

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-1-08

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 Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project

BEFORE: R.H. Hobbs, Chair

January 3, 2008

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 19, 2007 FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC") applied (the "Application") to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the "Commission") for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("AMI") Project (the "Project"); and
- B. FortisBC states that the Project is estimated to cost \$31.3 million and will enhance customer service and result in operational savings; and
- C. The Project consists of replacing all existing FortisBC meters with AMI-enabled meters and implementing AMI throughout FortisBC's service territory; and
- D. The Project is scheduled to commence in 2008 and to be completed by the end of 2010; and
- E. The Commission considers that a written public hearing is required for the regulatory review of the Application.

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NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. A written public hearing process for review of the Application, and establishes the Regulatory Timetable attached as Appendix A.
2. FortisBC shall publish, as soon as possible, in display-ad format, the Notice of Application and Written Public Hearing Process, attached as Appendix B, in sufficient newspapers in the FortisBC service area to adequately inform the public of the Project.
3. Intervenor and Interested Parties should register with the Commission, in writing or electronic submission, by Friday, February 8, 2008.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 4th day of January 2008.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert H. Hobbs
Chair

Attachments

FortisBC Inc.
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2008)
Commission Information Request No. 1	Tuesday, January 29
Intervenor Information Requests No. 1	Tuesday, February 5
Registration of Intervenors and Interested Parties	Friday, February 8
Intervenor Participant Assistance Budgets	Thursday, February 14
FortisBC Responses to Information Requests No. 1	Tuesday, February 26
Commission and Intervenor Information Requests No. 2	Wednesday, March 5
FortisBC Responses to Information Requests No. 2	Wednesday, March 19
FortisBC Final Submission	Wednesday, March 26
Intervenor Final Submission	Friday, April 4
FortisBC Reply Submission	Friday, April 11

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APPENDIX B
to Order No. G-1-08
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**An Application by
FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC")
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN")
for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
AND
WRITTEN PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS**

THE APPLICATION

On December 19, 2007 FortisBC applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission ("the Commission") for approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (the "Application") for the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project (the "AMI Project").

The AMI Project consists of replacing all FortisBC meters with remotely-read meters. The new meters are expected to enable innovative rate structures in support of the 2007 Energy Plan. The new meters are also expected to eliminate the use of estimates and increase the accuracy of customer bills.

The total cost of the AMI Project is estimated at \$31.3 million, and is scheduled to commence in 2008 and to be completed by the end of 2010.

INTERVENTIONS

Persons who expect to actively participate in the FortisBC proceeding should register as Intervenor with the Commission in writing, no later than Friday, February 8, 2008. Intervenor are requested to identify their interest in the Application. Intervenor will each receive a copy of the Application and 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 proceeding, should register as Interested Parties with the Commission, in writing, by the same date. Interested Parties will receive a copy of the Executive Summary in the Application and the Commission's Decision when 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 at 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 www.bcuc.com/Guidelines.aspx. Participants intending to apply for participant assistance must file a budget by Thursday, February 14, 2008.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE DOCUMENTS

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

British Columbia Utilities Commission

Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2N3
Telephone: 1-800-663-1385

FortisBC Inc., Head Office
1975 Springfield Road, Suite 100
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7V7

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

Internet www.bcuc.com and www.fortisbc.com

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

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