

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-110-07

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  
for the Ootischenia Substation Project**

**BEFORE:** A.W.K. Anderson,  
Panel Chair & Commissioner September 18, 2007  
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner

**O R D E R**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On September 7, 2007 FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC") applied (the "Application") to the British Columbia Utilities Commission ("Commission") for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for the Ootischenia Substation Project ("the Project"); and
- B. FortisBC states that the Project is estimated to cost \$8.16 million and is required to serve the growing load in the Castlegar area, as well as to meet system backup planning criteria under contingency conditions; and
- C. The Project consists of a new distribution substation, with a 63 kV/13 kV 16 MVA transformer and connection to two distribution feeder circuits; and
- D. The Project is scheduled to go into service in the fourth quarter of 2008; and
- E. The Application states that FortisBC used newspaper advertisements, meetings with local government and key stakeholders, letters to local residents, a web page for the Project, and open houses on May 9 and 10, 2007 to obtain feedback on the Project plan; and
- F. Approximately 40 people attended the open houses; and

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G. The Commission has determined that an oral public hearing is required to hear submissions on the regulatory process for the review of the Application.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission establishes an oral public hearing for the regulatory review of the Application, commencing on Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. in the Sandman Hotel in Castlegar, BC. The Regulatory Timetable for the proceeding is attached as Appendix A to this Order.
2. Intervenors and Interested Parties will register with the Commission, in writing, by Monday, October 15, 2007. Intervenors are requested to specifically state the nature of their interest in the Application and to identify the issues that they intend to pursue during the proceeding.
3. FortisBC will publish, as soon as possible, in display-ad format, the Notice of Oral Public Hearing attached as Appendix B to this Order in such appropriate local news publications as may properly provide adequate notice to the public in Ootischenia and the Castlegar area.
4. The Application together with any supporting materials, will be made available for inspection at the FortisBC Kelowna Head Office, and at the Commission's office.
5. FortisBC will use reasonable efforts to provide a copy of this Order and the Executive Summary from the Application to local government and key stakeholders, persons who attended the open houses, and landowners within a 500 metre radius of the proposed site.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 2007.

**BY ORDER**

*Original signed by:*

A.W.K. Anderson  
Panel Chair & Commissioner

Attachments

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**APPENDIX A**  
to Order No. G-110-07  
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**FORTISBC INC.**  
Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Application  
for the Ootischenia Substation Project

**REGULATORY TIMETABLE**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DATE (2007)</b>
Commission Information Requests to FortisBC	Wednesday, October 10
Intervenor and Interested Party Registration	Monday, October 15
FortisBC Responses to Commission Information Requests	Friday, October 19
Intervenor Information Requests to FortisBC	Wednesday, October 24
Commission Draft Issues List	Monday, October 29
Intervenor Comments on Draft Issues List	Thursday, November 1
FortisBC Responses to Intervenor Information Requests	Monday, November 5
FortisBC Comments on Draft Issues List	Tuesday, November 6
Commission Issues List	Thursday, November 8
Oral Hearing Commences in Castlegar	Wednesday, November 14



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**FORTISBC INC.**  
**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY APPLICATION**  
**FOR THE OOTISCHENIA SUBSTATION PROJECT**

**NOTICE OF ORAL PUBLIC HEARING**

**DATE:** Wednesday, November 14, 2007  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Sandman Hotel  
1944 Columbia Avenue  
Castlegar, BC  
Tel: (250) 365-8444

**THE APPLICATION**

On September 7, 2007, FortisBC Inc. applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission for approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate the proposed Ootischenia Substation Project. The new substation will consist of one transformer, and connections to two 63 kilovolt ("kV") transmission lines and two distribution feeders. FortisBC proposes to build the substation in Ootischenia, east across Ootischenia Road from the south end of the Airport, and between the rights-of-way for the 230 kV and 63 kV transmission lines.

The Project is estimated to cost \$8.16 million, and is proposed to go into service in the fourth quarter of 2008. The Application states the substation is required to serve the growing load in the Castlegar area, and to provide adequate backup for customers in the area.

**THE REGULATORY PROCESS**

Commission Order No. G-110-07 established an oral public hearing for the review of the Application, commencing at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 14, 2007 in the Sandman Hotel in Castlegar. The Regulatory Timetable for the proceeding is available on the Commission's web site.

**INTERVENTIONS**

Persons who expect to actively participate in the FortisBC proceeding should register as Intervenor with the Commission, in writing, by Monday, October 15, 2007. Intervenor are requested to specifically state the nature of their interest in the Application and identify the issues that they intend to pursue during the proceeding. Intervenor will receive copies of the Application as well as all correspondence and filed documentation and should provide an e-mail address if available.

Persons not expecting to actively participate in the proceeding, but who have an interest in the Project, should register as Interested Parties with the Commission, in writing, by Monday, October 15, 2007, identifying their interest in the Application. Interested Parties will receive a copy of the Executive Summary of the Application and all Orders issued.

All submissions and/or correspondence received from active participants or the general public relating to the Application will be placed on the public record and posted to the Commission's web site.

## **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

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information, please contact the Commission Secretary, Ms. Erica Hamilton or Mr. Donald Flintoff, Senior Electrical Engineer as follows:

**Commission Secretary**  
Telephone: (604) 660-4700  
Facsimile: (604) 660-1102  
E-mail: [Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com](mailto:Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com)  
BC Toll Free: 1-800-663-1385

**Mr. Donald Flintoff**  
Email: [don.flintoff@bcuc.com](mailto:don.flintoff@bcuc.com)  
Telephone: (604) 660-4700