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August 7, 2024

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)

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) Decision and Order C-2-23

Application for Amendments to FEI's General Terms and Conditions to Enable Radio-off AMI Meter Option

On May 15, 2023, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) issued its Decision and Order C-2-23 (Decision) granting FEI a CPCN for the AMI Project. As noted on page 48 of the Decision, FEI expected to file an application at least six months prior to the AMI Project's first regional deployment for the necessary tariff changes and fees for customers who choose to have their AMI meter installed with the internal communicating radio turned off.

Attached is FEI's Application for amendments to its tariff to enable the Radio-off AMI Meter Option for customers.

Request for Confidential Treatment of Appendix A

FEI respectfully requests that the BCUC hold the Live Spreadsheet contained in Appendix A to the Application confidential, in accordance with Section 18 of the BCUC's Rules of Practice and Procedural regarding confidential document as set out in Order G-72-23 and believes that such information should remain confidential in perpetuity. FEI requests confidentiality of Appendix A as it contains costs associated with the Radio-off Option that is considered commercially sensitive and market competitive information which, if disclosed publicly, could prejudice or influence future negotiations of contracts between FEI and meter reading suppliers or counterparties, which could result in higher costs for customers.

Access to Confidential Information for Interveners

Should parties that choose to register in the review of this Application require access to some or all of the information filed confidentially, FEI has provided a proposed Undertaking of Confidentiality in Appendix B-3, to be executed before confidential information may be released to registered parties under the terms of the undertaking. FEI has no objection to providing confidential information to customary and routine intervener groups representing customer interests. FEI requests that the BCUC provide it with the opportunity to file comments on any objections or concerns that it may have, should any other registered parties seek access to confidential information.

If further information is required, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

Original signed:

Sarah Walsh

Attachments

cc (email only): Registered Interveners in the FEI AMI CPCN proceeding.



FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

**Application for Approval of the
Radio-off Advanced Metering
Infrastructure (AMI) Meter Option**

August 7, 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION AND APPROVALS SOUGHT

On May 5, 2021, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI or the Company) filed its Application (AMI CPCN Application) to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for Approval of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project (AMI Project). The scope of the AMI Project consists of replacing most existing customer meters with advanced meters, installing the associated AMI network and infrastructure to support delivery to FEI of hourly gas consumption and other metering information from the advanced meters at customer premises, and the installation of communication modules on infrastructure and pipeline assets enabling the remote collection of information related to the integrity of FEI's gas system. The AMI CPCN Application also set out anticipated amendments to FEI's General Terms and Conditions of its Tariff (GT&Cs) to incorporate processes and fees for residential customers that choose to have the internal communicating radio on their AMI meter turned off (Radio-off Customers). FEI indicated that these anticipated amendments would be the subject of an application to the BCUC following its decision regarding the AMI CPCN Application and, if approved, closer to the actual implementation date of the AMI Project.

On May 15, 2023, pursuant to Decision and Order C-2-23, the BCUC granted a CPCN for the AMI Project (AMI Decision).

FEI hereby seeks approval to implement the Radio-off AMI Meter Option (or Radio-off Option) terms and conditions and fees, and associated amendments to FEI's GT&Cs (Application). FEI's proposed Radio-off Option is consistent with the BCUC's determinations in the AMI Decision for FEI to provide a Radio-off Option for customers, with those customers responsible for the incremental costs related to having their advanced meter installed with the internal communicating radio turned off and of having their meters read manually.¹

1.1 SUMMARY OF APPROVALS SOUGHT

FEI applies to the BCUC, pursuant to sections 59 to 61 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), for approval of the Radio-off AMI Meter Option proposed terms and conditions and fees, and the associated proposed amendments to FEI's GT&Cs, as set out in Table 2, effective February 1, 2025. A blacklined copy of the proposed amendments to the tariff pages is included as Appendix C.

A draft final order is attached as Appendix B-2.

1.2 PROPOSED REGULATORY PROCESS

FEI proposes a written public hearing process for the review of this Application. FEI believes that a written process with one round of information requests (IRs) will provide for an appropriate and

¹ AMI Decision, p. 52.

1 efficient review of the Application and will allow for a BCUC decision to be provided in sufficient
 2 time for mass deployment of the AMI meters.

3 FEI proposes the regulatory timetable set out in Table 1 below, which is based on the BCUC
 4 issuing a procedural order by Monday, August 26, 2024. A draft procedural order is included as
 5 Appendix B-1.

