



Opportunity to Comment on BC Ferries' Proposed Spirit Class Mid-Life Upgrade Project

The British Columbia Ferry Commission is seeking public comment on BC Ferries' application pursuant to section 55(2) of the *Coastal Ferry Act* ("Act") for approval of the major capital expenditures for a mid-life upgrade project for the *Spirit of British Columbia* and *Spirit of Vancouver Island*, the primary vessels serving on Route 1, connecting Swartz Bay and Tsawwassen.

The scope of the proposed Spirit Class Mid Life Upgrade Project is fourfold: 1) to carry out work to address regulatory requirements, 2) to convert vessel propulsion to dual fuel marine diesel and liquefied natural gas, 3) to implement hull, electrical and passenger service modifications, and 4) to carry out renewals and overhauls of systems which have reached end-of-life.

Under section 55(4) of the Act the commissioner may approve a major capital expenditure if the proposed major capital expenditure is:

- a) reasonable,
- b) prudent, and
- c) consistent with
 - (i) the current Coastal Ferry Services Contract, and
 - (ii) any long term capital plan established by the ferry operator

BC Ferries' application is available at http://www.bcferries.com/files/PDFs/Spirit_Class_MLU_Application_to_the_BC_Ferries_Commissioner.pdf . Section 55 Application Guidelines as established by the Ferry Commission is also available at <http://www.bcferrycommission.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/Section-55-Application-Guidelines-Revised-July-5-2014.pdf> .

Comments or submissions can be sent by email to info@bcferrycommission.ca or by mail to:

BC Ferry Commission
PO Box 9279 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W9J7

Deadline for public comments is October 24, 2014. Comments submitted to the Ferry Commission may be published on its website.