



**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER  
NUMBER G-148-13**

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IN THE MATTER OF  
the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473

and

An Application by FortisBC Energy (Whistler) Inc.  
Regarding Gas Cost Recovery Charge effective October 1, 2013

**BEFORE:** L.F. Kelsey, Commissioner  
C.A. Brown, Commissioner September 12, 2013  
N.E. MacMurchy, Commissioner  
B.A. Magnan, Commissioner  
D.M. Morton, Commissioner  
C. van Wermeskerken, Commissioner

### **O R D E R**

#### **WHEREAS:**

- A. By Order G-138-10 and its accompanying Reasons for Decision, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) approved the treatment of various components of the Cost of Gas for FortisBC Energy (Whistler) Inc. [FEW, formerly known as Terasen Gas (Whistler) Inc.], which include determining the FEW Gas Cost Recovery Charge from the FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) Rate Schedule 3 commodity and midstream gas cost allocation and recovery rates;
- B. By Order G-95-13 dated June 13, 2013, the Commission approved the FEW Gas Cost Recovery Charge of \$4.848/gigajoules (GJ), effective July 1, 2013;
- C. On September 6, 2013, FEI filed its 2013 Third Quarter Gas Cost Report, which includes a recommended Commodity Cost Recovery Charge proposed rate decrease of \$0.641/GJ in the Rate Schedule 3 commodity related charges, effective October 1, 2013. FEI recommended a commodity decrease flow through, based on the more current price strip of the five-day average ending September 3, 2013 for the Lower Mainland, Inland, and Columbia Service Areas to capture more accurately the market forward prices;
- D. On September 6, 2013, FEW filed its 2013 Third Quarter Gas Cost Report (FEW Report) on the Gas Cost Recovery Charge that was based on the five-day average forward prices ending August 23, 2013 and ending September 3, 2013. The FEW Report also includes FEI's Rate Schedule 3 commodity and midstream gas cost allocation and recovery rates;

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- E. Using the five-day average forward prices ending September 3, 2013, FEW requests approval for a decrease of \$0.641/GJ in the Gas Cost Recovery Charge to a rate of \$4.207/GJ, effective October 1, 2013;
- F. The Gas Cost Recovery Charge requested within the FEW Report would be equivalent to a decrease of approximately \$58 or 3.6 percent per year for a typical Whistler residential customer's annual bill based on an average annual consumption of 90 GJ;
- G. By Order G-147-13 dated September 12, 2013, the Commission approved a rate decrease of 0.641/GJ from \$3.913/GJ to \$3.272/GJ, effective October 1, 2013, to the FEI Commodity Cost Recovery Charge for sales rate classes within the Lower Mainland, Inland, and Columbia Service Areas, which include the FEI Rate Schedule 3 commodity related charges;
- H. The Commission has reviewed the FEW Report and considers that the requested rate change is warranted.

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to Section 61(4) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The requested decrease to the Gas Cost Recovery Charge to a rate of \$4.207/GJ is approved, effective October 1, 2013, as set out in the FortisBC Energy (Whistler) Inc. (FEW) 2013 Third Quarter Report.
- 2. FEW must notify all affected customers of the rate change by way of a bill insert or bill message to be submitted to the Commission for review prior to its release with the next monthly gas billing

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 13th day of September 2013.

BY ORDER

*Original Signed By:*

D. M. Morton  
Commissioner