



**ORDER NUMBER  
F-14-22**

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc.  
Biomethane Energy Recovery Charge Rate Methodology Assessment Report

**BEFORE:**

D. M. Morton, Panel Chair  
D. A. Cote, Commissioner  
R. I. Mason, Commissioner

On April 5, 2022

**ORDER**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On August 12, 2016, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) issued its decision and accompanying Order G-133-16 (2016 Decision) approving FortisBC Energy Inc.'s (FEI) Biomethane Energy Recovery Charge (BERC) Rate Methodology Application. Directive 16 of the 2016 Decision directed FEI to file a comprehensive assessment report for BCUC approval at the earlier of the application by FEI for a transfer of biomethane inventory from the Biomethane Variance account to the Mid-Stream Reconciliation account, or four years after the date of issuance of the 2016 Decision, whichever came first;
- B. On August 12, 2020, in accordance with Directive 16 of the 2016 Decision, FEI filed the BERC Rate Assessment Report (Assessment Report) with the BCUC;
- C. By Order G-292-20, dated November 12, 2020, the BCUC established the regulatory timetable for the review of the Assessment Report, including a list of preliminary scope items attached as Appendix C to that order and requested submissions on the scope from all parties;
- D. On November 17, 2020, FEI requested that the BCUC rescind Order G-292-20, for reasons of regulatory efficiency, and instead establish a regulatory review process with two stages or two separate processes where the second stage or process would follow subsequent to FEI filing an application for changes to its Renewable Natural Gas Program (RNG Program) after completing its planned comprehensive review;
- E. By Orders G-301-20 and G-35-21, the BCUC determined that the review of the proceeding shall progress with a two-stage process, and established a regulatory timetable for the Stage 1 Review of FEI's BERC Rate Methodology Assessment Report which included one round of information request and a written argument process;

- F. By Decision and Order G-242-21, dated August 12, 2021, the BCUC issued its determination on the Stage 1 Review of FEI's BERC Rate Methodology Assessment Report;
- G. The following participants filed final Participant Assistance/Cost Award (PACA) applications with the BCUC with respect to their participation in Stage 1 of the proceeding:

Date	Participant	Application
May 31, 2021	BC Sustainable Energy Association	\$5,392.10
February 17, 2022	Movement of United Professionals	\$2,832.48
February 18, 2022	British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization <i>et al.</i>	\$23,855.63
February 22, 2022	Commercial Energy Consumers Association of British Columbia	\$16,678.21

- H. By letters dated December 22, 2021 and March 17, 2022, FEI submitted that it has no further comment in respect of the PACA applications if the BCUC is satisfied that the participants have met the eligibility requirements, that the funding days claimed are appropriate, and that the level of participation has met with the BCUC's criteria and requirements; and
- I. The BCUC has reviewed the final PACA applications for Stage 1 of the proceeding in accordance with the criteria and rates set out in the PACA Guidelines, attached to Order G-97-17, and determines that the cost awards should be approved.

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to section 118(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the BCUC orders as follows:

1. Funding is awarded to the following interveners in the listed amounts, inclusive of applicable taxes, for their respective participation in the Stage 1 Review of FEI's BERC Rate Methodology Assessment Report:

Participant	Award
BC Sustainable Energy Association	\$5,392.10
Movement of United Professionals	\$2,832.48
British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization <i>et al.</i>	\$23,855.63
Commercial Energy Consumers Association of British Columbia	\$16,678.21

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

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

D. M. Morton  
Commissioner