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March 6, 2019

British Columbia Utilities Commission  
Suite 410, 900 Howe Street  
Vancouver, BC  
V6Z 2N3

Attention: Mr. Patrick Wruck, Commission Secretary and Manager, Regulatory Support

Dear Mr. Wruck:

**Re: FortisBC Energy Inc. – Revelstoke  
2019 First Quarter Gas Cost Report**

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FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI or the Company) hereby submits to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) the 2019 First Quarter Gas Cost Report for Revelstoke. The attached schedules provide a summary of the forecast monthly Propane Cost Deferral Account balances based on the February 26, 2019 forward prices.

The schedule at Tab 1, Page 1, based on the February 26, 2019 forward prices, using the NYMEX B0 – Mt. Belvieu Propane Swap prices, and based on the current rates, the projected deferral account balance at March 31, 2019 is \$103,175 deficit (after tax), and the forecast balance at March 31, 2020 is \$146,766 deficit (after tax). The rate change trigger ratio is calculated to be 92.2%, which falls outside the 95% to 105% deadband range. The tested rate increase that would be required to produce a 100% propane cost recovery-to-cost ratio is calculated to be \$0.825/GJ (Tab 1, Page 3, Line 20), which falls outside the \$0.50/GJ minimum rate change threshold. The results of the two-criteria rate adjustment mechanism indicate that a rate change is required effective April 1, 2019.

Provided in Tab 2 are the details of the forecast gas costs for Revelstoke. The Company requests the information contained in Tab 2 be treated as CONFIDENTIAL.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

FEI is requesting that this information be filed on a confidential basis pursuant to Section 18 of the BCUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure regarding confidential documents adopted by Order G-15-19, and Section 71(5) of the Utilities Commission Act and requests that the BCUC exercise its discretion under Section 6.0 of the Rules for Natural Gas Energy Supply

Contracts and allow these documents to remain confidential. FEI believes this will ensure that market sensitive information is protected, and FEI's ability to obtain favourable commercial terms for future natural gas contracting is not impaired.

In this regard, FEI further believes that the Core Market could be disadvantaged and may well shoulder incremental costs if utility gas supply procurement strategies as well as contracts are treated in a different manner than those of other gas purchasers, and believes that since it continues to operate within a competitive environment, there is no necessity for public disclosure and risk prejudice or influence in the negotiations or renegotiation of subsequent contracts.

### **SUMMARY**

In summary, the Company requests BCUC approval for an increase in the propane reference price (based on the NYMEX B0 – Mt. Belvieu Propane Swap prices) for use in the Revelstoke Propane Cost Deferral Account from \$0.2364/litre to \$0.2565/litre which corresponds to a rate increase of \$0.825/GJ, effective April 1, 2019. As a result, the annual bill for a typical Revelstoke residential customer with an average annual consumption of 50 GJ per year will increase by approximately \$41 or 4.6%.

The Company will continue to monitor the forward prices and will report these results in the 2019 Second Quarter Gas Cost Report.

We trust the BCUC will find the attached to be in order. However, should any further information be required, please contact Doug Richardson at 604-592-7643.

Sincerely,

**FORTISBC ENERGY INC.**

***Original signed:***

Doug Slater

Attachments

**FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - REVELSTOKE  
PROPANE COST DEFERRAL ACCOUNT  
WITH EXISTING PROPANE REFERENCE PRICE**

Tab 1

Page 1

(FEBRUARY 26, 2019 FORWARD PRICES BASED ON NYMEX MT. BELVIEU PROPANE SWAP PRICES)

