

On Oct 6, 2023 3:41 p.m., "LeBlanc, Carmen" <Carmen.LeBlanc@fortisbc.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor & Council,

I hope this email finds you all well.

In support of conversations and adoption of the Zero Carbon Step Code (ZCSC), I want to reiterate FortisBC's alignment with the desire to reduce carbon emissions in Nanaimo and beyond. For over a decade, we have been [taking action](#) and leading the way in actualizing these achievements. Resilient communities like yours, with access to both gas and electric systems benefit from improved reliability with these systems working together to provide diversified and critical support for one another. Through our gas distribution system we are reducing emissions and improving air quality, while providing the critical and reliable energy that homes, businesses, industries and sectors like transportation need.

In support of continued and sustained emissions reduction, FortisBC has a filing currently before the BC Utilities Commission ([Biomethane Energy Recovery Charge Rate Methodology and Comprehensive Review of a Revised Renewable Gas Program](#)). This filing seeks the creation of a new tariff and would see the commitment of 100% low carbon Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) to all new homes; achieving the same intended emissions reduction as the highest levels of the ZCSC, without limiting energy choice. Aligning with your Council's decision to adopt the highest levels of the ZCSC, **I am writing with the request that the City of Nanaimo support our filing with a letter, or motion of support in council.**

Your support for this filing will affirm your council's commitment to maintaining access to low carbon energy and not limiting choice for your constituents. It would affirm your support for maintaining a diversified and resilient portfolio of energy for Nanaimo residents, while ensuring that the energy used in new homes achieves emissions reductions.

Very soon, low carbon RNG will flow from the CRD's Hartland landfill into our system. Approval of this filing will allow new homes to access and utilize this energy while conforming to your committed EL-4 level of the ZCSC.

For reference, I've attached a copy of a letter submitted by the District of Hope in support of this filing and encourage council or City of Nanaimo staff to reach out to me for more information. The deadline to submit a letter or motion of support is **October 12, 2023**.

I look forward to continued work with your council and staff. A letter of support can be emailed to me and I will forward appropriately.

Have a wonderful week and happy thanksgiving.

Carmen LeBlanc
Manager, Indigenous Relations
Community & Indigenous Relations Manager
1027 Langford Parkway, Victoria BC V9B 0A5
T: 250.380.5738 C: 250.883.5044