

November 30, 2023

District of Squamish
37955 Second Avenue
P.O. Box 310
Squamish, B.C.
V8B 0A3

Dear Acting Mayor Jenna Stoner,

Thank you for your Nov. 2, 2023, letter regarding FortisBC's Effluent Discharge Permit Application (PE 110163, TN #388298) and the public consultation process.

The BC Energy Regulator (BCER) issued FortisBC a temporary waste discharge approval (#422015) on Oct. 18, 2023, in accordance with section 15 of the *Environmental Management Act* (EMA), for discharges related to Eagle Mountain Pipeline construction at the BC Rail site. The discharges applied for by FortisBC met all applicable British Columbia Approved and Working Water Quality Guidelines for Freshwater and Marine Aquatic Life, and consultation completed by FortisBC was considered sufficient to support the temporary approval. The temporary approval cannot be extended.

The *Public Notification Regulation* identifies requirements for consultation and notification under EMA. As per our Aug. 31, 2023, letter to the District of Squamish, the BCER directed FortisBC to undertake an additional 30-day public notification period, which includes publishing an Environmental Protection Notice in the Squamish Chief and making application materials accessible for review. FortisBC has advised this consultation period will commence on Nov. 30, 2023. Comments received during this public notification period will be used to inform FortisBC's application (PE 110163, TN #388298) for the longer-term waste discharge permit for the BC Rail and Woodfibre sites.

The *Public Notification Regulation* outlines a minimum of a 30-day comment period, although the BCER decision-maker may take into consideration any information received prior to a decision being made by submission to waste.management@bc-er.ca. The BCER encourages the District of Squamish to submit any comments on the permit application through the notification process, which will be considered by the BCER decision maker.

Thank you,



Sean Curry
Vice President, Responsible Development & Stewardship
BC Energy Regulator