



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-35-89

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 Complaints Against
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority

BEFORE: J.G. McIntyre,)
Chairman;)
J.D.V. Newlands,)
Deputy Chairman;)
N. Martin,) June 12, 1989
Commissioner; and)
W.M. Swanson, Q.C.,)
Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("B.C. Hydro") is upgrading its transmission facilities from Dunsmuir to Gold River, B.C. by the addition of a new 230 kV line; and

WHEREAS the Commission has received numerous complaints with respect to the proposed higher voltage transmission line and Electro-Magnetic Field ("EMF") implications; and

WHEREAS the Commission has received a motion from the Regional District of Comox/Strathcona concerning the location of transmission lines in the area; and

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to Section 93 of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"), the Commission orders B.C. Hydro and Power Authority as follows:

1. The Commission, pursuant to Section 93(2), appoints J.G. McIntyre to inquire into and report on the safety aspects of Electro-Magnetic Field implications, if any, of the 230 kV transmission line in the Courtenay/Comox area, and such other matters in the opinion of the Inquiry Officer as may be relevant. Chairman McIntyre will be assisted by W.M. Swanson, Q.C., Commissioner, W.J. Grant, Director, Engineering and Accounting, and N.C.J. Smith, Manager, Engineering and Project Review - Electrical.

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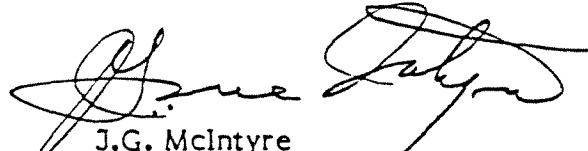
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2. B.C. Hydro is ordered under Section 54(2) of the Utilities Commission Act to cease construction of the segment of the 230 kV line through the Courtenay/Cumberland area near Royston to Marsden Road until such time as the Commission issues its report.
3. B.C. Hydro will arrange for publication of the Notice of Inquiry set out as Appendix A to this Order in the next issue of the Comox Free Press, Comox Valley Record, and local newspapers in the affected service area, and is to post the Notice on Community bulletin boards in order to affect adequate distribution to the general population.

The newspaper advertisements are to be supplemented by spot radio advertisements or Community service announcements so as to provide for adequate public information in the service area.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 12th day of June, 1989.

BY ORDER


J.G. McIntyre
Chairman

391/8/ac
Attachment



APPENDIX "A"

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INQUIRY

Into the Routing of the 230 kV
B.C. Hydro Dunsmuir to Gold River Transmission Line
from Royston to Marsden Road near Courtenay/Cumberland, B.C.

COMPLAINT

The Commission has received numerous complaints from residents adjacent to the 230 kV B.C. Hydro transmission line concerning the following:

1. The proposed higher voltage transmission line and Electro-Magnetic Field ("EMF") implications.

The purpose of the Inquiry is to ensure that all issues relating to this matter are reviewed in a public forum before the British Columbia Utilities Commission, pursuant to Section 93 of the Utilities Commission Act.

PUBLIC INQUIRY

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 11, 1989
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 12, 1989

LOCATION

The Westerly Hotel, 1590 Cliffe Avenue, Courtenay, B.C.

The Commission invites all interested parties to attend and participate in the inquiry.

SUBMISSIONS IN WRITING

If you are unable to attend, but wish to make a statement or present evidence, a submission in writing is to be forwarded to the B.C. Utilities Commission to be received on or before July 7, 1989.

CLARIFICATION

Persons intending to participate in the Public Inquiry, who are uncertain as to the manner in which to proceed, may contact Robert J. Pellatt, Commission Secretary or Neptune Smith, Manager, Engineering and Project Review - Electrical, in writing or by telephone (collect) 660-4700 [after July 1, 1989 B.C. Toll Free 1-800-663-1385].

BY ORDER

Robert J. Pellatt
Commission Secretary

391/10/ac