



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-16-86

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF the Utilities Commission
Act, S.B.C. 1980, c. 60, as amended

and

IN THE MATTER OF an Application for Rate
Relief by Columbia Natural Gas Limited

BEFORE: M. Taylor,)
Chairman;)
D.B. Kilpatrick,) March 18, 1986
Commissioner; and)
N. Martin,)
Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS a public hearing pertaining to Columbia Natural Gas Limited ("Columbia") commenced before this Commission at Cranbrook, B.C. on Tuesday, October 1, 1985 to hear, inter-alia, the following matters:

- (a) An Application dated May 31, 1985 for a 2.49% interim rate increase to its filed Tariff Rate Schedules effective July 1, 1985, as amended during the hearing to a requested increase of 2.53%.

WHEREAS the Commission has considered the Application and the evidence adduced thereon, all as set forth in a Decision issued concurrently with this Order.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission hereby orders Columbia Natural Gas Limited as follows:

1. The mid-year Rate Base for the Test Year ending June 30, 1986 shall be approximately \$13,125,000.

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2. The Total Revenue Requirement for the Test Year ending June 30, 1986 shall be approximately \$31,457,000.
3. The interim rates in place since July 1, 1985 included an interim increase of 2.49%. Following a full review the Commission has determined that an increment of 1.93% is appropriate, and a refund to customers is therefore required.
4. Columbia is to proceed with refunds to its customers of record in the period July 1, 1985 through March 31, 1986 as specified in the Commission Decision issued concurrently with this Order.
5. The Commission will accept for filing, subject to timely presentation, revised Tariff Rate Schedules conforming to the above-noted Revenue Requirement, effective with consumption on and after April 1, 1986. The amended Tariff Rate Schedules will allow Columbia an opportunity to earn a rate of return on common share equity of approximately 14.75%, within a range of 14.25% to 15.25%.
6. Columbia will comply with the directions incorporated in the Commission's Decision.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of
British Columbia, this 18th day of March, 1986.

BY ORDER.



Chairman