Line No.	Particulars	Sales Volumes In Litre	Average Price Per Litre	Approved Reference Price	Amount Deferred Per Litre	Amount Deferred	Pre-tax Deferral Balance	After-tax Deferral Balance
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)=(3)-(4)	(6)=(2)*(5)	(7)	(8)
1	October 2018 (Recorded)	420,364	\$0.3017	\$0.2907	\$0.0110	\$4,644	(\$33,316)	(\$24,321)
2	November (Recorded)	1,067,633	\$0.3212	\$0.2907	\$0.0305	\$32,605	(\$711)	(\$519)
3	December (Recorded)	1,347,239	\$0.2917	\$0.2907	\$0.0010	\$1,408	\$697	\$509
4	January (Recorded)	1,507,103	\$0.2272	\$0.2364	(\$0.0092)	(\$13,912)	(\$13,215)	(\$9,647)
5	February (Projected)	1,305,228	\$0.2939	\$0.2364	\$0.0575	\$75,099	\$61,884	\$45,176
6	March (Projected)	<u>1,169,532</u>	\$0.3043	\$0.2364	\$0.0679	<u>\$79,451</u>	\$141,335	\$103,175
7	Total October, 2018 to March, 2019	<u>6,817,099</u>				<u>\$179,296</u>		
8								
9	<u>Forecast Volumes and Forecast Prices</u>							
10	April, 2019 (Forecast)	752,442	\$0.2310	\$0.2364	(\$0.0054)	(\$4,063)	\$137,272	\$100,209
11	May (Forecast)	455,263	\$0.2133	\$0.2364	(\$0.0231)	(\$10,517)	\$126,755	\$92,531
12	June (Forecast)	375,947	\$0.2110	\$0.2364	(\$0.0254)	(\$9,549)	\$117,206	\$85,561
13	July (Forecast)	299,680	\$0.2110	\$0.2364	(\$0.0254)	(\$7,612)	\$109,594	\$80,004
14	August (Forecast)	297,570	\$0.2170	\$0.2364	(\$0.0194)	(\$5,773)	\$103,821	\$75,790
15	September (Forecast)	381,339	\$0.2200	\$0.2364	(\$0.0164)	(\$6,254)	\$97,567	\$71,224
16	October (Forecast)	730,796	\$0.2325	\$0.2364	(\$0.0039)	(\$2,850)	\$94,717	\$69,144
17	November (Forecast)	1,101,977	\$0.2463	\$0.2364	\$0.0099	\$10,910	\$105,627	\$77,108
18	December (Forecast)	1,441,588	\$0.2578	\$0.2364	\$0.0214	\$30,850	\$136,477	\$99,628
19	January, 2020 (Forecast)	1,560,678	\$0.2545	\$0.2364	\$0.0181	\$28,248	\$164,725	\$120,249
20	February (Forecast)	1,373,877	\$0.2580	\$0.2364	\$0.0216	\$29,676	\$194,401	\$141,913
21	March (Forecast)	<u>1,231,031</u>	\$0.2418	\$0.2364	\$0.0054	<u>\$6,648</u>	\$201,049	\$146,766
22	Total April, 2019 to March, 2020	<u>10,002,188</u>				<u>\$59,714</u>		
23								
24								
25	Forecast Recovered Costs [(Line 22 Col. 2) x (Line 21 Col. 4)]					\$2,364,517		
26	March 31, 2019 Deferral Balance (Line 6 Col. 7) + Forecast Costs (Page 2 Line 13 Col. 9)					\$2,565,590		
27								
28								
29	April, 2020 (Forecast)	792,061	\$0.2081	\$0.2364	(\$0.0283)	(\$22,415)	\$178,634	\$130,403
30	May (Forecast)	478,823	\$0.1966	\$0.2364	(\$0.0398)	(\$19,057)	\$159,577	\$116,491
31	June (Forecast)	395,210	\$0.1950	\$0.2364	(\$0.0414)	(\$16,362)	\$143,215	\$104,547
32	July (Forecast)	314,800	\$0.1964	\$0.2364	(\$0.0400)	(\$12,592)	\$130,623	\$95,355
33	August (Forecast)	312,534	\$0.2006	\$0.2364	(\$0.0358)	(\$11,189)	\$119,434	\$87,187
34	September (Forecast)	400,875	\$0.2128	\$0.2364	(\$0.0236)	(\$9,461)	\$109,973	\$80,281
35	October (Forecast)	768,813	\$0.2284	\$0.2364	(\$0.0080)	(\$6,151)	\$103,822	\$75,790
36	November (Forecast)	1,159,295	\$0.2384	\$0.2364	\$0.0020	\$2,319	\$106,141	\$77,483
37	December (Forecast)	1,515,980	\$0.2497	\$0.2364	\$0.0133	\$20,163	\$126,304	\$92,202
38	January, 2021 (Forecast)	1,640,228	\$0.2416	\$0.2364	\$0.0052	\$8,529	\$134,833	\$98,428
39	February (Forecast)	1,444,049	\$0.2446	\$0.2364	\$0.0082	\$11,841	\$146,674	\$107,072
40	March (Forecast)	<u>1,293,897</u>	\$0.2303	\$0.2364	(\$0.0061)	<u>(\$7,893)</u>	\$138,781	\$101,310
41	Total April, 2020 to March, 2021	<u>10,516,566</u>				<u>(\$62,268)</u>		

**FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - REVELSTOKE**  
**PROPANE COST DEFERRAL ACCOUNT**  
**FORECAST AVERAGE COST OF PROPANE**

(FEBRUARY 26, 2019 FORWARD PRICES BASED ON NYMEX MT. BELVIEU PROPANE SWAP PRICES)

Line No.	Particulars	Sales Volume (Litres)	Fixed Volume (Litres)	Variable Volume (Litres)	Fixed Price <sup>(a)</sup> (\$/litre)	Variable Price <sup>(a)</sup> (\$/litre)	Fixed Charges (\$)	Variable Charges (\$)	Total (\$)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1	April, 2019 (Forecast)	752,442	-	752,442	\$ -	\$ 0.2310	\$ -	\$ 173,835	\$ 173,835
2	May (Forecast)	455,263	-	455,263	\$ -	\$ 0.2133	\$ -	\$ 97,126	\$ 97,126
3	June (Forecast)	375,947	-	375,947	\$ -	\$ 0.2110	\$ -	\$ 79,314	\$ 79,314
4	July (Forecast)	299,680	-	299,680	\$ -	\$ 0.2110	\$ -	\$ 63,230	\$ 63,230
5	August (Forecast)	297,570	-	297,570	\$ -	\$ 0.2170	\$ -	\$ 64,568	\$ 64,568
6	September (Forecast)	381,339	-	381,339	\$ -	\$ 0.2200	\$ -	\$ 83,883	\$ 83,883
7	October (Forecast)	730,796	-	730,796	\$ -	\$ 0.2325	\$ -	\$ 169,886	\$ 169,886
8	November (Forecast)	1,101,977	600,000	501,977	\$ 0.2512	\$ 0.2404	\$ 150,698	\$ 120,689	\$ 271,387
9	December (Forecast)	1,441,588	600,000	841,588	\$ 0.2512	\$ 0.2626	\$ 150,698	\$ 220,974	\$ 371,672
10	January, 2020 (Forecast)	1,560,678	600,000	960,678	\$ 0.2512	\$ 0.2567	\$ 150,698	\$ 246,560	\$ 397,257
11	February (Forecast)	1,373,877	600,000	773,877	\$ 0.2512	\$ 0.2633	\$ 150,698	\$ 203,727	\$ 354,425
12	March (Forecast)	1,231,031	600,000	631,031	\$ 0.2512	\$ 0.2329	\$ 150,698	\$ 146,974	\$ 297,672
13	Total April, 2019 to March, 2020	<u>10,002,188</u>	<u>3,000,000</u>	<u>7,002,188</u>			<u>\$ 753,488</u>	<u>\$ 1,670,766</u>	<u>\$ 2,424,255</u>
14									
15	<b>Forecast Average Cost of Propane (\$/Litre) <sup>(b), (c)</sup></b>								
16		10,002,188 Litres							<u>\$ 0.24237</u>
17	<b>Forecast Average Cost of Propane (\$/GJ) <sup>(b), (d)</sup></b>								
18	(Conversion factor 1 Litre = 0.025594 GJ)	255,996 GJ							<u>\$ 9.470</u>
19									
20	April, 2020 (Forecast)	792,061	-	792,061	\$ -	\$ 0.2081	\$ -	\$ 164,816	\$ 164,816
21	May (Forecast)	478,823	-	478,823	\$ -	\$ 0.1966	\$ -	\$ 94,149	\$ 94,149
22	June (Forecast)	395,210	-	395,210	\$ -	\$ 0.1950	\$ -	\$ 77,075	\$ 77,075
23	July (Forecast)	314,800	-	314,800	\$ -	\$ 0.1964	\$ -	\$ 61,830	\$ 61,830
24	August (Forecast)	312,534	-	312,534	\$ -	\$ 0.2006	\$ -	\$ 62,684	\$ 62,684
25	September (Forecast)	400,875	-	400,875	\$ -	\$ 0.2128	\$ -	\$ 85,314	\$ 85,314
26	October (Forecast)	768,813	-	768,813	\$ -	\$ 0.2284	\$ -	\$ 175,586	\$ 175,586
27	November (Forecast)	1,159,295	600,000	559,295	\$ 0.2406	\$ 0.2361	\$ 144,347	\$ 132,042	\$ 276,389
28	December (Forecast)	1,515,980	600,000	915,980	\$ 0.2406	\$ 0.2556	\$ 144,347	\$ 234,128	\$ 378,475
29	January, 2021 (Forecast)	1,640,228	600,000	1,040,228	\$ 0.2406	\$ 0.2423	\$ 144,347	\$ 252,009	\$ 396,356
30	February (Forecast)	1,444,049	600,000	844,049	\$ 0.2406	\$ 0.2474	\$ 144,347	\$ 208,847	\$ 353,193
31	March (Forecast)	1,293,897	600,000	693,897	\$ 0.2406	\$ 0.2215	\$ 144,347	\$ 153,701	\$ 298,048
32	Total April, 2020 to March, 2021	<u>10,516,566</u>	<u>3,000,000</u>	<u>7,516,566</u>			<u>\$ 721,734</u>	<u>\$ 1,702,180</u>	<u>\$ 2,423,915</u>

