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**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER G-5-12**

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

and

**Application by the FortisBC Energy Utilities
(comprising FortisBC Energy Inc., FortisBC Energy Inc. Fort Nelson Service Area,
FortisBC Energy (Whistler) Inc. and FortisBC Energy (Vancouver Island) Inc.)
for Approval of 2012 and 2013 Natural Gas Rates**

BEFORE: D.A. Cote, Panel Chair/Commissioner
A.A. Rhodes, Commissioner January 17, 2012
N.E. MacMurchy, Commissioner

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On May 4, 2011, the FortisBC Energy Utilities (FEU or the Companies) filed an application (Exhibit B-1) for their Revenue Requirements for FortisBC Energy Inc., the Fort Nelson Service Area of FortisBC Energy Inc., FortisBC Energy (Whistler) Inc., and FortisBC Energy (Vancouver Island) Inc., and for approval of interim and permanent natural gas delivery rates effective January 1, 2012 and permanent rates effective January 1, 2013, pursuant to sections 59 to 61 and 89 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (FEU 2012-2013 RRA Application, Proceeding);
- B. By Order G-129-11 dated July 20, 2011, the Commission established an Oral Public Hearing to review the Application. The Oral Public Hearing was scheduled to commence on Monday, October 3, 2011;
- C. The Oral Public Hearing commenced as scheduled on October 3, 2011 and there were 6 days of testimony before it was temporarily suspended on October 11, 2011 to allow for further examination of Appendix A which was filed on September 26, 2011 along with Rebuttal Evidence to the direct testimony of Mr. John Plunkett. The Oral Public Hearing recommenced on November 15, 2011 and concluded on November 16, 2011;
- D. On January 6, 2012, the FEU issued a letter recommending a correction to the evidence as set out in the Hearing's transcript (Exhibit B-94);

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- E. On January 10, 2012, the Commission issued a letter of acknowledgement (Acknowledgment Letter) on this evidentiary correction (Exhibit B-20). In the Commission's Acknowledgment Letter, all parties to the FEU 2012-2013 RRA Application were invited to raise any objections to the Commission accepting FEU's recommended correction. These objections were to be made in writing by 4:00 pm on Thursday, January 12, 2012;
- F. On January 11, 2012, Corix Multi Utility Services Inc. (Corix) responded to this request (Exhibit C6-5) and on January 12, 2012, the Energy Services Association of Canada (ESAC) also responded (Exhibit C5-6). Neither Corix nor ESAC objected to FEU's recommended correction to the evidence as set out in the Hearing's transcript. However, both parties (i) raised concern regarding the implications of this correction, and (ii) note their intent to file with the Commission, further submissions regarding these matters by January 20, 2012;
- G. On January 13, 2012, FEU issued a reply letter (Exhibit B-95) indicating that the FEU would respond to the relevant evidentiary correction comments in its Reply Argument due January 25, 2012;
- H. The Commission has reviewed and considered the comments provided by Corix, ESAC and the FEU.

NOW THEREFORE there being no objections raised in this matter, the Commission Panel accepts the corrections requested in FEU's January 6, 2012 letter (Exhibit B-94) and admits it to the record of the Proceeding. Corix and ESAC are to file any further submissions on this matter on or before 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 20, 2012.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 17th day of January 2012.

BY ORDER

Original signed by

D.A. Cote
Panel Chair/Commissioner