6 **Table 1: Proposed Regulatory Timetable**

ACTION	DATE (2024)
FEI provides notice of Application	Friday, September 13
FEI provides confirmation of compliance with public notice requirements	Thursday, October 3
Intervener registration deadline	Thursday, October 3
BCUC Information Request (IR) No. 1	Thursday, October 3
Intervener IR No. 1	Thursday, October 10
FEI responses to IR No. 1	Thursday, October 24
Letters of comment deadline	Thursday, October 31
FEI final argument	Thursday, November 7
Intervener final arguments	Tuesday, November 19
FEI reply argument	Thursday, November 28

7

8 **2. RADIO-OFF AMI METER OPTION**

9 In the AMI Decision (page 52), the BCUC stated the following:

10 The Panel agrees that FEI should offer a “radio-off” option for those customers that
 11 refuse to allow FEI to connect the meter on their premises via wireless technology.
 12 The Panel also agrees that such customers should pay the additional costs of
 13 having their advanced meters installed with the internal communicating radio
 14 turned off and of having their meters read manually.

15 The following sections of the Application detail the principles, eligibility, incremental cost, and the
 16 financial treatment and adjustment mechanism FEI proposes for the Radio-off Option.

17 **2.1 PRINCIPLES OF THE AMI RADIO-OFF OPTION**

18 In this Application, FEI takes guidance from the BCUC’s 2013 Decision and Order C-7-13
 19 approving a CPCN for FortisBC Inc.’s (FBC) AMI project, where the BCUC directed FBC to apply
 20 for approval of an opt-out program based on the following principles (Radio-off Principles):²

² FBC AMI Project Decision and Order C-7-13, p. 148.

- 1 • Customers may choose to opt-out of accepting a wireless transmitting meter.
- 2 • Customers who choose to opt-out will be provided with an AMI meter that has the wireless
- 3 transmit functions disabled. Transmit functions on these meters will remain disabled until
- 4 the individual chooses to opt back into the AMI program; in the event that the customer
- 5 moves to a new property, the opt-out choice will move with the customer.
- 6 • The incremental cost of opting-out of the AMI program will be borne by the individual
- 7 choosing to opt-out.

8 FEI proposes to apply these Radio-off Principles to the FEI Radio-off Option, and has modelled
 9 the proposed fees in a manner consistent with the approach taken by FBC as previously approved
 10 by the BCUC. With respect to the scenario of a customer taking service under the Radio-off Option
 11 and subsequently moving to a new premises, Radio-off customers will be responsible for the
 12 applicable per-premises setup fee for the Radio-off Option at their new premises.

13 **2.2 ELIGIBILITY FOR A RADIO-OFF AMI METER**

14 A “customer” for the purpose of the Radio-off Option is an FEI residential account holder
 15 scheduled by FEI to receive an AMI meter.

16 Commercial and industrial customers are ineligible for the Radio-off Option due to the relatively
 17 larger loads associated with these customer classes and the benefits related to system visibility
 18 and resiliency as described in Section 4.3.2.4.1 of the AMI CPCN Application. In particular, FEI
 19 considers it necessary to have the ability to remotely monitor commercial and industrial customers
 20 in the event of a gas supply emergency, in a case where FEI must execute a controlled shutdown
 21 in order to prevent a pressure collapse of the system.

22 **2.3 INCREMENTAL COST FOR RADIO-OFF CUSTOMERS**

23 As noted above, the BCUC agreed in the AMI Decision that customers choosing the Radio-off
 24 Option should be responsible for the incremental costs related to having the internal
 25 communicating radio turned off and their meters read manually.

26 FEI is currently finalizing its manual meter reading strategy for radio-off meters, which may include
 27 both third party meter reading contractor labour and FEI internal labour. As part of those efforts,
 28 FEI is negotiating manual meter reading costs with third-party meter reading contractors which
 29 will form a portion of the costs associated with the Radio-off Option. However, given that vendor-
 30 supplied cost estimates for manual meter reading are not yet available, FEI has estimated manual
 31 meter reading costs for the Radio-off Option using the FEI loaded average labour rate as detailed
 32 in the AMI CPCN Application.³ FEI considers this labour rate a reasonable proxy for both internal
 33 and contract resources performing the work. This approach is also consistent with the approach

³ FEI AMI CPCN Application, Appendix G-1, Schedule 2.

