



ORDER NUMBER

G-51-07

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

and

# FortisBC Inc. Customer Complaints regarding the proposed site of the Naramata Substation Project

**BEFORE:** L.F. Kelsey, Commissioner May 7, 2007

#### ORDER

#### WHEREAS:

- A. The Naramata Substation Project to rebuild the Naramata substation at a different site (the "Project") was included in the FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC") 2005 Capital Expenditure Plan that formed part of the 2005 Revenue Requirements, System Development Plan and Resource Plan Application; and
- B. After the 2005 Capital Expenditure Plan was reviewed in an oral public hearing the Commission, by Order No. G-52-05, approved all capital projects in the 2005 Capital Expenditure Plan except for four projects, for which FortisBC was directed to submit Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") Applications. The Project was not one of these four projects; and
- C. After receiving correspondence from a number of local residents about the execution of the Project by FortisBC, by letter dated July 13, 2006, the Commission requested that FortisBC file a status report for the Project; and
- D. FortisBC filed a status report on the Project on July 21, 2006 that addressed its site selection process and other matters; and FortisBC subsequently filed additional information about the Project on August 11, August 18, September 15, October 26 and November 16, 2006, and February 14 and March 15, 2007; and

**BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION** 

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E. In its March 15, 2007 filing, FortisBC advised that it had completed its review of the Fire Hall and Arawana

Road sites for the Project, and that it intends to construct the Project at the Arawana Road site based on a

number of factors including costs, operations and safety, aesthetics and flexibility for future growth; and

F. The Commission received a considerable amount of correspondence referencing concerns about FortisBC's

decision to proceed at the Arawana Road site and requesting that the Commission require FortisBC to apply

for a CPCN for the Project and hold a public hearing into the matter; and

G. The Commission considered the submissions that it received on the matter and by Commission Order

No. G-42-07 established that an oral public hearing into Project siting options and related costs and issues be

held and directed Fortis BC to file a Report comparing the Arawana and Fire Hall siting alternatives, and such

other siting options as FortisBC wishes to include and a proposed regulatory timetable, by Monday, April 30,

2007; and

H. FortisBC by letter dated April, 30, 2007, filed the Report and proposed regulatory timetable.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Commission establishes a Regulatory Timetable for the review of the Project siting

options and related costs and issues according to the Regulatory Timetable that is in Appendix A to this Order.

The location and starting time for the oral public hearing will be announced in a future letter.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this

**9**<sup>th</sup>

day of May 2007.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

L.F. Kelsey

Commissioner

Attachment

# FortisBC Inc. Proposed Site of the Naramata Substation and related issues

### REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	<b>DATE</b> (2007)
Intervenor Participant Assistance Budgets	Wednesday, May 16
Commission and Intervenor Information Requests	Wednesday, May 23
FortisBC Response to Information Requests	Wednesday, June 6
Filing of Intervenor Evidence	Friday, June 15
Information Requests to Intervenors	Friday, June 22
Intervenor Responses to Information Requests	Friday, July 6
FortisBC Rebuttal Evidence (if any)	Friday, July 20
Oral Public Hearing	Tuesday, July 24
Written Argument by FortisBC	Tuesday, July 31
Final Written Arguments by Intervenors	Tuesday, August 7
Final Written Argument by FortisBC	Tuesday, August 14