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ORDER NUMBER G-10-25

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

and

Corix UBCDE Limited Partnership UBC Neighbourhood District Energy System 2025-2027 Revenue Requirement and Rates

BEFORE:

W.E. Royle, Panel Chair E.B. Lockhart, Commissioner

on January 23, 2025

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 31, 2024, Corix UBCDE Limited Partnership (Corix) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), pursuant to sections 59 to 61 and 89 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), seeking approval of the revenue requirement and rates for its Neighbourhood District Energy System at the University of British Columbia (UBC NDES) for 2025 to 2027, effective January 1 of each respective year (Application);
- B. By Order G-84-15 dated May 25, 2015, the BCUC approved a 20-year, levelized two-part rate structure with a Basic Charge and Variable Charge, through which a portion of the annual revenue requirement is deferred in the early stages of development for UBC NDES. In the same order, the BCUC also approved the establishment of a Revenue Deficiency Deferral Account (RDDA) in order to capture the revenue requirement variances under the levelized rate structure;
- C. In a compliance filing to Order G-84-15, Corix filed with the BCUC its revised levelized rates and residential rate schedule, based on certain adjustments outlined in that order and the associated decision, for its Basic Charge and Variable Charge for the years 2015 to 2034, which included the following Basic Charges for 2025, 2026 and 2027:

	2025	2026	2027
Basic Charge (\$/square metre [m ²] per month)	0.6610	0.6802	0.6999

D. By Order G-284-23 dated October 20, 2023, the BCUC approved Corix to replace the Variable Charge with a Variable Energy Charge, which recovers only flow-through energy costs, and to establish an Energy Cost Reconciliation Account, to capture energy costs related variances, commencing on September 1, 2023. In

the same order, the BCUC also approved Corix's request to discontinue capturing energy related variances in the RDDA after August 31, 2023 and rescinded the Variable Charges that were previously approved in Order G-84-15 for the period from September 1, 2023 to year 2034;

E. In the Application, among other things, Corix requests approval to increase the previously approved Basic Charge for each of 2025, 2026 and 2027, as outlined below. Corix explains that it has considered various scenarios of potential rate increases and its proposal in the Application strikes an optimal balance between minimizing immediate rate increases, supporting rate stability and affordability, controlling long-term financing costs, and maintaining RDDA stability;

	2025	2026	2027
Proposed Basic Charge (\$/m ² per month)	0.7580	0.8717	0.9763

- F. In the Application, among other things, Corix requests interim approval of the Basic Charge of \$0.7580 per m² per month, effective January 1, 2025 as set out above and in the proposed rate schedule filed in Section C of Appendix F to the Application; and
- G. The BCUC has commenced review of the Application and determines that approving an interim Basic Charge for UBC NDES customers and establishing a regulatory timetable are warranted.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to sections 59 to 61 and 89 of the UCA, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. Corix is approved to charge a Basic Charge of \$0.7580 per square metre per month as set forth in Section C of Appendix F to the Application, on an interim and refundable/recoverable basis, effective January 1, 2025.
- 2. Corix is directed to amend the proposed rate schedule in the tariff included in Section C of Appendix F to the Application to indicate that for each of 2026 and 2027, the Basic Charge and Rate Rider 1 are proposed rates and subject to BCUC approval. Corix is directed to file this amended rate schedule as a tariff page for endorsement by the BCUC by Thursday, February 6, 2025.
- 3. A regulatory timetable for the review of the Application is established as set out in Appendix A to this order.
- 4. On or before Thursday, January 30, 2025, Corix is directed to:
 - Provide notice of the Application and this order, or post the Public Notice attached as Appendix B to this order, on its website at <u>https://www.corix.com/ubc-ndes/</u>and its existing social media platforms. Social media monthly reminder posts must be published during the first week of each month until the conclusion of the letters of comment period;
 - (ii) Provide a copy of this order and the Public Notice attached as Appendix B to this order, electronically where possible, to all customers of the UBC NDES and registered interveners in the Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc. Application for Approvals relating to Restructuring and Business Combination Transactions proceeding; and
 - (iii) Request each customer to post the Public Notice attached as Appendix B to this order on major notice boards of the customer's buildings served by the UBC NDES and request each customer to provide confirmation of this posting to Corix.

- 5. Corix is directed to provide to the BCUC:
 - (i) Confirmation of compliance with Directive 4's public notice requirements, except for the monthly social media reminder posts, including a list of all parties notified and a list of the social media platforms on which the Public Notice was posted, in accordance with the regulatory timetable.
 - (ii) Confirmation of compliance with Directive 4's public notice requirement regarding monthly social media reminder posts in accordance with the regulatory timetable.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 23rd day of January 2025.

BY ORDER

Electronically signed by Wendy Royle

W.E. Royle Commissioner

Attachment

Corix UBCDE Limited Partnership UBC Neighbourhood District Energy System 2025-2027 Revenue Requirement and Rates

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2025)		
Public Notice of the Application	Thursday, January 30		
Corix confirmation of compliance with Public Notice requirements, except for social media reminder posts	Tuesday, February 4		
Intervener registration deadline	Thursday, February 13		
BCUC Information Request (IR) No. 1	Thursday, March 6		
Intervener IR No. 1	Thursday, March 13		
Corix responses to IR No. 1	Thursday, April 17		
BCUC notice of remaining regulatory timetable	Wednesday, April 30		
Action	No IR No. 2	With IR No. 2	
BCUC IR No. 2	Not Applicable	Monday, May 12	
Intervener IR No. 2	Not Applicable	Thursday, May 15	
Corix responses to IR No. 2	Not Applicable	Tuesday, June 17	
Letters of comment deadline	Wednesday, May 14	Tuesday, June 24	
Corix confirmation of compliance with social media reminder posts requirement	Thursday, May 22	Friday, June 27	
Corix reply to letters of comment and final argument	Thursday, May 29	Thursday, July 3	
Intervener final argument	Thursday, June 12	Thursday, July 17	
Corix reply argument	Thursday, June 26 Thursday, July 31		



We want to hear from you

Corix UBC NDES 2025-2027 Revenue Requirement and Rates

On December 31, 2024, Corix UBCDE Limited Partnership (Corix) filed its 2025-2027 Revenue Requirements Application requesting approval of its revenue requirements and Basic Charges for the Neighborhood District Energy System at the University of British Columbia (UBC NDES) for the years 2025, 2026 and 2027, with rates effective January 1 of each year, as shown below:

	2024	2025	2026	2027
Existing Basic Charge (\$/m ² per month)	0.6424	0.6610	0.6802	0.6999
Proposed Basic Charge (\$/m ² per month)	N/A	0.7580	0.8717	0.9763
Proposed Rate Increase (%)		18%	15%	12%

The BCUC approved an interim Basic Charge of \$0.7580 per m² per month, on an interim and refundable/recoverable basis, effective January 1, 2025, pending the final outcome of the proceeding.

GET INVOLVED

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• Submit a letter of comment

Subscribe to the proceeding

Request intervener status

IMPORTANT DATES

- 1. Request intervener status with the BCUC by Thursday, February 13, 2025
- 2. Submit a letter of comment to share your views, opinions, and insights on the application by:
 - Wednesday, May 14, 2025 if the proceeding does not advance to a second round of information requests.
 - **Tuesday, June 24, 2025** if the proceeding advances to a second round of information requests.

<u>Subscribe to this Proceeding</u> on bcuc.com under "Get Involved" to receive email notifications when public documents are added to the proceeding. Please visit the <u>Proceeding webpage</u> on bcuc.com under "Our Work" to learn more.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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