1 taken for estimating meter installation costs as detailed in Section 6.2.1.1 of the AMI CPCN
2 Application.

3 The fees for providing the Radio-off Option are based on reasonable assumptions regarding the
4 incremental costs to provide a Radio-off Option, including assumptions derived from FBC's
5 experience with administering a Radio-off Option as part of its electric AMI deployment. FEI's
6 proposed Radio-off Option standard charges are comparable to those of FBC and BC Hydro,
7 which further substantiates the reasonableness of the assumptions FEI has used for its own fees.
8 The assumed 0.9 percent of eligible customers choosing the FEI Radio-off Option is based on
9 the current percentage of FBC electric customers who are radio-off customers in the Shared
10 Service Territory⁴ (SST).

11 The proposed incremental costs charged to Radio-off Customers will be comprised of the
12 following:

- 13 • A per-premises setup fee of \$61 to recover additional administrative and labour costs
14 associated with the installation of a radio-off AMI meter in circumstances where customers
15 indicate their choice of the Radio-off Option prior to the installation of an AMI meter during
16 deployment (pre-commencement).
- 17 • A per-premises setup fee of \$105 to recover additional administrative and labour costs
18 associated with configuring the AMI meter to radio-off in circumstances where customers
19 indicate their choice of the Radio-off Option subsequent to the installation of an AMI meter
20 (post-commencement).
- 21 • A per-read fee of \$21 that recovers the cost of travelling to a radio-off premises and
22 manually reading the radio-off AMI meter.

23 Customers who choose the Radio-off Option will have their meter configured such that the
24 wireless transmit functions are disabled. Transmit functions on these meters will remain disabled
25 unless or until the customer decides to revert to the standard radio-on AMI meter option, moves
26 from the premises, or closes their account. For any of these instances, FEI will dispatch a field
27 technician to complete a final manual meter read, and to enable the transmit functions on the AMI
28 meter radio (radio on). The costs for enabling the AMI meter radio will be captured in the initial
29 Radio-off setup fee. The customer will still be responsible for the final manual per-read fee for any
30 of the scenarios outlined above.

31 The following sections explain how the incremental costs were derived. FEI notes that the costs
32 used to calculate these fees have been updated from the information provided in the AMI CPCN
33 Application (and the Evidentiary Update to the AMI CPCN Application) to reflect current costs. A
34 spreadsheet containing the analysis of the derivation of the proposed radio-off fees is provided
35 as Confidential Appendix A.

⁴ The Shared Service Territory is the overlapping service territories of FBC and FEI where both natural gas and electricity are supplied.

2.3.1 Derivation of the Pre-Commencement Per-Premises Set-Up Fee

Once onsite, the process to configure a customer's meter as radio-off requires the same level of effort as configuring the meter with the radio-on. Consequently, for those customers who indicate their preference for the Radio-off Option in advance of their scheduled AMI meter exchange ("pre-commencement"), the field technician component of the radio-off setup fee is not an incremental cost above a standard AMI meter exchange and will not be charged. As a result, the incremental per-premises setup fee for pre-commencement installation of radio-off AMI meters is comprised of the following elements:

- Labour costs for an FEI customer service representative to discuss the Radio-off Option with the customer, including the terms and conditions and associated setup and monthly meter reading fees, process the application, and dispatch the required work orders.
- Labour and vehicle costs for the field technician to travel from the muster to the customer's premises and the associated work to configure the meter back to radio-on.

2.3.2 Derivation of the Post-Commencement Per-Premises Set-Up Fee

For customers that choose the Radio-off Option after the completion of the initial AMI meter exchange process, the costs for both configuring the meter to radio-off and configuring the meter to radio-on are incremental and will be charged to the customer. As a result, the post-commencement per-premises setup fee is comprised of the following elements:

- Labour costs for the customer service representative to discuss the Radio-off Option with the customer, including the terms and conditions and associated setup and monthly meter reading fees, process the application, and dispatch the required work orders.
- Labour and vehicle costs for the field technician to travel from the muster to the customer's premises and the associated work to configure the meter to radio-off.
- Labour and vehicle costs for the field technician to travel from the muster to the customer's premises and the associated work to configure the meter back to radio-on.

2.3.3 Derivation of the Per-Read Fee

Customers who choose the Radio-Off Option will be responsible for the per-read fee. The proposed per-read fee includes consideration of inefficiencies related to manual meter reading while AMI meters are being deployed, and the inability to optimize routes until AMI deployment is complete. As noted in Section 2.4 below, FEI will monitor both the actual number of Radio-off Customers and actual manual meter reading costs and will recommend any fee updates after deployment of the AMI Project is complete, if necessary.