Notes:

- (a) Includes transportation costs.
- (b) Forecast Average Cost of Propane excludes company use, vaporizer use, and unaccounted for gas.
- (c) Forecast Average Cost of Propane (\$/Litre) = Total Cost (Column 9 Line 13) / Sales Volume in Litres (Column 2 Line 13).
- (d) Forecast Average Cost of Propane (\$/GJ) = Total Cost (Column 9 Line 13) / Sales Volume in GJ (Column 2 Line 18).

**FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - REVELSTOKE**  
**PROPANE COST DEFERRAL ACCOUNT**  
**CALCULATION OF PROPANE COST DECREASE FLOWTHROUGH**  
**(FEBRUARY 26, 2019 FORWARD PRICES BASED ON NYMEX MT. BELVIEU PROPANE SWAP PRICES)**

Line No.	Particulars	\$/Litre	\$/GJ
	(1)	(2)	(3) = (2) divided by 0.025594
1	Calculation of New Propane Reference Price		
2			<i>Convert from Litre to GJ (for information only)</i>
3	i. Forecast Average Cost of Propane (Tab 1, Page 2, Col. 9, Line 16 and Line 18)		
4	April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020	\$0.24237	\$9.4698
5			
6	ii. Twelve Month Amortization of <u>\$ 141,335</u> (Deferral Balance, Tab 1, Page 1, Col. 7, Line 6)		
7	Projected Deferral Account Balance 10,002,188 (Volume in Litres, Tab 1, Page 1, Col. 2, Line 22)	<u>0.01413</u>	\$0.5521
8			
9	<b>Proposed Reference Price</b>	<b>\$0.2565</b>	<b>\$10.0219</b>
10			
11			
12	(a) Existing Propane Reference Price	<u>0.2364</u>	<u>\$9.2365</u>
13			
14			
15			
16	Increase in Propane Reference Price to be Flowed Through in Customers' Rates	<u>\$0.0201</u>	\$0.7853
17			
18	(b) Add: Company Use/Vaporizer Use/Unaccounted For Gas Adjustment of 5.02%		<u>0.0394</u>
19			
20	Total Propane Cost Flowthrough (c)		<u><b>\$0.825</b></u>

Notes:

Conversion factor 1 Litre = 0.025594 GJ

(a) Propane Reference Price per litre is set at 4 decimals. Individual calculation components are shown to 5 decimals, then rounded to 4 decimals.

