



ORDER NUMBER
G-77-19

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

and

FortisBC Inc.
Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the
Grand Forks Terminal Station Reliability Project

BEFORE:

R. I. Mason, Panel Chair
W. M. Everett, QC, Commissioner
B. A. Magnan, Commissioner

on April 9, 2019

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On November 19, 2018, FortisBC Inc. (FBC) submitted an application to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) seeking approval for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), pursuant to sections 45 and 46 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), for the Grand Forks Terminal (GFT) Station Reliability Project (Application);
- B. The Application consists of the following (collectively, the Project):
 - 1. Purchase and Installation of a second transformer at GFT Station;
 - 2. Removal of 44.6 kilometres (km) of transmission lines “9 line” (9L) and “10 line” (10L) between the Christina Lake and Cascade substations; and
 - 3. Repurposing of the remaining 20.8km of transmission lines 9L and 10L to distribution lines in order to continue supplying power to existing customers;
- C. By Order G-250-18 dated December 21, 2018, the BCUC established a written hearing process and regulatory timetable to review the Application. The timetable included intervener registration, one round of information requests (IR) and further process to be determined;
- D. British Columbia Municipal Electrical Utilities (BCMEU), Industrial Consumers Group (ICG), the Commercial Energy Consumers of British Columbia (CEC), British Columbia Old Age Pensioners’ Organization Disability Alliance BC, Council of Senior Citizens’ Organizations of BC, and the Tenant Resource and Advisory Centre (BCOAPO et al.), Mr. Alan Wait and Mr. Norman Gabana registered as interveners;
- E. By Order G-43-19 dated February 28, 2019, the BCUC established a further regulatory timetable to review the Application. The timetable included a second round of IRs and submissions on further process;

- F. By Order G-68-19 dated March 25, 2019, the BCUC amended the regulatory timetable to provide FBC an eight-day extension to file its response to BCUC Confidential IR 2.9.2;
- G. On March 25, 2019, ICG submitted a letter requesting FBC to provide a response to additional IRs;
- H. On March 27, 2019, FBC responded to ICG's request and requested the BCUC to further inquire on the necessity and relevancy of additional IRs;
- I. On March 28, 2019, the BCUC asked ICG to provide, in their submission on further process, their reasons for requesting an additional round of IRs and explain the relevance of any IRs in relation to the Application. ICG provided this response to the BCUC on April 1, 2019 and FBC replied on April 2, 2019;
- J. BCMEU, ICG, BCOAPO et al and CEC provided a submission on further process, and BCMEU, CEC, BCOAPO et al recommended proceeding to final arguments; and
- K. The Panel has reviewed the submissions and considers ICG's request for additional IRs not to be warranted for the reasons attached as set out in Appendix A to this order.

NOW THEREFORE the BCUC denies ICG's request for additional IRs and establishes a further regulatory timetable as set out in Appendix B to this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 9th day of April 2019.

BY ORDER

Original Signed by:

R. I. Mason
Commissioner

Attachment

FortisBC Inc.
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REASONS FOR DECISION

1.0. Application and Scope

On November 29, 2018, FortisBC Inc. (FBC) submitted an application to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) seeking approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Grand Forks Terminal (GFT) Station Reliability Project (Application). By Orders G-250-18, G-43-19 and G-68-19, the BCUC established the regulatory timetable, including intervener registration and two rounds of information requests (IR) with further process to be determined.

2.0. Background

On March 25, 2019, ICG submitted a letter requesting FBC to provide a response to additional IRs regarding load information and the identity of the single largest end-use customer. FBC responded to ICG's request on March 27, 2019 and requested the BCUC to further inquire on the relevancy and necessity of additional IRs.

On March 28, 2019, the BCUC asked ICG to provide, in their submission on further process, their reasons for requesting an additional round of IRs and explaining the relevance of any IRs in relation to the Application. ICG provided its response on April 1, 2019 to the BCUC and FBC replied on April 2, 2019.

BCUC Determination:

The Panel denies ICG's request to have FBC respond to the additional IRs regarding load information and the identity of the single largest end-use customer. The regulatory timetable included two rounds of IRs and the deadline for intervener IR no.2 has passed. At this stage of the proceeding, the Panel is not persuaded that the responses to ICG's questions would materially add to its understanding of the issues in this proceeding.

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REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2019)
FBC written final arguments	Tuesday, April 23
Intervener written final arguments	Tuesday, May 7
FBC written reply arguments	Tuesday, May 21