

July 15, 2022

Sent via email/eFile

# Sara Hardgrave Acting Commission Secretary

Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com bcuc.com

Suite 410, 900 Howe Street Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 2N3

**P:** 604.660.4700 **TF:** 1.800.663.1385 **F:** 604.660.1102

FEI REGIONAL GAS SUPPLY DIVERSITY
PROJECT EXHIBIT A-3

Ms. Diane Roy
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs
FortisBC Energy Inc.
16705 Fraser Highway Surrey, BC V4N 0E8
gas.regulatory.affairs@fortisbc.com

Re: Fortis Energy Inc. – Application for Approval of the Regional Gas Supply Diversity Project Development Account – Regulatory Timetable

Dear Ms. Roy:

On June 1, 2022, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) filed an application with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), for approval of a new non-rate base deferral account (Regional Gas Supply Diversity (RGSD) Development Account) to capture development costs for a potential RGSD Project (Project), with the disposition of the balance to be determined in a future proceeding (Application). The Application also seeks various approvals related to future Project reporting.

In the Application, FEI proposed a regulatory review process which included one round of BCUC and intervener information requests (IRs), followed by a Streamlined Review Process (SRP) with oral submissions.

On July 4, 2022, FEI provided additional information by way of responses to the BCUC Staff Questions and revised its proposed regulatory process (<u>Exhibit B-2</u>). FEI proposed, in lieu of IRs, for a letter of comment process from registered interveners in the FEI Annual Review for 2022 Rates proceeding.

The Panel has reviewed the Application and FEI's responses to the BCUC Staff Questions and determines that the establishment of a regulatory timetable and scope of review for the proceeding is warranted. In accordance with the regulatory timetable, attached as Appendix A to Order G-192-22 enclosed with this letter, the BCUC invites members of the public to submit comments on FEI's Application by Thursday, August 25, 2022. Procedural fairness requires the BCUC to give notice to all those affected by FEI's Application so that they have a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate. The scope will be limited to the impacts of creating the proposed RGSD Development Account, and any approvals related to progress reporting for the Project. Comments on issues beyond the described scope are not relevant to this review. More specifically, as reflected in the attached Order, the scope of the review will not include whether it is in the public interest to initiate development work related to the RGSD Project, the need for the RGSD Project, or approval to recover any of the costs to be recorded in the RGSD Development Account.

Regulatory Timetable 1 of 2

To learn more about participating in the proceeding, please visit <u>bcuc.com</u> . More information about FEI's Application is available on the <u>proceeding page</u> .
Application is available on the <u>proceeding page</u> .
Sincerely,

Cara Hardgrayo

Original signed by:

Sara Hardgrave Acting Commission Secretary

GM/bw Enclosure

Regulatory Timetable 2 of 2



Suite 410, 900 Howe Street Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 2N3 bcuc.com **P:** 604.660.4700 **TF:** 1.800.663.1385 **F:** 604.660.1102

# ORDER NUMBER G-192-22

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.

Application for Approval of the Regional Gas Supply Diversity Project Development Account

### **BEFORE:**

A. K. Fung, QC, Panel Chair C. M. Brewer, Commissioner R. I. Mason, Commissioner

on July 15, 2022

### **ORDER**

## **WHEREAS:**

- A. On June 1, 2022, pursuant to sections 59 to 61 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) filed an application with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), for approval of a new non-rate base deferral account (Regional Gas Supply Diversity (RGSD) Development Account) to capture development costs for a potential RGSD Project (Project), with the disposition of the balance to be determined in a future proceeding (Application);
- B. In the Application, FEI proposed a regulatory review process for the Application which included one round of BCUC and intervener information requests (IRs), followed by a Streamlined Review Process (SRP) with oral submissions;
- C. On July 4, 2022, FEI provided additional information by way of responses to the BCUC Staff Questions and revised its proposed regulatory review process for the Application, for letters of comment from registered interveners in the FEI Annul Review for 2022 Rates proceeding, in lieu of IRs; and
- D. The BCUC has reviewed the Application and FEI's responses to the BCUC Staff Questions and determines that the following directives are warranted.

Regulatory Timetable 1 of 2

### **NOW THEREFORE** the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. The scope of review of the Application will not include whether it is in the public interest to initiate development work related to the RGSD Project, the need for the RGSD Project, or approval to recover any of the costs to be recorded in the RGSD Development Account.
- 2. A regulatory timetable for the review of the Application is established, as set out in Appendix A to this order.
- 3. FEI must provide a copy of the Application and this order, electronically where possible, by Friday, July 22, 2022, to all registered interveners in the FEI Annual Review for 2022 Delivery Rates proceeding.
- 4. FEI must make the Application and this order available on its website at www.fortisbc.com.
- 5. FEI is directed to publish the Public Notice in Appendix B to this order, on all of its current social media platforms, on or before Friday, July 22, 2022. Weekly reminder posts that include the Public Notice must be published on each of these platforms until the letter of comment deadline on Thursday, August 25, 2022.
- 6. FEI is directed to provide confirmation of compliance with Directives 2, 3, and 4 by Friday, July 29, 2022. Such confirmation shall include confirmation of the Public Notice published on FEI's website and current social media platforms, as well as a list of all parties notified.
- 7. In accordance with the BCUC <u>Rules of Practice and Procedure</u>, parties who wish to participate in the proceeding may submit a letter of comment, or register as an interested party, by the date established in the attached regulatory timetable. Letters of comment must be in the <u>Letter of Comment Form</u>, available on the BCUC website, and submitted by e-mail to <u>commission.secretary@bcuc.com</u> or by mail to the BCUC, Suite 410, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver BC, V6Z 2N3. Letters of comment that are received late will not be considered by the BCUC in the proceeding.

<b>DATED</b> at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this	15 <sup>th</sup>	day of July 2022.
BY ORDER		
Original signed by:		
A. K. Fung, QC Commissioner		

Attachment

Regulatory Timetable 2 of 2

# Fortis BC Energy Inc. Application for Approval of the Regional Gas Supply Diversity Development Account

# **REGULATORY TIMETABLE**

Action	Date (2022)	
FEI to Publish and Provide Notice of the Application	Friday, July 22	
Letters of Comment Deadline	Thursday, August 25	
FEI Reply to Letters of Comment	Thursday, September 15	
Further Process	To be determined	



# We want to hear from you

# FORTISBC ENERGY INC. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE REGIONAL GAS SUPPLY DIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

On June 1, 2022, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for approval of a non-rate base deferral account to capture development costs for a potential Regional Gas Supply Diversity (RGSD) Project. In the Application, FEI seeks to establish the deferral account to capture development costs required to confirm whether the RGSD Project is viable and worthy of pursuing further, with the disposition of the account to be determined in a future proceeding.

In the Application, FEI states that the RGSD Project would be an extension of FEI's Southern Crossing Pipeline and is a potential option to increase regional pipeline capacity.

# **HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

- Submit a letter of comment
- Register as an interested party

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

 Thursday, August 25, 2022 – Deadline to submit a letter of comment to the BCUC

For more information about FEI's Application, please visit the <u>Proceeding Webpage</u> on bcuc.com under "Our Work – Proceedings". To learn more about getting involved, please visit our website at **www.bcuc.com/get-involved** or contact us at the information below.

# **GET MORE INFORMATION**

## FortisBC Energy Inc.



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# **British Columbia Utilities Commission**



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