(b) The Company Use / Vaporizer Use / Unaccounted For Gas Adjustment of 5.02% is based on the 3-year average of 2016, 2017, and 2018 data. Unaccounted For Gas relates to the entire Revelstoke system including the propane tank farm / plant and the distribution system.

	Litres	Percentage of Sales
Sales	8,608,698	
Company Use	3,931	0.05%
Propane Used for Vaporizer	107,891	1.25%
Unaccounted For	320,060	3.72%
Total Fuel / UAF Requirement	<u>431,881</u>	<u>5.02%</u>

(c) Propane cost flowthrough components, converted from litre to GJ, are shown to 4 decimals, then rounded to 3 decimals.

Breakdown of Rate Change:

Projected Deferral Balance at Mar 31, 2019	\$0.5521
Propane Cost Under (Over) Recovery (including amount at Line 18) for Apr 1, 2019 to Mar 31, 2020 period	<u>0.2729</u>
Total Propane Cost Flow Through	<u><b>\$0.825</b></u>

Slight differences due to rounding.

**FORTISBC ENERGY INC. - REVELSTOKE  
PROPANE COST DEFERRAL ACCOUNT  
WITH PROPOSED REFERENCE PRICE APRIL 1, 2019**

Tab 1  
Page 4

**(FEBRUARY 26, 2019 FORWARD PRICES BASED ON NYMEX MT. BELVIEU PROPANE SWAP PRICES)**

Line No.	Particulars	Volumes In Litre	Average Price Per Litre	Proposed Reference Price	Amount Deferred Per Litre	Amount Deferred	Pre-tax Deferral Balance	After-tax Deferral Balance
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)=(3)-(4)	(6)=(2)*(5)	(7)	(8)
1	<u>Forecast Volumes and Forecast Prices</u>							
2	April, 2019 (Forecast)	752,442	\$0.2310	\$0.2565	(\$0.0255)	(\$19,187)	\$122,148	\$89,168
3	May (Forecast)	455,263	\$0.2133	\$0.2565	(\$0.0432)	(\$19,667)	\$102,481	\$74,811
4	June (Forecast)	375,947	\$0.2110	\$0.2565	(\$0.0455)	(\$17,106)	\$85,375	\$62,324
5	July (Forecast)	299,680	\$0.2110	\$0.2565	(\$0.0455)	(\$13,635)	\$71,740	\$52,370
6	August (Forecast)	297,570	\$0.2170	\$0.2565	(\$0.0395)	(\$11,754)	\$59,986	\$43,790
7	September (Forecast)	381,339	\$0.2200	\$0.2565	(\$0.0365)	(\$13,919)	\$46,067	\$33,629
8	October (Forecast)	730,796	\$0.2325	\$0.2565	(\$0.0240)	(\$17,539)	\$28,528	\$20,826
9	November (Forecast)	1,101,977	\$0.2463	\$0.2565	(\$0.0102)	(\$11,240)	\$17,288	\$12,620
10	December (Forecast)	1,441,588	\$0.2578	\$0.2565	\$0.0013	\$1,874	\$19,162	\$13,989
11	January, 2020 (Forecast)	1,560,678	\$0.2545	\$0.2565	(\$0.0020)	(\$3,121)	\$16,041	\$11,710
12	February (Forecast)	1,373,877	\$0.2580	\$0.2565	\$0.0015	\$2,061	\$18,102	\$13,215
13	March (Forecast)	<u>1,231,031</u>	\$0.2418	\$0.2565	(\$0.0147)	<u>(\$18,096)</u>	\$6	\$5
14	Total April, 2019 to March, 2020	<u>10,002,188</u>				<u>(\$141,329)</u>		
15								
16								
17	April, 2020 (Forecast)	792,061	\$0.2081	\$0.2565	(\$0.0484)	(\$38,336)	(\$38,330)	(\$27,981)
18	May (Forecast)	478,823	\$0.1966	\$0.2565	(\$0.0599)	(\$28,682)	(\$67,012)	(\$48,919)
19	June (Forecast)	395,210	\$0.1950	\$0.2565	(\$0.0615)	(\$24,305)	(\$91,317)	(\$66,661)
20	July (Forecast)	314,800	\$0.1964	\$0.2565	(\$0.0601)	(\$18,920)	(\$110,237)	(\$80,473)
21	August (Forecast)	312,534	\$0.2006	\$0.2565	(\$0.0559)	(\$17,471)	(\$127,708)	(\$93,227)
22	September (Forecast)	400,875	\$0.2128	\$0.2565	(\$0.0437)	(\$17,518)	(\$145,226)	(\$106,015)
23	October (Forecast)	768,813	\$0.2284	\$0.2565	(\$0.0281)	(\$21,604)	(\$166,830)	(\$121,786)
24	November (Forecast)	1,159,295	\$0.2384	\$0.2565	(\$0.0181)	(\$20,983)	(\$187,813)	(\$137,103)
25	December (Forecast)	1,515,980	\$0.2497	\$0.2565	(\$0.0068)	(\$10,309)	(\$198,122)	(\$144,629)
26	January, 2021 (Forecast)	1,640,228	\$0.2416	\$0.2565	(\$0.0149)	(\$24,439)	(\$222,561)	(\$162,469)
27	February (Forecast)	1,444,049	\$0.2446	\$0.2565	(\$0.0119)	(\$17,184)	(\$239,745)	(\$175,014)
28	March (Forecast)	<u>1,293,897</u>	\$0.2303	\$0.2565	(\$0.0262)	<u>(\$33,900)</u>	(\$273,645)	(\$199,761)
29	Total April, 2020 to March, 2021	<u>10,516,566</u>				<u>(\$273,651)</u>		





