

From: Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX (Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca)
To: Cuddy, Andrew EMLI:EX (Andrew.Cuddy@gov.bc.ca); Venn, Tania GCPE:EX (Tania.Venn@gov.bc.ca); Meehan, Patrick EMLI:EX (Patrick.Meehan@gov.bc.ca); Brown, Evan EMLI:EX (Evan.Brown@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Pierson, Nova GCPE:EX (Nova.Pierson@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL - Media inquiry - approval
Sent: 04/04/2023 19:26:51
Message Body:

s.13

s.13

From: Cuddy, Andrew EMLI:EX <Andrew.Cuddy@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 12:24 PM
To: Venn, Tania GCPE:EX <Tania.Venn@gov.bc.ca>; Meehan, Patrick EMLI:EX <Patrick.Meehan@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Evan EMLI:EX <Evan.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Pierson, Nova GCPE:EX <Nova.Pierson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL - Media inquiry - approval

Thanks. s.13

From: Venn, Tania GCPE:EX <Tania.Venn@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 12:19 PM
To: Cuddy, Andrew EMLI:EX <Andrew.Cuddy@gov.bc.ca>; Meehan, Patrick EMLI:EX <Patrick.Meehan@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Evan EMLI:EX <Evan.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Pierson, Nova GCPE:EX <Nova.Pierson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL - Media inquiry - approval

Thanks Andrew,

We will share with Program, s.13
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s.13

Tania

From: Cuddy, Andrew EMLI:EX <Andrew.Cuddy@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 11:38 AM
To: Venn, Tania GCPE:EX <Tania.Venn@gov.bc.ca>; Meehan, Patrick EMLI:EX <Patrick.Meehan@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Evan EMLI:EX <Evan.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Pierson, Nova GCPE:EX <Nova.Pierson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL - Media inquiry - approval

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Can we run this by program staff please one final time?

From: Venn, Tania GCPE:EX <Tania.Venn@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 5:23 PM
To: Cuddy, Andrew EMLI:EX <Andrew.Cuddy@gov.bc.ca>; Meehan, Patrick EMLI:EX <Patrick.Meehan@gov.bc.ca>; Brown, Evan EMLI:EX <Evan.Brown@gov.bc.ca>; Howlett, Tim GCPE:EX <Tim.Howlett@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Pierson, Nova GCPE:EX <Nova.Pierson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL - Media inquiry - approval

Hi,

Please can you review the following media response? Housing drafted the first bullet. MUNI has reviewed all.

Thank you,

Tania

Reporter

Marc Fawcett-Atkinson, Reporter

National Observer

marc@observermediagroup.com

902-318-1923

Deadline Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:30 PM

Request

I'm a reporter covering food and environment for the National Observer. I'm working on a story about renewable natural gas in B.C. and have a few questions for the ministry. My deadline is EOD tomorrow.

Recommendation

1. Other than Vancouver, which has its own charter, can B.C. municipalities explicitly ban natural gas in new buildings, in light of provincial regulations?

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2. Several municipalities in the province have banned fossil gas heating for space and water under municipal bylaws, but limits on their jurisdictions mean they cannot fully ban gas. This means renewable natural gas can still be used in these new buildings, even if — as noted below — it is renewable natural gas on paper alone. Does the province have any plans to change rules for municipalities so they can ban all natural gas, including renewable?

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3. Does the provincial government have any oversight mechanism to verify FortisBC's renewable natural gas sales, specifically the source of the gas?

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4. FortisBC is allegedly generating some of its renewable natural gas through purchasing the "environmental attributes" of renewable natural gas generated thousands of kilometres away (e.g. Ontario) that never actually is used in the province. Instead, these "environmental attributes" are applied to fossil-source natural gas to make it appear renewable on paper.

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5. There is clear scientific evidence we need to drastically curb oil and gas use to tackle climate change, yet this approach could mean that B.C. does not actually transition away from fossil natural gas despite municipal efforts to do so. What is the province doing to both verify FortisBC's renewable natural gas claims and eventually transition the province off fossil fuels?

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(the above is from the CleanBC Roadmap)

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Background

**Peter Lonergan
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation
250 920-6388 cell**