

**Sarah Walsh** Director, Regulatory Affairs

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May 10, 2023

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

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 Interior Transmission System (ITS) Transmission Integrity Management Capabilities (TIMC) Project (Application)

**FEI Reply Submissions on Further Process** 

In accordance with British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) Order G-94-23, FEI writes to provide these reply submissions on further process with respect to the above referenced Application.

While FEI, BCOAPO and CEC consider the record to be sufficiently developed to proceed to the written argument phase of the proceeding, RCIA: (1) is seeking clarification regarding FEI's responses to certain information requests (IR) rather than a third round of IRs; and (2) has indicated that it intends to submit intervener evidence. FEI addresses each of RCIA's proposals in turn below.

## **Clarification of Information Requests**

FEI does not agree that its responses to RCIA IR2 19.6, 19.6.1, 20.1 and 21.2.1 are incomplete or vague. In particular, FEI has explained that it requires full (100 percent) coverage for crack mitigation,<sup>1</sup> including the pipelines assessed during the pilot project and the eight ITS pipelines. Nonetheless, FEI is willing to provide additional clarification regarding the responses identified by RCIA and agrees that providing such clarification is more easily addressed under Rule 13.05 of the BCUC's *Rules of Practice and Procedure* as opposed to a third round of IRs.

## **Intervener Evidence**

RCIA intends to submit intervener evidence that provides "an alternative view regarding the capital expenditures" proposed as part of the ITS TIMC Project including, in particular,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exhibit B-4, BCUC IR1 8.1.



evidence in two areas: (1) the need for heavy wall segments; and (2) the need for pressure control facilities at the East Kootenay Exchange.

First, with respect to RCIA's proposed evidence regarding heavy wall segments, FEI anticipates that the additional information requested by RCIA regarding the above-noted IRs will obviate the need for this evidence. RCIA acknowledges this portion of its evidence may ultimately not be necessary and, in FEI's view, it has sufficiently supported the need for these components of the Project scope.

Second, with respect to RCIA's proposed evidence regarding pressure control facilities, FEI again considers that it has demonstrated the need for these expenditures to enable EMAT ILI on the ITS through the Application and two rounds of IRs.

## Proposed Regulatory Timetable

Should the Panel agree with RCIA's requests regarding further process, FEI proposes the following regulatory timetable, in consideration of the availability of key team members and the regulatory timetables established in other ongoing regulatory review processes which FEI and interveners are involved in.

Action	Date (2023)
FEI Clarification Regarding IRs	Friday, May 26
Intervener Evidence	Friday, June 16
IRs on Intervener Evidence	Thursday, June 29
Responses to IRs on Intervener Evidence	Friday, July 14
FEI Rebuttal Evidence (if required)	Friday, August 4
IRs on Rebuttal Evidence	Monday, August 21
FEI Responses to IRs on Rebuttal Evidence	Thursday, September 7
FEI Written Final Argument	Tuesday, September 19
Intervener Written Final Arguments	Tuesday, October 3
FEI Written Reply Argument	Wednesday, October 18

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

Original signed:

Sarah Walsh

cc (email only): Registered Interveners