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May 2, 2023

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Suite 410, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC
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Attention: Patrick Wruck, Commission Secretary

Dear Patrick Wruck:

Re: FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI)

Application for Approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Okanagan Capacity Upgrade (OCU) Project (Application) ~ Project No. 1599152

FEI Reply Submission on Next Steps

FEI writes to provide its reply submissions to intervener submissions regarding next steps for the regulatory review process for the OCU CPCN Application, pursuant to British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) letter dated March 3, 2023 (Exhibit A-29).

FEI is in receipt of submissions from four interveners on next steps. Submissions were filed by the BC Sustainable Energy Association (BCSEA),¹ the Residential Consumer Intervener Association (RCIA),² the Commercial Energy Consumers Association of British Columbia (CEC),³ and the Penticton Indian Band (PIB).⁴

BCSEA does not object to FEI's proposed timetable nor the RCIA's requested adjustment. BCSEA submits that it would welcome an agreement between FEI and PIB regarding the OCU Project as such an agreement would foster reconciliation between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous peoples in Canada, which BCSEA supports. BCSEA requests that if FEI files such an agreement, that BCSEA be provided an opportunity to make information requests (IRs) regarding the agreement and its implications for the OCU Project to FEI, and on a limited basis to PIB. BCSEA asks FEI's Supplementary Filing address the recent developments in the regulatory and policy environment, such as the *CleanBC Roadmap to 2030*.

CEC agrees that an update and at least one additional round of IRs are required to complete the record, and finds the timetable proposed by FEI to be acceptable should no additional process be required. However, CEC recommends the BCUC canvas interveners at the conclusion of the IR process to determine if there are outstanding issues which require resolution with further process.

¹ Exhibit C1-12.

² Exhibit C2-14.

³ Exhibit C4-17.

⁴ Exhibit C5-27.

RCIA is generally comfortable with FEI's proposed timetable for the remainder of the process but requests an adjustment to the deadline for intervener IRs on the Supplementary Filing from Tuesday, June 13 to Friday, June 16, 2023.

PIB submits that it has no comments on FEI's proposed schedule for the next steps in this proceeding.

In reply to BCSEA's submissions, FEI notes that it has committed to providing an update on consultation and engagement activities as part of the Supplementary Filing. FEI will consider, in consultation with PIB, whether to include a copy of any agreement with PIB as part of the Supplementary Filing. FEI confirms that it will address recent developments in the regulatory and policy environment in the Supplementary Filing, as requested by BCSEA.

While CEC agrees with FEI's proposed process and timetable, it caveats its submission by recommending the BCUC canvas interveners if further process is required after responses to IRs on the Supplementary Filing. FEI submits that it is not efficient to build in an additional delay to the timetable to accommodate a further round of submissions on process absent evidence that further process will be required. Rather, FEI submits that after responses to IRs on the Supplementary Filing are filed, should an intervener not be satisfied with an FEI response and believes it is an issue material to the decision to be made that must be resolved, that intervener is free to make a submission to the BCUC, in accordance with Rule 13.05 of the BCUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as adopted by Order G-72-23, and request the Panel consider further process and an amended timetable if warranted.

Based on the submissions from interveners and in consideration of the adjustment to the timing of IRs on the Supplementary Filing as requested by RCIA, FEI provides the following revised proposed timetable for the remainder of the regulatory review process.

Action	Date (2023)
FEI Supplementary Filing	Tuesday, May 16
BCUC and Intervener IR No. 1 on Supplementary Filing	Friday, June 16
FEI Response to IRs on Supplementary Filing	Friday, July 14
FEI Written Final Argument	Friday, August 4
Intervener Written Final Arguments	Friday, August 25
FEI Written Reply Argument	Friday, September 15

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

Original signed:

Sarah Walsh

cc (email only): Registered Intervenors