**ORDER NUMBER**

**G-xx-xx**

IN THE MATTER OF  
the *Utilities Commission Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.  
Application regarding its 2019 First Quarter Gas Cost Report  
And Rate Changes effective April 1, 2019  
For Revelstoke

**BEFORE:**

[Panel Chair]  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

on **Date**

**ORDER**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. The British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) established guidelines for gas cost rate setting in Letter L-5-01 dated February 5, 2001 and further modified the guidelines in Letter L-40-11 dated May 19, 2011 (together the Guidelines);
- B. By Order G-225-18 dated November 29, 2018, the BCUC approved the current propane rates for Revelstoke and surrounding areas (Revelstoke) effective January 1, 2019;
- C. On March 6, 2019, FEI filed its 2019 First Quarter Gas Cost Report for Revelstoke (the Report);
- D. Using a propane price forecast based on February 26, 2019 NMYEX B0 - Mt. Belvieu propane swap prices, and based on the existing rates, the projected after tax deferral balance at March 31, 2019 of \$103,175 deficit is forecast to change to a \$146,766 deficit at March 31, 2020. The rate change trigger mechanism is calculated to be 92.2 percent that falls outside the deadband range of 95 percent to 105 percent. The proposed rate increase is calculated to be \$0.825/GJ, which falls outside the minimum \$0.50/GJ threshold established in the Guidelines;
- E. In the Report, FEI indicates that current propane cost recovery rates will under recover costs and a propane rate increase is required, effective April 1, 2019;
- F. The proposed Gas Cost Recovery Charge requested within the Report would be equivalent to an annual bill increase of approximately \$41 or 4.6 percent to a typical Revelstoke residential customer, based on an annual consumption of 50 GJ;



- G. FEI requests that the forecast gas cost information for Revelstoke in Tab 2 of the Report be held confidential on the basis that it contains market sensitive information; and
- H. The BCUC has determined that the requested changes to the propane reference price and propane rate for Revelstoke should be approved.

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to section 61(4) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the British Columbia Utilities Commission orders as follows:

1. The BCUC approves a propane reference price increase of \$0.0201 per litre, from the existing propane reference price of \$0.2364 per litre to \$0.2565 per litre, which corresponds to an increase of \$0.825 per gigajoule in customer rates, effective April 1, 2019.
2. FEI is directed to notify all customers that are affected by the rate change by way of a bill insert or bill message included with the next monthly billing.
3. The BCUC will hold confidential the information in Tab 2 of the 2019 First Quarter Report as requested by FEI as it contains market sensitive information.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this (XX) day of March 2019.

BY ORDER

(X. X. last name)  
Commissioner