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## ORDER NUMBER G-46-20

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc. Application for Approval for Permanent Rates and Revised Tariff Pages – Rate Schedule 46 – Liquefied Natural Gas Sales, Dispensing Liquefied Natural Gas Transportation Service, Effective January 1, 2020

#### **BEFORE:**

B. A. Magnan, Commissioner

on March 12, 2020

### ORDER

#### WHEREAS:

- A. On January 16, 2020, pursuant to sections 59 to 61 Utilities Commission Act (UCA), FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) seeking approval for certain charges in Rate Schedule 46 (RS 46) Table of Charges for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Transportation Service, the Table of Charges for LNG Service, and the Table of Charges for Transportation Service, (collectively the Tables of Charges), in addition to two housekeeping changes, on a permanent basis effective January 1, 2020 (Application);
- B. On December 12, 2013, the BCUC issued Order G-211-13 approving RS 46, in accordance with Order in Council (OIC) 557, B.C. Regulation 245/2013, deposited November 28, 2013, issuing Direction No. 5 to the BCUC, and effective December 12, 2013;
- C. On December 24, 2014, the BCUC issued Order G-207-14, effective January 1, 2015, approving amendments to RS 46 and Direction No. 5, in accordance with OIC 749, B.C. Regulation 265/2014, and deposited December 22, 2014;
- D. On May 4, 2017, the BCUC issued Order G-65-17, effective May 4, 2017, approving further amendments to RS 46 and Direction No. 5, in accordance with section 5 (1.2) of OIC 162, B.C. Regulation 115/2017, and deposited March 22, 2017;
- E. Certain charges contained in the Tables of Charges are to be reviewed on an annual basis and adjusted as required, using the greater of two percent or the British Columbia Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for the period of November of the prior year to November of the current year, which is not available until late December;

- F. On December 18, 2019, due to the timing of the release of British Columbia CPI November data, the BCUC issued Order G-334-19 approving existing rates, on an interim basis, for the Tables of Charges, effective January 1, 2020;
- G. FEI requests that current interim rates for the Tables of Charges be adjusted based on the British Columbia CPI. FEI's housekeeping changes include updating the percentage factor used to calculate the applicable Process Fuel Gas for FEI facilities and changing the rounding to three decimal places on Energy Density Values;
- H. On February 13, 2020 by Order G-20-20, the BCUC established a written comment process for the review of the Application, which included public notice, BCUC Information Requests and a deadline for letters of comment. No letters of comment were received by the BCUC;
- I. On February 27, 2020, FEI withdrew its request to update its process fuel gas percentage factor and provided revised Appendices B and C to the Application; and
- J. The BCUC has reviewed the Application and considers the following determination is warranted.

**NOW THEREFORE,** pursuant to Direction No. 5, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. The proposed amendments, including the revised rates, housekeeping changes and tariff pages, as applied for by FEI for RS 46 are approved on a permanent basis, effective January 1, 2020.
- 2. The variance between the interim rates and the permanent rates is to be recovered by FEI from RS 46 LNG customers, with interest at the average prime rate of FEI's principal bank for its most recent year.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 12th day of March 2020.

BY ORDER

Original Signed By:

B. A. Magnan Commissioner