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September 3, 2020

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6Z 2N3

Attention: Ms. Marija Tresoglavic, Acting Commission Secretary

Dear Ms. Tresoglavic:

Re: FortisBC Inc. (FBC)

Project No. 1599088

Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Kelowna Bulk Transformer Addition Project (the Application)

Response to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) Information Request (IR) No. 2, Question 44 – BCUC Request for Further Information

On August 20, 2020, FBC filed its responses to BCUC IR No. 2 in the above referenced proceeding. On August 27, 2020, the BCUC issued a letter (Exhibit A-7) requesting further information in regard to FBC's response to BCUC IR2, Question 44. FBC respectfully submits the attached further information for the response to BCUC IR No. 2, Question 44.

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC INC.

Original signed:

Diane Roy

Attachments

cc (email only): Registered Parties



FortisBC Inc. (FBC or the Company) Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Kelowna Bulk Transformer Addition Project (Application)	Submission Date: September 3, 2020
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1 With respect to the above noted proceeding and in response to British Columbia Utilities
2 Commission (BCUC) Information Request 44.0 (Exhibit B-7), FortisBC Inc. (FBC) states:

3 FBC has received additional communication from two Indigenous communities since the
4 June 27, 2020 email. Specifically:

- 5 • FBC received a request for a meeting with an Indigenous community and is in
6 the process of scheduling this meeting for mid to late August; and
- 7 • A second Indigenous community emailed to inquire about the project and then
8 deferred further communication about the Project with FBC to the community
9 mentioned above.

10 The BCUC requests that FBC provide the following:

- 11
- 12 1. Confirmation of the date of FBC's meeting with the Indigenous community; and

13

14 **Response**

15 At the time of writing this response, FBC has not been able to meet with the above-noted
16 Indigenous community, Westbank First Nation (WFN). Below, FBC provides a brief chronology
17 of its communications with WFN.

18 As part of its consultation efforts, FBC sent an initial notification letter to the six Indigenous
19 communities listed in Section 7.5 of the Application in December 2019. In response to its letter,
20 FBC received an initial reply from WFN on January 22, 2020 seeking confirmation that the
21 Project was the same as was previously proposed and requesting a call to discuss the Project
22 further. FBC replied via telephone call on February 3, 2020, providing the initial information
23 requested, and agreed to meet with WFN in the coming weeks.

24 FBC sent an update letter to each of the six Indigenous communities listed in Section 7.5 of the
25 Application on April 2, 2020 with additional Project information, including the noise study and
26 Project renderings. Due to COVID-19, FBC offered to arrange a virtual conference call to
27 discuss the Project. FBC receive a response from the Upper Nicola and Pentiction Indian
28 Bands. Since the Project falls within the area of responsibility of WFN, the Upper Nicola and
29 Pentiction Indian Bands deferred further communication to WFN. FBC did not receive a
30 response from WFN and expects that WFN was focussed on managing the pandemic situation
31 at that time.

32 As mentioned in the preamble above, FBC reached out to WFN on June 27, 2020 to notify
33 them that the Application had been filed and to recommence efforts to schedule a meeting. At
34 that time, WFN suggested a meeting in mid to late August, but later determined those dates
35 were unavailable.



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1 While FBC has not yet been able to meet with WFN, FBC respects that WFN has other priorities
2 to manage. Given the communication to date, as well as the nature of the Project, which
3 includes station work inside FBC's existing property, FBC does not anticipate that WFN will
4 have significant concerns with the Project. Nonetheless, FBC will continue to seek a meeting
5 and will consider feedback from WFN and will provide an update to the BCUC should a meeting
6 occur prior to the close of the regulatory process on September 29, 2020.

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10 2. The outcomes of the meeting, including as a minimum: topics discussed, concerns
11 raised by the Indigenous community, FBC's responses, further actions to be
12 undertaken by FBC and/or the Indigenous community, and whether any further
13 meetings have been scheduled.

14

15 **Response:**

16 Please refer to the response to BCUC Request for Further Information 1.