

**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER  
NUMBER F-3-09**

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

and

Applications for Participant Assistance/Cost Awards  
regarding the FortisBC Inc.  
2008 Annual Review, 2009 Revenue Requirements and  
Negotiated Settlement Process

**BEFORE:** L.F. Kelsey, Commissioner  
P.E. Vivian, Commissioner January 26, 2009  
D.A. Cote, Commissioner

**O R D E R**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On September 4, 2008, FortisBC Inc. ("FortisBC" or "Company") filed an application for British Columbia Utilities Commission ("Commission") approval to extend the Settlement Agreement for the 2007-2009 Performance-Based Rate Plan for 2009-2011 (the "PBR Extension Application"). Following discussion among the Company, the stakeholders at the 2006 Settlement Agreement, and Commission Staff, on September 16, 2008, FortisBC withdrew its request for Commission approval of the PBR Extension Application; and
- B. The application was made in accordance with Commission Order G-58-06 that approved the Settlement Agreement for FortisBC's 2006 Revenue Requirements (the "2006 Settlement Agreement") and a Performance-Based Regulation Settlement for the years 2007, 2008 and potentially 2009 (the "PBR Settlement"). The PBR Settlement requires FortisBC to hold an Annual Review, Workshop and Negotiated Settlement Process ("NSP") each November with a goal of achieving firm rates by December 1<sup>st</sup> for the following year; and
- C. On September 26, 2008, FortisBC filed its Preliminary 2009 Revenue Requirements, which sought a 5.6 percent general rate increase effective January 1, 2009; and
- D. The 2008 Annual Review was held on November 13, 2008 and the 2009 Revenue Requirements Settlement discussions were held on November 14, 2008 and the proposed Settlement Agreement was circulated to the participants and registered Intervenor on November 27, 2008; and
- E. By Order G-193-08 dated December 11, 2008, the Commission approved the Negotiated Settlement Agreement and the Terms of Settlement along with supporting schedules showing the effect of changes arising from the Negotiated Settlement; and

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- F. By letter dated December 17, 2008, the Interior Municipal Electrical Utilities ("IMEU") applied for a cost award with respect to its participation in the FortisBC proceedings; and
- G. By letter dated December 20, 2008, the Natural Resource Industries ("NRI") applied for a cost award with respect to its participation in the FortisBC proceedings; and
- H. By letter dated January 6, 2009, FortisBC advised the Commission that it had reviewed the applications for cost awards and had no comment with respect to the IMEU's application, but that the NRI's mileage calculation did not reflect the Commission's current rate; and
- I. The Commission has reviewed the application for cost award with regard to the criteria and rates set out in Order G-72-07.

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

- 1. Pursuant to section 118(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the Commission awards funds to the following participants for their participation in the 2008 Annual Review, 2009 Revenue Requirements and Negotiated Settlement Process proceeding.

	<u>Award</u>
Interior Municipal Electrical Utilities	\$9,253.05
Natural Resource Industries	<u>449.01</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$9,702.06</u></b>

- 2. FortisBC is directed to reimburse the above noted participants for the total amounts awarded in a timely manner.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2009.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

D.A. Cote  
Commissioner