

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER F-26-14**

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

and

FortisBC Energy Inc. Customer Choice Program
Sixth Annual General Meeting
Participant Assistance/Cost Award Funding

BEFORE: D.A. Cote, Commissioner

September 29, 2014

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. FortisBC Energy Inc. (FEI) obtained approval from the Commission in 2006 for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Commodity Unbundling Project for Residential Customers (Customer Choice) in accordance with the government's 2002 energy policy which would allow for unbundling of natural gas through gas marketing companies licensed by the Commission;
- B. On June 26, 2014, the Customer Choice Sixth Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held to discuss the concerns and suggestions of interested parties. Participants included representatives of FEI, the British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization *et al.* (BCOAPO), gas marketers and Commission staff;
- C. On August 22, 2014, the British Columbia Public Interest Advocacy Centre, on behalf of its client BCOAPO, applied for Participant Assistance/Cost Award (PACA) funding with regard to its participation in the written process leading up to and following the AGM and preparation for and attendance at the AGM;
- D. On September 11, 2014, FEI advised the Commission it has no comments on the PACA amount BCOAPO submitted; and
- E. The Commission has reviewed the PACA application with regard to the criteria and rates set out in the PACA Guidelines and is satisfied approval is warranted.

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

1. The British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization *et al.* is awarded funds in the requested amount of \$5,167.58 with respect to its participation in the Customer Choice Sixth Annual General Meeting process.

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2. FortisBC Energy Inc. is to reimburse the Applicant the amount awarded in a timely manner.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, In the Province of British Columbia, this 29th day of September 2014.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D.A. Cote
Commissioner