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Submitted via email: engage@auc.ab.ca

Alberta Utilities Commission Eau Claire Tower 1400, 600 Third Avenue SW Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

Re: AUC Consultation – Rule 007: Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines (AUC Rule 007)

On May 2, 2024, the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) issued Bulletin 2024-08 in which it initiated a consultation regarding AUC Rule 007 and introduced enhanced interim information requirements for all new power plant and energy storage facility applications. Subsequently, on May 23, 2024, the AUC issued Bulletin 2024-09 inviting interested parties to provide feedback on changes to AUC Rule 007. FortisAlberta Inc. (FortisAlberta) makes this submission in support of the Commission's review of AUC Rule 007 and appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed changes to AUC Rule 007.

FortisAlberta attended the consultation session held on June 3, 2024, where the topic of energy storage facilities was discussed. FortisAlberta notes that during the session, Commission staff asked participants whether the Commission should consider a checklist application for energy storage facilities similar to that which is currently available for power plants. FortisAlberta confirms its support for a checklist application process for energy storage facility projects that are under 10MW, in alignment with the checklist process currently available to new power plant applicants. This checklist process should be applicable to all applicants, including distribution facility owners (DFOs), provided that DFOs meet section 10.1 requirements.<sup>3</sup> Providing for the use of checklist applications for energy storage facilities under 10MW will standardize and streamline the process, resulting in effective and efficient proceedings, and will contribute towards the red tape reduction initiative.

Please contact me at (403) 514-4941 or Regulatory Affairs via <u>regdept@fortisalberta.com</u> if you have any questions with respect to this submission.

Sincerely,

/Elizabeth von Engelbrechten/ Elizabeth von Engelbrechten Senior Manager, Regulatory Affairs

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bulletin 2024-08

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bulletin 2024-09

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> AUC Rule 007: Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines, Section 10.1.