



**ORDER NUMBER
G-238-22**

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.
Request to Discontinue Annual Reporting Requirement
for the Natural Gas Vehicle Grant Program

BEFORE:

B. A. Magnan, Commissioner

on August 18, 2022

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. By letter dated June 28, 2022, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) requested that the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) discontinue the requirement to submit a Natural Gas Vehicle (NGV) Grant Program Annual Report, set out in Order G-98-99. FEI states that there have been no grants provided under the NGV Grant Program in the medium duty and heavy-duty classifications and the value of light duty grants has remained relatively low due to: the lack of available original equipment manufacture compressed natural gas vehicle options, lack of public fueling infrastructure, and an increase in light duty electric vehicle adoption (Application);
- B. On September 16, 1999, the BCUC approved the NGV Grant Program enabling FEI (then BC Gas Utility Ltd.) to provide grants for customers wishing to purchase factory built natural gas vehicles. Directive 2 of Order G-98-99 directs FEI to file with the BCUC an annual report on the NGV Grant Program commencing June 30, 2000 (Annual Report);
- C. On January 25, 2005, FEI applied to the BCUC to allow grants to be provided to customers who wished to convert their light-duty vehicles, as factory-built vehicles were no longer readily available in Canada. On February 10, 2005, by Order G-16-05, the BCUC approved amendments to allow incentive grants to be paid to customers who convert their vehicles to consume natural gas;
- D. By letter dated July 20, 2022, BCUC staff requested FEI to provide its view on reporting on the NGV Grant Program on an exception basis should the requirement for annual report be discontinued, and if so, the appropriate threshold for exception reporting;
- E. FEI filed its response with the BCUC on August 4, 2022, stating that FEI would be amenable to report on the NGV Grant Program on an exception basis going forward. FEI states an appropriate threshold for exception reporting would be if annual grants under the NGV Grant Program exceed \$20,000, given that the average annual grants over the last 10 years is just under \$20,000; and

- F. The BCUC has reviewed the Application and has determined a variance to Directive 2 of Order G-98-99 is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 99 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the BCUC orders as follows:

1. FEI's request to cease NGV Grant Program annual reporting, and thus a variance to Directive 2 of Order G-98-99, is approved.
2. FEI is directed to file with the BCUC, a NGV Grant Program Exception Report by June 30th of the following year when grants in a calendar year exceed \$20,000. The report is to consist of the following components: a reconciliation of the previous year's revenues, grants and expenditures for administering the NGV Grant Program.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 18th day of August 2022.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

B. A. Magnan
Commissioner