

BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER

NUMBER A-4-15

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc. Customer Choice Program Seventh Annual General Meeting

BEFORE: D.A. Cote, Panel Chair/Commissioner

H. Harowitz, Commissioner

June 22, 2015

I. MacPhail, Commissioner

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) obtained a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) on August 14, 2006 for the Commodity Unbundling Project for Residential Customers (Customer Choice) in accordance with the government's 2002 energy policy which would allow for the direct sale of natural gas to residential and small volume commercial customers through gas marketing companies licensed by the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission);
- B. Article 34 of the Code of Conduct for Gas Marketers requires the Commission to hold an Annual General Meeting to discuss program improvements or enhancements. The Annual General Meeting can take place by written or in-person process, as determined by the Commission;
- C. On May 8, 2015, by Order A-3-15, the Commission established a regulatory timetable for the seventh Annual General Meeting. The Commission determined a formal meeting was warranted to address the issues included on the Issues List attached as Appendix B to the Order;
- D. During the meeting, held on June 9, 2015, in Vancouver, British Columbia, participants discussed whether it is appropriate that the FEI account holder's spouse is included in the Code of Conduct for Gas Marketers as a signing authority for residential Consumer Agreements. Commission staff advised participants of their intent to obtain an independent legal opinion on the matter, which would be available for participants' review and comment prior to the end of the proceeding; and
- E. The Commission has reviewed the in-person meeting transcript and determines additional time is warranted for Interveners' Final Submissions, to allow sufficient time to review and comment on the independent legal opinion on the issue of spousal authority.

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NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders that an amended timetable is established for the remainder of the seventh Customer Choice Program Annual General Meeting, following the Regulatory Timetable attached as Appendix A to this order.

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

22nd

day of June 2015.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D.A. Cote

Panel Chair/Commissioner

Attachment

FortisBC Energy Inc. 2014 Customer Choice Program Seventh Annual General Meeting

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (year)
FEI releases Customer Choice Annual Report, addressing the issues raised	Tuesday, June 30
Independent legal opinion on spousal authority posted as exhibit	Tuesday, June 30
Intervener Final Submissions	Wednesday, July 22
FEI Reply Submissions	Monday, August 10