The per-read fee is comprised of the following elements:

- Labour costs for the field technician to travel to the radio-off customer's premises and manually read the radio-off AMI meter.

- 1 • Labour costs for the customer service representative to manage the manual meter reading
 2 process, which includes meter read processing as well as meter read skip and trouble
 3 codes processing.

4 **2.4 FINANCIAL TREATMENT AND ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM**

5 The revenue received from radio-off fees will be forecast and recorded as “Other Revenue”,
 6 similar to other tariff fees. This revenue is expected be offset by an equivalent increase in O&M
 7 costs.

8 FEI has modeled the applicable Radio-off Option setup and meter reading fees based on
 9 reasonable expectations regarding both the forecast number of customers choosing the Radio-
 10 off Option, as well as the associated costs to perform the required work. FEI will monitor both the
 11 actual number of Radio-off Customers and the incurred manual meter reading costs and will
 12 recommend fee updates once deployment of the AMI Project is complete, if necessary.

13 **3. AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**
 14 **AND STANDARD CHARGES SCHEDULE**

15 Amendments are required to FEI’s GT&Cs in order to include the requirements and fees for the
 16 Radio-off AMI Meter Option. Additional minor amendments are required to reflect the changes to
 17 FEI’s business as a result of the installation of advanced meters. The following table summarizes
 18 the changes to the GT&Cs.

19 **Table 2: Summary of Amendments to GT&Cs**

Section	Amendments
Definition: “Advanced (or AMI) Meter”	New definition for advanced meters with integrated wireless transmit functions that are activated.
Definition: “Radio-off AMI Meter”	New definition for advanced meters with integrated wireless transmit functions that are disabled.
Definition: “Radio-off Customer”	New definition for customers with an advanced meter installed at their premises with the wireless transmit functions disabled.
14.1 (Access to Premises)	Amendment to ensure that a customer does not obstruct an FEI meter for the purpose of blocking the signal from the advanced meter.
18 (Radio-off Advanced Meter Option)	New section reflecting the terms and conditions for customers who choose the Radio-off AMI Meter Option. More specifically, the section outlines the applicability (18.1), application requirements (18.2), and conditions of service (18.3) for customers who wish to have an advanced meter installed but with the internal communicating radio turned off for a fee. This section also includes the applicable Radio-off Option Standard Charges (18.4).

Section	Amendments
18.4 (Radio-off Advanced Meter Option) Standard Charges	"Radio-off Option Standard Charges" <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Per-Premises Setup Fee – Pre-commencement (\$61)• Per-Premises Setup Fee – Post-commencement (\$105)• Per-Read Fee (\$21)

1

2 **4. CONCLUSION**

3 FEI is applying for approval to implement the Radio-off AMI Meter terms and conditions and fees,
4 and the associated amendments to FEI's GT&Cs, consistent with the BCUC's determinations in
5 the AMI Decision that FEI should offer a "radio-off" option for customers, and that those customers
6 should be responsible for the applicable incremental costs related to the Radio-off Option.

7 The Radio-off Option is consistent with the Radio-off Principles, and the incremental costs are
8 consistent with the costs described in the AMI CPCN Application, with updates to reflect current
9 costs.

10 FEI accordingly requests that the BCUC approve the Application as filed.

Appendix A

RADIO-OFF FEE DERIVATION

REFER TO LIVE SPREADSHEET MODEL

Provided in electronic format only

FILED CONFIDENTIALLY

Appendix B
DRAFT ORDERS

Appendix B-1

DRAFT PROCEDURAL ORDER



ORDER NUMBER

G-xx-xx

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.
Application for Approval of the Radio-off Advanced Metering Infrastructure Meter Option

BEFORE:

[Panel Chair]
Commissioner
Commissioner

on Date

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On August 7, 2024, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) filed an application with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), pursuant to sections 59 to 61 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, seeking approval of proposed terms and conditions and fees and the associated proposed amendments to FEI's General Terms and Conditions (GT&Cs) to its Tariff to implement the Radio-off Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Meter Option effective February 1, 2025 (Application);
- B. By Order C-2-23 dated May 15, 2023, the BCUC granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the AMI Project;
- C. FEI requests the Live Spreadsheet provided as Appendix A to the Application be held confidential in perpetuity, pursuant to Section 18 of the BCUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as it contains costs associated with the Radio-off Option that is considered commercially sensitive and market competitive information which, if disclosed publicly, could prejudice or influence future negotiations of contracts between FEI and meter reading suppliers or counterparties, which could result in higher costs for customers; and
- D. The BCUC has commenced its review of the Application and finds that the establishment of a regulatory timetable for the review of the Application is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE the BCUC orders as follows:

1. A regulatory timetable for the review of the Application is established as set out in Appendix A to this order.

2. FEI is directed to provide a copy of this Application and order, electronically where possible, on or before [date], to all registered interveners in the FEI AMI CPCN Project proceeding.
3. FEI is directed to publish the Application and a copy of this order on its website at www.fortisbc.com as soon as practicable, but no later than [date].
4. FEI is directed to post notice of the Application and this order on its relevant and existing social media platforms, including but not limited to X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook, beginning as soon as practicable, but no later than [date]. Weekly reminder posts must be posted on each platform until the conclusion of the intervener registration period on [date].
5. FEI is directed to provide confirmation to the BCUC that it has complied with Directives 2, 3, and 4 of this order by [date].
6. Appendix A attached to the Application will be held confidential unless determined otherwise by the BCUC.
7. In accordance with the BCUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure, parties who wish to actively participate in this proceeding must submit the Request to Intervene Form, available on the BCUC's website at <https://www.bcuc.com/GetInvolved/GetInvolvedProceeding>, by Day/DATE, as established in the regulatory timetable. Parties may also submit letters of comment by completing a Letter of Comment Form, available on the BCUC's website.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this (XX) day of (Month Year).

BY ORDER

(X. X. last name)
Commissioner

Attachment

FortisBC Energy Inc.
Application for Approval of the Radio-off Advanced Metering Infrastructure Meter Option

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2024)
FEI provides notice of Application	Friday, September 13
FEI provides confirmation of compliance with public notice requirements	Thursday, October 3
Intervener registration deadline	Thursday, October 3
BCUC Information Request (IR) No. 1	Thursday, October 3
Intervener IR No. 1	Thursday, October 10
FEI responses to IR No. 1	Thursday, October 24
Letters of comment deadline	Thursday, October 31
FEI final argument	Thursday, November 7
Intervener final arguments	Tuesday, November 19
FEI reply argument	Thursday, November 28

Appendix B-2

DRAFT FINAL ORDER



ORDER NUMBER

G-xx-xx

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.
Application for Approval of the Radio-off Advanced Metering Infrastructure Meter Option

BEFORE:

[Panel Chair]
Commissioner
Commissioner

on **Date**

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On August 7, 2024, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) filed an application with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), pursuant to sections 59 to 61 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), seeking approval of proposed terms and conditions and fees and the associated proposed amendments to FEI's General Terms and Conditions (GT&Cs) to its Tariff to implement the Radio-off Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Meter Option effective February 1, 2025 (Application);
- B. By Order C-2-23 dated May 15, 2023, the BCUC granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the AMI Project;
- C. By Order G-##-24 dated **[Date]**, the BCUC established a written hearing process and a Regulatory Timetable for the review of the Application; and
- D. The BCUC has reviewed the Application, the evidence and the written submissions and makes the following determinations.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to sections 59 to 61 of the UCA, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. FEI is approved to implement the Radio-off AMI Meter Option, effective February 1, 2025, including the terms and conditions and fees and the associated changes to FEI's General Terms and Conditions (GT&Cs) to its Tariff as applied for in the Application.
- 2. FEI is to file the revised Tariff pages for BCUC endorsement within 30 days of the date of this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this (XX) day of (Month Year).

BY ORDER

(X. X. last name)
Commissioner

Appendix B-3

**CONFIDENTIALITY DECLARATION AND UNDERTAKING
FORM**

Confidentiality Declaration and Undertaking Form

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, please provide a completed form to the party who filed the confidential document and copy Commission Secretary at commission.secretary@bcuc.com. If email is unavailable, please mail the form to the address above.

Undertaking

I, _____, am representing the party _____ in the matter of
_____ FEI Application for Approval of the Radio-off AMI Meter Option _____

In this capacity, I request access to the confidential information in the record of this proceeding. I understand that the execution of this undertaking is a condition of an Order of the Commission, and the Commission may enforce this Undertaking pursuant to the provisions of the *Administrative Tribunal Act*.

