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September 30, 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. and FortisBC Inc. (collectively FortisBC)

Project No. 1598996

**Application for Approval of a Multi-Year Rate Plan (MRP) for 2020 through 2024
(Application)**

FortisBC Request to Amend the Regulatory Timetable

FortisBC writes to request an amendment to the Regulatory Timetable established by Order G-156-19 to advance the date for the Procedural Conference, currently scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2019. The current date of the Procedural Conference leaves little time between a decision on the need for and scope of a potential oral component of the proceeding, and the placeholder dates for that oral component, if required. This will impact the ability of all parties to prepare for a potential hearing and for FortisBC in particular to finalize and prepare its witness panels.

FortisBC has filed responses to approximately 2,700 information requests in two rounds to date. Given the volume and breadth of written evidence on the record thus far, there is the potential for any oral component to involve numerous witnesses, including third-party expert witnesses whose availability needs to be confirmed in advance. FortisBC believes that an earlier Procedural Conference will assist all parties to efficiently schedule, prepare for, and participate in the remainder of the regulatory review process.

Therefore, FortisBC respectfully requests that the BCUC convene a Procedural Conference sometime during the week of October 14, 2019 or, in the alternative, during the week of October 21, 2019. FortisBC believes that, subsequent to the filing of Intervener Evidence on October 7, 2019, all parties should be in a position to advise on what further process they may require, whether written or oral and, if oral, the format they desire such as an oral

hearing, a Streamlined Review Process, a Negotiated Settlement Process or some combination.

Further, if the BCUC requested written submissions from the parties in advance of the Procedural Conference, any party advocating for an oral component could identify the specific issues they intend to explore. Doing so will provide for a more efficient Procedural Conference and should assist the Panel in considering and determining whether an oral component is warranted. If an oral component is required, in order to ensure the BCUC receives quality evidence to facilitate a focused, efficient, and cost-effective process, FortisBC believes that all parties would benefit from earlier scoping of the issues to be examined.

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC ENERGY INC.
FORTISBC INC.

Original signed:

Doug Slater

cc (email only): Registered Parties