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**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-164-08

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

and

**An Application by FortisBC Inc.
Request for Extension of Filing Dates of Cost of Service Study and Rate Design Application**

BEFORE: A.J. Pullman, Commissioner
A.A. Rhodes, Commissioner November 10, 2008

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. British Columbia Utilities Commission ("Commission") Order G-115-07 directed FortisBC Inc. ("FBC") to file a Cost of Service ("COS") study by June 30, 2008 and a Rate Design Application ("RDA") by September 1, 2008; and
- B. By letter dated April 7, 2008 FBC applied to the Commission to extend those filing dates by six months; and
- C. Commission Order G-83-08 extended the filing deadlines to September 30, 2008 for the COS study, and to December 31, 2008 for the RDA; and
- D. By letter dated September 16, 2008 FBC stated that, due to developments unforeseen at the time of Order G-83-08, FBC believed that it would be prudent to further delay the filings. FBC submitted that settlements of the terms of its 2009 Revenue Requirements and Performance Based Regulation ("PBR") for 2009 to 2011 are needed prior to filing the COS study and the RDA; and
- E. On September 26, 2008 FBC filed its 2008 Annual Review and 2009 Revenue Requirements submissions. Determination of those matters is expected some time prior to December 31, 2008. Therefore, FBC requested a further extension of the deadlines to December 31, 2008 for the COS study and February 20, 2009 for the RDA; and
- F. On September 26, 2008, the Commission issued Order G-147-08 directing FBC to file the COS study by December 31, 2008 and to file the RDA by February 20, 2009; and
- G. By letter dated October 24, 2009, FBC requested a further extension to the deadline for filing the COS study until June 30, 2009 and for filing the RDA until September 30, 2009; and

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- H. FBC submits that, given the existence of uncertainty concerning its September 4, 2008 application for approval of an extension to the negotiated settlement agreement for the 2007-2009 Performance-Based Rate Plan for 2009-2011 ("PBR Extension Application"), granting the delay will ensure that the uncertainty around the PBR Extension Application and FBC's 2009 Revenue Requirement will be resolved and the approved 2009 costs can be incorporated into the COS study and RDA; and
- I. FBC also submits that the Commission has not yet issued its decision regarding the FBC Advanced Metering Infrastructure application and that an extension will allow FBC to understand the effects of the AMI decision, once it has been issued, on the RDA application.
- J. The Commission has concluded that approval of the delay requested by FBC is in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders FBC to file its COS study no later than June 30, 2009 and its RDA no later than September 30, 2009.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 10th day of November 2008.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Alison A. Rhodes
Commissioner