Description of document:	
---------------------------------	--

I hereby undertake:

- (a) to use the information disclosed under the conditions of the Undertaking exclusively for duties performed in respect of this proceeding;
- (b) not to divulge information disclosed under the conditions of this Undertaking except to a person granted access to such information or to staff of the Commission;
- (c) not to reproduce, in any manner, information disclosed under the conditions of this Undertaking except for purposes of the proceeding;
- (d) to keep confidential and to protect the information disclosed under the conditions of this Undertaking;
- (e) to return to the applicant, FortisBC Energy Inc., all documents and materials containing information disclosed under the conditions of this Undertaking, including notes and memoranda based on such information, or to destroy such documents and materials within fourteen (14) days of the Commission's final decision in the proceeding; and
- (f) to report promptly to the Commission any violation of this Undertaking.

Signed at _____ this _____.

Signature: _____

Name (please print): _____

Email address: _____

Representing (if applicable): _____

Appendix C

PROPOSED BLACKLINED AMENDED TARIFF PAGES

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS
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C/N/O

Deleted: SECTION RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

Order No.: G-217-20 Issued By: Diane Roy, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

Effective Date: August 14, 2020 Accepted for Filing: August 28, 2020

BCUC Acting Secretary: Original signed by Marija Tresoglavic First Revision of Page v

Definitions

Unless the context indicates otherwise, in the General Terms and Conditions of FortisBC Energy and in the rate schedules of FortisBC Energy the following words have the following meanings:

<u>Advanced (or AMI) Meter</u>	<u>A gas meter with integrated wireless transmit functions and those functions are activated.</u>
Application Charge	Means the applicable charges as set out in the Standard Charges Schedule.
Basic Charge	Means a fixed charge required to be paid by a Customer for Service as specified in the applicable Rate Schedule, or the prorated daily equivalent charge – calculated on the basis of a 365.25-day year (to incorporate the leap year), and rounded to four decimal places.
Biogas	Means raw gas substantially composed of methane that is produced by the breakdown of organic matter in the absence of oxygen.
Biomethane	Means Biogas purified or upgraded to pipeline quality gas, also referred to as renewable natural gas or RNG.
British Columbia Utilities Commission	Means the British Columbia Utilities Commission constituted under the <i>Utilities Commission Act</i> of British Columbia and includes and is also a reference to <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) any commission that is a successor to such commission, and(ii) any commission that is constituted pursuant to any statute that may be passed which supplements or supersedes the <i>Utilities Commission Act</i> of British Columbia.
Business Day	Means a Day that commences on other than a Saturday, a Sunday, or a statutory holiday in the Province of British Columbia.
Carbon Offsets	Means the number of metric tons of carbon dioxide or its equivalent volume in other greenhouse gas(es) that FortisBC Energy may purchase as a mechanism to balance demand-supply for RNG in the event of an undersupply of RNG in order to retain the greenhouse gas reductions that Customers would have received from RNG supply.
CNG	Means compressed natural gas.

N

C

Order No.: G-160-24/G-167-24 (Interim) Issued By: Sarah Walsh, Director, Regulatory Affairs

Effective Date: July 1, 2024 Accepted for Filing: July 15, 2024

BCUC Secretary: Original signed by Patrick Wruck Fourth Revision of Page D-1

FORTISBC ENERGY INC. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS
DEFINITIONS

Natural Gas Vehicle (NGV) Customer	Means a Customer that receives Gas Service for use in a vehicle. For clarity, a vehicle includes on land and on rail vehicles and marine vessels.
Other Service	Means the provision of Service other than Gas Service including, but not limited to rental of equipment, natural gas vehicle fuel compression, alterations and repairs, merchandise purchases, and financing.
Other Service Charges	Means charges for rental, natural gas vehicle fuel compression service, damages, alterations and repairs, financing, insurance and merchandise purchases, and late payment charges, Municipal Operating Fees, Provincial Sales Tax, Goods and Services Tax or other taxes related to these charges.
Person	Means a natural person, partnership, corporation, society, unincorporated entity or body politic.
Premises	Means a building, a separate unit of a building, or machinery together with the surrounding land.
Profitability Index	Means the revenue to cost ratio comparing the revenues expected from: a Main Extension, a connection to a Customer of Rate Schedule 3 or a Customer of a Rate Schedule numbered higher than Rate Schedule 3, or a connection to a Service Header (including Vertical Subdivisions), to the expected costs over a period of time of 40 Years.
<u>Radio-off AMI Meter</u>	<u>An Advanced (or AMI) Meter with integrated wireless transmit functions disabled.</u>
<u>Radio-off Customer</u>	<u>Customers that have a Radio-off AMI Meter installed at their Customer Premises.</u>
Rate Schedule	Means a schedule attached to and forming part of these General Terms and Conditions, which sets out the charges for Service and certain other related terms and conditions for a class of Service.
Renewable Natural Gas (RNG)	Means Biogas purified or upgraded to pipeline quality gas, also referred to as Biomethane.
Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) Blend	Means Gas which includes a percentage of RNG, from 0 to 100 percent pursuant to the RNG Blend Service.
Renewable Natural Gas Blend (RNG) Service	Means Gas Service where the Gas delivered to Customers includes a percentage of RNG (RNG Blend), from 0 to 100 percent, to be determined by FortisBC Energy as set out in Section 28.7.

