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**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** F-21-07

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**IN THE MATTER OF
the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473**

and

**An Application for Participant Assistance/Cost Award Funding
in the Application by FortisBC Inc.
for a Rate Design on the Big White Supply Project**

BEFORE: R.H. Hobbs, Chair October 24, 2007

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- D. A. On March 6, 2007, FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC") filed a Rate Design Application (the "Application") for the Big White Supply Project pursuant to Orders No. G-17-06 and G-154-06 and requested that a Procedural Conference be convened to address procedural matters and to establish a Regulatory Timetable and, in particular, to address the process for public consultation necessary prior to the Company making its recommendations on cost recovery methodology and the disposition of the Application; and
- B. A Procedural Conference was held on April 16, 2007 and on April 23, 2007 the Commission Panel issued Order No. G-46-07, establishing a written process to consider the FortisBC Application. The written process allowed for Information Requests by Intervenor and the Commission and responses thereto by FortisBC, and then FortisBC submissions followed by Intervenor submissions and concluding with reply from FortisBC by June 29, 2007; and
- C. On September 5, 2007, the British Columbia Public Interest Advocacy Centre applied for a Participant Assistance/Cost Award ("PACA") on behalf of its clients collectively referred to as the BC Old Age Pensioners Organization *et al.* ("BCOAPO"), with respect to its participation in the proceeding; and
- D. By letter dated September 26, 2007, FortisBC advised that it had no comments regarding the PACA request; and

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E. The Commission has reviewed the PACA application with regard to the criteria and rates set out in the Guidelines in Commission Order No. G-15-04 and has determined that the requested funding should be approved for the BCOAPO.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. Pursuant to Section 118(1) of the Utilities Commission Act, the Commission awards funds to BCOAPO in the amount of \$10,732.41 including GST.
2. FortisBC is directed provide the PACA in the amount of \$10,732.41 including GST to the BCOAPO in a timely manner.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 25th day of October 2007.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert H. Hobbs
Chair