Pensioners' Organization, Active Support Against Poverty, Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC, Disability Alliance BC, Tenant Resource and Advisory Centre, and Together Against Poverty Society, known collectively in regulatory processes as "BCOAPO et al." ("BCOAPO").

Enclosed please find the BCOAPO's Information Requests No. 2 to FortisBC with respect to the above-noted matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,
BC PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE

Original on file signed by:

Leigha Worth
Executive Director | General Counsel

Encl.

REQUESTOR NAME: **BCOAPO**
INFORMATION REQUEST ROUND NO: **#2**
TO: **FORTISBC INC (FBC) AND FORTISBC
ENERGY INC (FEI) – COLLECTIVELY
“FORTISBC”**
DATE: **APRIL 14, 2020**
PROJECT NO: **1599047**
APPLICATION NAME: **EVACUATION RELIEF TARIFF
AMENDMENT APPLICATION**

**6.0 Reference: Exhibit B2-3, BCUC 2.1
Exhibit B2-4, BCOAPO 1.1 and BCOAPO 1.2.1**

Preamble: The response to BCUC 1.2.1 states:
“In a situation where a customer’s premise is destroyed during an Evacuation Order, FortisBC would attempt to determine the date the premise was destroyed, and would close the account on the earliest of the date the premise was destroyed or the date of the Evacuation Order. Further, when the customer of a destroyed premise rebuilds and requests reconnection, FortisBC has the ability to waive certain fees, if appropriate, such as the application, reconnection, or reactivation charges”.

- 6.1 Will FortisBC commit to waiving the connection/reconnection fees for customers whose premise were destroyed during an event that triggered an Evacuation Order?
- 6.2 If not, what criteria will FortisBC use to determine whether or not it will exercise its ability to waive such fees?
- 6.3 In general, with respect to FortisBC’s ability to waive such fees, how will the Companies ensure that all customers are treated equally?

**7.0 Reference: Exhibit B2-3, BCUC.2.3 and BCUC 3.1
Exhibit B2-4, BCOAPO 3.1**

Preamble: In its responses to the BCUC information requests, FortisBC has revised its proposed tariff changes to allow for the discretion to consider individual customer circumstances, such as being subject to an Evacuation Order for less than the five consecutive day threshold, when granting evacuation relief.

- 7.1 What criteria will BC Hydro use to determine whether relief will be provided to evacuee customers who do not meet the five consecutive day threshold?
- 7.2 How will FortisBC ensure that these criteria will be applied on a fair and consistent basis to all customers who do not meet the five consecutive day threshold?

**8.0 Reference: Exhibit B2-3, BCUC 3.10
Exhibit B2-4, BCOAPO 1.3.2**

Preamble: FortisBC's response to BCUC 1.3.10 indicated that while it did not specify a deadline for when an Evacuee Customer would be eligible to request evacuation relief, one was implicit through the existing references in the tariff to the applicable limitation period provided by law. The response also indicated that FortisBC has revised its proposed tariff changes to include the discretion to consider requests by potential Evacuee Customers more than two years after an Evacuation Order has ended.

8.1 Please explain what criteria FortisBC will use to determine whether or not to provide a credit to an Evacuee Customer for the Rate Schedule charges that are or would otherwise have been applicable during the Evacuation Period if an Evacuation Order has ended more than two years before the date FortisBC receives a request from the customer.

**9.0 Reference: Exhibit B2-3, BCUC 2.5
Exhibit B2-4, BCOAPO 1.1**

9.1 When FortisBC uses its discretion to waive Late Payment Charges or Connection/Reconnection Charges, are the revenue impacts to the account of the ratepayers or the shareholder?

9.1.1 If to the account of the ratepayer, please explain how this is accomplished.

10.0 Reference: Exhibit B2-3, BCUC 2.7 and BCUC 2.8

Preamble: The response to BCUC 2.7 states:
"FortisBC believes that the benefit generated by the relief provided under the amendments to FEI GT&Cs and FBC T&Cs provides a benefit to ratepayers that sufficiently justifies the cost to provide the relief".

10.1 In the referenced part of BCUC 2.7 does FortisBC include the revenue impact of waiving certain Rate Schedule charges as part of the "cost to provide the relief"?

10.2 Can the proposed tariff changes be justified on a "cost of service" basis? If yes, please demonstrate.

10.3 Can the proposed tariff changes be justified on an economic basis (i.e., customers in general either benefit or, at minimum, are held harmless from an economic perspective)? If yes, please demonstrate.