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14. Access to Premises and Equipment

14.1 Access to Premises

FortisBC Energy will have a right of entry to the Customer's Premises. The Customer must provide free access to its Premises at all reasonable times to FortisBC Energy's authorized employees, contractors and agents for the purpose of reading, testing, repairing or removing meters and ancillary equipment, turning Gas on or off, completing system leakage surveys, stopping leaks, examining pipes, connections, fittings and appliances and reviewing the use made of Gas delivered to the Customer, or for any other related purpose which FortisBC Energy requires.

Where FortisBC Energy uses radio-frequency technology to remotely communicate with its meters or other infrastructure owned and maintained by FortisBC Energy, the Customer is responsible for ensuring no device or obstruction is placed on or near FortisBC Energy's equipment for the purpose of interfering, attenuating or degrading the signal.

14.2 Access to Equipment

The Customer must provide clear access to FortisBC Energy's equipment. The equipment installed by FortisBC Energy on the Customer's Premises will remain the property of FortisBC Energy and may be removed by FortisBC Energy upon termination of Service.

14.3 Installation of Remote Meter

If a Customer fails to provide FortisBC Energy with access to the Customer's Premises as set out in Section 14.1 (Access to Premises) or to FortisBC Energy's equipment as set out in Section 14.2 (Access to Equipment), FortisBC Energy will be authorized to install a remote meter. The Customer will be responsible for FortisBC Energy's full costs (including overheads) associated with installing and maintaining the remote meter.

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18. Radio-off Advanced Meter Option

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18.1 Applicability

A FortisBC Energy Customer receiving Residential Service with a FortisBC Energy-installed meter with integrated wireless transmit functions enabled, or a Customer receiving Residential Service scheduled by FortisBC Energy to receive a meter with integrated wireless transmit functions enabled will apply for a Radio-off AMI Meter.

18.2 Application Requirements

Radio-off Customers will apply to FortisBC Energy for a Radio-off AMI Meter consistent with the process required for a standard Application for Service as set out in Section 2 (Agreement to Provide Service) of FortisBC Energy's General Terms and Conditions and will be provided with a meter that has the integrated wireless transmit functions disabled.

18.3 Conditions of Service

Radio-off Customers will pay the charges set out in Section 18.4 (Radio-off Standard Charges). Failure to pay these charges will be subject to standard collection procedures and may result in the Discontinuance of Service. The Per-premises set up fee will be charged on the first bill after the Radio-off AMI Meter is installed, and the Per-Read fees will be charged on every subsequent bill.

If a Radio-off Customer elects to stop using the Radio-off AMI Meter Option, FortisBC Energy will obtain a final manual meter read prior to enabling the integrated wireless transmit functions of the meter. The Radio-off Customer will incur one final Per-Read fee for this service.

If a FortisBC Energy representative attends a Customer's Premises at the request of a Customer for the purposes of installing a Radio-off AMI Meter but on attending the Customer refuses access, the Per-Premises Setup Fee (Pre- or Post- Commencement) may still be charged.

18.4 Radio-off Option Standard Charges

Radio-off Customers will be charged by FortisBC Energy for the Radio-off AMI Meter Option:

<u>Per-Premises Setup Fee – Pre-Commencement</u>	<u>\$61.00</u>
<u>Per-Premises Setup Fee – Post-Commencement</u>	<u>\$105.00</u>
<u>Per-Read Fee</u>	<u>\$21.00</u>

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