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March 21, 2019

Commercial Energy Consumers Association of British Columbia
c/o Owen Bird Law Corporation
P.O. Box 49130
Three Bentall Centre
2900 – 595 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V7X 1J5

Attention: Mr. Christopher P. Weafer

Dear Mr. Weafer:

Re: FortisBC Inc. (FBC)

Project No. 1598987

Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Grand Forks Terminal Station Reliability Project (the Application)

Response to the Commercial Energy Consumers Association of British Columbia (CEC) Information Request (IR) No. 2

On November 19, 2018, FBC filed the Application referenced above. In accordance with the British Columbia Utilities Commission Order G-43-19 setting out a further Regulatory Timetable for the review of the Application, FBC respectfully submits the attached response to CEC IR No. 2.

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC INC.

Original signed:

Doug Slater

Attachments

cc (email only): Commission Secretary
Registered Parties

27. Reference: Exhibit B-2, BCUC 1.2.3

2.3 Please provide the acceptable Risk of Failure (RoF) for the GFT T1 transformer.

Response:

FBC considers that an acceptable risk of failure (RoF) for a transmission station should be no higher than 2 percent based on industry standards. The RoF for GFT T1 is higher than this and was calculated by ABB as 2.6 percent. Please also refer to the response to BCUC IR 1.2.2.

27.1 Please provide the industry standards to which FBC is referring.

Response:

Please refer to the response to BCUC IR 2.17.1.1.

28. Reference: Exhibit B-2, BCUC 1.6.1

> FBC considers community impacts when designing and constructing substations equipment within residential areas.
>
> FBC notes that some of these noise concerns were brought to FBC's attention through complaints in 2003 and 2004, which led to a study completed by HFP Acoustical Consultants Corp. The BCUC in its letter L-19-04 dated March 31, 2004 accepted the conclusions in the study, and determined that transformer noise levels met industry practices according to CSA standards. The BCUC also recognized that in comparison with the environmental standards for noise in other jurisdictions, the noise levels were not excessive and that in a very quiet environment of Copper Ridge, the noise levels may be discernable at times and some individuals may find noise annoying.
>
> FBC plans to construct an engineered sound wall around the new GFT T2 transformer similar to that installed around the existing transformer to absorb and re-direct any sound away from the Copper Ridge residential area, which will minimize noise from the new transformer.
>
> Evening lighting will not increase at the substation as a result of installing the new transformer. The additional lights that will be installed during construction will only be turned on during the evening hours if an emergency occurs or crews are required to perform work during the evening hours, thereby minimizing any concerns about increased lighting.
>
> FBC believes that the GFT Reliability Project is necessary to maintain the reliability of electric service to the residents of Grand Forks Area and since there is no change to the substation footprint or lighting levels, and noise concerns will be mitigated, the Project will not have any negative impact on residents' property values.

28.1 Is FBC able to quantify the expected increase in noise levels that will affect the Copper Ridge residential area, or other areas to which the sound will be directed?

Response:

Please refer to the response to BCUC IR 2.22.1.

28.1.1 If yes, please provide for each area.

Response:

Please refer to the response to BCUC IR 2.22.1.

29. Reference: Exhibit B-2, BCUC 1.6.2

6.2 Please estimate the proximity of the substation and potential staging area from existing commercial and residential areas.

Response:

As shown in the map below, the Grand Forks Terminal Station (GFT) is located in a rural/farming area on the outskirts of Grand Forks. FBC notes that it mistakenly stated that GFT substation is located within an industrial park. FBC confirms that it is Ruckles substation and not GFT that is located in the industrial park. FBC is filing an errata to correct this, concurrent with the filing of these IR responses.

For the stations portion of the GFT Reliability Project, the materials and staging areas will be set up within the substation. It is unlikely that material will need to be stored on the neighbouring customer land. However, if required, any field staging areas outside the substation will be discussed with local landowners.

29.1 Please confirm that a staging area would be temporary.

Response:

Confirmed. The staging area is required only for the construction of the Project.

29.1.1 If not confirmed, please discuss where the staging areas might be located and how much area might be required.

Response:

Please refer to the response to CEC IR 2.29.1.

29.1.2 Would FBC expect to compensate neighbouring customers for the use of their land? Please explain and provide quantification of the expected costs.

Response:

As stated in the response to BCUC IR 1.6.2 (Exhibit B-2), it is unlikely that staging areas will be required outside of the substation itself, therefore FBC does not expect that it will need to compensate neighbouring customers and has not quantified or included any provision for compensation in its project estimates. Any such compensation, if required, would be managed within the project contingency.