

Suite 410, 900 Howe Street Vancouver, BC Canada V6Z 2N3 bcuc.com **P:** 604.660.4700 **TF:** 1.800.663.1385 **F:** 604.660.1102

ORDER NUMBER G-319-19

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.

Application for Approval of an Operating Agreement between the Corporation of the City of Armstrong and FortisBC Energy Inc.

BEFORE:

R. I. Mason, Commissioner

on December 9, 2019

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On August 26, 2019, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) filed an application with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for approval of an operating agreement dated August 9, 2019 between the Corporation of the City of Armstrong (City of Armstrong) and FEI (FEI-City of Armstrong Operating Agreement or Application), pursuant to section 23(1)(g) and section 89 of the *Utilities Commission Act*;
- B. FEI (through its predecessor company BC Gas Utility Co. Ltd.) and the City of Armstrong entered into a franchise agreement (Franchise Agreement) dated April 7, 1998, approved by BCUC Order C-6-98, dated May 28, 1998. The Franchise Agreement expired on October 11, 2019;
- C. Given the expiry of the Franchise Agreement, FEI requests approval of the Operating Agreement on an interim basis until a final determination on this Application is made by the BCUC; and
- D. The BCUC has reviewed the Application and considers that the following determinations are warranted.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to section 23(1)(g) and section 89 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. Interim approval of the FEI-City of Armstrong Operating Agreement and the collection of operating fees, effective October 12, 2019, is granted until the Panel reaches a final determination on the Application.
- 2. A public hearing process and a regulatory timetable are established, as set out in Appendix A to this order.
- 3. FEI must publish, no later than Friday, January 3, 2020, on its website and in display-ad format, the Public Notice attached as Appendix B to this order. Publication should be in such appropriate news publications as may properly provide adequate notice to FEI customers in the City of Armstrong.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 9th day of December 2019.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

R. I. Mason Commissioner

Attachment

FortisBC Energy Inc. Application for Approval of an Operating Agreement Between the Corporation of the City of Armstrong and FortisBC Energy Inc.

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2020)
FEI notice to the City of Armstrong customers	Friday, January 3
Intervener registration and letters of comment deadline	Friday, January 17
Further process	To be determined



Public Notice

OPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF ARMSTRONG AND FORTISBC ENERGY INC.

On August 26, 2019, FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) applied to the BCUC for approval of a revised operating agreement with the City of Armstrong. The operating agreement between both parties outlines the terms of administering and operating gas distribution facilities within the City of Armstrong.

More information on the application can be found at <u>bcuc.com</u> on our "Current Proceedings" page, a hard copy of the application is also available for review at the BCUC's office and FEI's head office.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- Submit a letter of comment
- Request intervener status

IMPORTANT DATES

 Friday, January 17, 2020 - Deadline to register as an intervener or file a letter of comment with the BCUC.

For more information on getting involved, please visit our website (<u>www.bcuc.com/get-involved</u>) or contact us at the information below.

GET MORE INFORMATION

FortisBC Energy Inc. Regulatory Affairs



16705 Fraser Highway Surrey, BC V4N 0E8



E: gas.regulatory.affairs@fortisbc.com



P: 604.592.7664

British Columbia Utilities Commission



Suite 410, 900 Howe Street Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3



E: Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com



P: 604.660.4700