

SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6Z 2N3 CANADA
web site: <http://www.bcuc.com>



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-108-07

TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700
BC TOLL FREE: 1-800-663-1385
FACSIMILE: (604) 660-1102

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

and

**An Application by FortisBC Inc.
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
Distribution Substation Automation Project**

BEFORE: L.A. O'Hara, Panel Chair and Commissioner
P.E. Vivian, Commissioner September 18, 2007

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On August 28, 2007 FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC") applied (the "Application") to the British Columbia Utilities Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Sections 45 and 46 of the Utilities Commission Act, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for the Distribution Substation Automation Project ("the Project"); and
- B. FortisBC states that the Project is estimated to cost \$ 6.38 million and is required to enable improved substation data collection, remote equipment operation, improved distribution reliability, and enhanced power system planning and safety; and
- C. The Project consists of installing automated control and data acquisition systems in 28 existing substations. All equipment design and operation is consistent with the equipment currently being installed in new substations in the FortisBC service territory; and
- D. The Project is scheduled to commence in 2007 and to be completed by the end of 2011; and
- E. The Commission considers that a written public hearing is required for the regulatory review of the Application.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission establishes a written public hearing process for the review of the Application, and sets down the Regulatory Timetable for the proceeding that is attached as Appendix A.
- 2. FortisBC shall provide notification that the Application will be reviewed by a written public hearing process, by email or facsimile, to all Intervenor and Interested Parties registered in the following proceedings as soon as it is possible to do so.

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- FortisBC - 2008 Revenue Requirements, 2007-2008 Capital Expenditure Plan and 2007 Update; and
- FortisBC - 2006 FortisBC Inc., and Princeton Light and Power Company, Limited Application to Transfer Shares and Assets of PLP to FortisBC and to Wind-up PLP.

FortisBC shall also notify:

- British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority; and
 - British Columbia Transmission Corporation.
3. Intervenors or Interested Parties should register with the Commission, in writing or electronic submission, by Friday, October 19, 2007.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 18th day of September 2007.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

L.A. O'Hara
Panel Chair and Commissioner

Attachments

FORTISBC INC.
Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Application
for the Distribution Substation Automation Project

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2007)
BCUC Information Requests No. 1 to FortisBC	Thursday, October 4
Intervenor Registration	Friday, October 5
Intervenor Participant Assistance Budgets	Thursday, October 11
FortisBC Responses to BCUC Information Requests No. 1	Friday, October 12
Intervenor Information Requests No. 1 to FortisBC	Wednesday, October 24
FortisBC Responses to Intervenor Information Requests No. 1	Friday, November 2
FortisBC Final Submission	Friday, November 16
Intervenor Final Submissions	Friday, November 23
FortisBC Reply Submission	Friday, November 30

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APPENDIX B
to Order No. G-108-07
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FORTISBC INC.
Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Application
for the Distribution Substation Automation Project

NOTICE OF WRITTEN PUBLIC HEARING

THE APPLICATION

On August 28, 2007 FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC") applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Sections 45 and 46 of the Utilities Commission Act, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Distribution Substation Automation Project ("the Project").

FortisBC states that the Project is estimated to cost \$ 6.38 million and is required to enable improved substation data collection, remote equipment operation, improved distribution reliability, and enhanced power system planning and safety. The Project consists of installing automated control and data acquisition systems in 28 existing substations. All equipment design and operation is consistent with the equipment currently being installed in new substations in the FortisBC service territory. The Project is scheduled to commence in 2007 and to be completed by the end of 2011.

The Commission has established a Written Public Hearing process and regulatory timetable for the review of the Application, all as set out in Commission Order No. G-108-07.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE DOCUMENTS

The Application and supporting materials will be available for inspection at the following locations:

FortisBC Inc.
Head Office
Fifth Floor 1628 Dickson Avenue
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 9X1
<http://www.fortisbc.com>

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3
Telephone: 1-800-663-1385
<http://www.bcuc.com>

FortisBC Inc.
Trail Office
1290 Esplanade
Trail, B.C. V1R 4L4

REGISTERING TO PARTICIPATE

Persons who expect to actively participate in the FortisBC proceeding should register as Intervenor with the Commission, in writing, by Friday, October 5, 2007. Intervenor is requested to identify their interest in the Application. Intervenor will receive copies of the Application, all correspondence and filed documentation in accordance with the Commission's Document Filing Protocols.

Persons not expecting to actively participate, but who have an interest in the FortisBC proceeding should register as Interested Parties with the Commission, in writing, by the same date. Interested Parties will receive a copy of the Application's Executive Summary.

All submissions and correspondence received from participants relating to the Application will be placed on the public record and posted to the Commission's web site at <http://www.bcuc.com>.

The Commission Panel in a proceeding may award costs for participation, pursuant to the Participant Assistance/Cost Award Guidelines, under Section 118 of the Act. The Guidelines are available at <http://www.bcuc.com/Guidelines.aspx>. Participants intending to apply for participant assistance must file a budget by Thursday, October 11, 2007.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact the Commission Secretary, Ms. Erica Hamilton or Mr. Brian Williston, Director, Engineering and Energy Markets as follows:

Commission Secretary

Telephone: (604) 660-4700

Facsimile: (604) 660-1102

E-mail: Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com

BC Toll Free: 1-800-663-1385

Mr. Brian Williston

Email: brian.williston@bcuc.com

Telephone: (604) 660-4700