



Shelley Martens
Community & Indigenous Relations

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Regional District Central Okanagan
1450 KLO Road
Kelowna, BC
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Attention: Loyal Wooldridge, Board Chair

lwooldridge@kelowna.ca

Dear Loyal,

I am reaching out to provide an update to Regional District Central Okanagan on the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) decision to deny FortisBC's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) application for the Okanagan Capacity Upgrade (OCU) Project at this time.

We have received, and are reviewing, the BCUC's decision, but we are disappointed that our application to develop this important piece of infrastructure has been denied. The OCU project is required to ensure we have enough supply to meet peak energy demand in the Okanagan region, which occurs during colder winter months when customers rely on gas to heat their homes and businesses.

While the OCU project wasn't approved, we are encouraged to see that the BCUC does agree with FortisBC that there is an immediate need to address an imminent capacity shortfall that requires a long-term solution. As part of the decision, FortisBC will be developing a mitigation plan to meet the revised planning criteria prescribed by the BCUC, to be filed before July 31, 2024. This plan will examine possible mitigations, such as compressed natural gas (CNG) injection or facility improvements, to ensure customers' energy demands are met for the 2026/27 winter and subsequent period.

FortisBC's infrastructure is vital to the delivery of renewable and low-carbon gases, which are critical to the Province's ability to meet its CleanBC targets through affordable and sustainable energy options.

More information on the OCU project can be found at [Okanagan Capacity Upgrade | Talking Energy](#); and the BCUC decision can be found at [FEI CPCN for the Okanagan Capacity Upgrade Project - BCUC](#).

If you have any questions, or if you and the Board would like to be updated on the development of FortisBC's mitigation plans, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Shelley Martens".

Shelley Martens
Community and Indigenous Relations Manager

cc. Sally Ginter, CAO, sally.ginter@rdco.com