

September 7, 2022

Enforcement File:2021-0140

FortisBC Energy Inc.
16705 Fraser Highway
Surrey, BC V4N 0E8

Attention: Christopher Wiley

RE: Warning: Fail To Comply With Section 12.1(2)(d) Of The Heritage Conservation Act

Dear Mr. Wiley,

On August 16, 2021, FortisBC Energy Inc. (Fortis) reported to the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) that while undertaking an instream protection job at the Bonaparte River, near Ashcroft, B.C. it discovered that geotextile fabrics and rig matting were placed over a known archaeological site (EeRh-320) for protection. This activity was an alteration of the site and no alteration permit under the Heritage Conservation Act had been issued at the time for such activity. Fortis coned off the area to ensure no further activity occurred within the site and the exclusion zone was fenced off with construction fencing.

As a result of this activity Fortis applied for and was issued a site alteration permit to remove the fabric and rig matting, fencing within and around the archaeological site and to remediate the site under the supervision of a qualified Archaeologist and a local First Nation monitor.

Following removal of the rig mats and geotextile, the underlying area was subject to an intensive surface inspection. The ground and vegetation underneath the wooden mats and geotextile appeared to be slightly compressed and some rodent burrowing beneath the matting was noted. No adverse ground disturbance occurred to the site, or adjacent area. No archaeological materials or features were identified during the assessment, and the boundary of EeRh -320 is unchanged as a result of monitoring activities.

Considering all the circumstances, Fortis is hereby warned only for the following:

Fortis, between August 11, 2021 and August 13, 2021, at or near Ashcroft, in the Province of BC, did alter an archaeological site, to wit: EeRh-320, by placing geotextile

and rig matting within the site without a site alteration permit contrary to section 12.1(2)(d) of the Heritage Conservation Act and did thereby commit an offence contrary to section 36(1)(d) of the Heritage Conservation Act.

If Fortis has any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Manager, Enforcement
Oil and Gas Commission