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ORDER NUMBER G-232-19

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.

Application to Extend the Gas Supply Mitigation Incentive Program for the Period November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2022

BEFORE:

B. A. Magnan, Commissioner

on September 26, 2019

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On June 6, 2019, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) filed an application with the British Columbia Utility Commission (BCUC) seeking approval for an extension of the Gas Supply Mitigation Incentive Program (GSMIP) for a three-year term for the period November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2022 (Application);
- B. By Order G-163-11 dated September 22, 2011, the BCUC approved the FEI GSMIP for the November 1, 2011 to October 31, 2013 period;
- C. By Order G-174-13 dated October 24, 2013, pursuant to section 63 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the BCUC approved extending the FEI GSMIP for a three-year term for the period November 1, 2013 to October 31, 2016, and approved including the mitigation activities performed by FEI on behalf of FortisBC Energy (Vancouver Island) Inc. in the 2013-2016 GSMIP;
- D. By Order G-141-16 dated August 29, 2016, the BCUC approved extending the FEI GSMIP for a three-year term for the period November 1, 2016 to October 31, 2019, and accepted the revised term sheet;
- E. By Letter L-3-19 dated February 14, 2019, the BCUC accepted the GSMIP Year End Report for the period from November 1, 2017 to October 31, 2018, which included an incentive payment of \$2,589,519 for 2017/18;
- F. In the Application, FEI proposes continuation of the existing GSMIP model and term sheet, unchanged, to be effective November 1, 2019;
- G. By Orders G-163-19 and G-209-19, the BCUC established and subsequently amended a written hearing process and regulatory timetable to review the Application. The regulatory timetable included one round of information requests, letters of comment from stakeholders and reply comments from FEI;

- H. The British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization et al. and the Commercial Energy Consumers Association of British Columbia provided letters of comment supporting the Application;
- I. On September 17, 2019, FEI filed its written reply comment; and
- J. The BCUC has reviewed the Application and considers approval is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 63 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. The GSMIP extension proposed by FEI is approved for a three-year term for the period November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2022.
- 2. FEI is directed to file a report providing a comprehensive assessment of the GSMIP, term sheet and model at least 60 days prior to expiry of the approved three-year term.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 26th day of September 2019.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

B. A. Magnan Commissioner