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ORDER NUMBER G-131-18

IN THE MATTER OF the Utilities Commission Act, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

FortisBC Inc. Annual Review of 2018 Rates Order G-38-18 Amended Financial Schedules Compliance Filing and Request for Approval of 2018 Permanent Rates

BEFORE:

B. A. Magnan, Panel Chair/Commissioner

on July 18, 2018

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On June 25, 2018, FortisBC Inc. (FBC) filed with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) its compliance filing, pursuant to Directive 2 of Order G-38-18 (Compliance Filing), outlining all adjustments to the general rate increase, including Amended Financial Schedules. FBC applied for approval to set the existing 2018 interim rates as permanent effective January 1, 2018 and for approval to establish the 2018 Revenue Deficiency deferral account as a non-rate base deferral account, financed at FBC's short-term pretax interest rate, to record the revenue deficiency of \$0.896 million (Application). The disposition of the 2018 Revenue Deficiency deferral account is to be addressed in the Annual Review for the 2019 Rates;
- B. On November 30, 2017, the BCUC issued Order G-172-17, setting the existing rates for all customer classes as interim and refundable/recoverable effective January 1, 2018;
- C. On February 13, 2018, the BCUC issued Order G-38-18 with Reasons for Decision, which determined that the existing interim rates were to remain interim and refundable/recoverable, pending the resolution of the FBC 2018 Demand Side Management (DSM) Expenditure Schedule (2018 DSM Application). The BCUC directed FBC to file a compliance filing within 15 days of the issuance of a BCUC Decision on the 2018 DSM Application, outlining any adjustments to the general rate increase compared to the rates proposed in the Annual Review of 2018 Rates Application;
- D. On June 14, 2018, the BCUC issued Order G-113-18 with Reasons for Decision, accepting the 2018 DSM Application for expenditures of up to \$7.9 million for 2018; and
- E. The BCUC has reviewed the Compliance Filing and Application and considers that approval is warranted.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to sections 59 to 61 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. FBC's current 2018 interim rates are approved, on a permanent basis, effective January 1, 2018.
- 2. FBC is approved to establish the 2018 Revenue Deficiency deferral account as a non-rate base deferral account financed at FBC's short-term interest rate, to record the forecast \$0.896 million revenue deficiency, the disposition of which will be addressed in FBC's Annual Review for 2019 Rates.
- 3. FBC is directed to file with the BCUC amended tariff pages, in accordance with the terms of this order, within 30 days of the issuance of this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 18th day of July 2018.

BY ORDER

Original Signed by:

B. A. Magnan Commissioner