

BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER

NUMBER

G-44-89

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 an Inquiry into complaints against British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority

BEFORE: J.G. McIntyre,)
Chairman;)
N. Martin,)
Commissioner,) July 27, 1989
W.M. Swanson, Q.C.)
Commissioner; and)
F.C. Leighton,)
Commissioner)

ORDER

WHEREAS Commission Order No. G-35-89 set down the complaints received against British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("B.C. Hydro") pertaining to the potential health effects associated with the proposed 230 kV transmission line from Dunsmuir to Gold River, B.C. for a public Inquiry; and

WHEREAS pursuant to a Notice of Public Inquiry that was published in local newspapers, supplemented by radio announcements and documents filed in the local library and at the office of the Regional District of Comox-Strathcona, the Public Inquiry included a hearing conducted in Courtenay, B.C. from Tuesday, July 11 through Friday, July 14, 1989; and

WHEREAS the Inquiry Officer has prepared his Report and Recommendations (the "Report") dated July 26, 1989.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission hereby adopts the Report as submitted and orders that B.C. Hydro comply with the directions contained in the Report including, but not limited to, the specific directives as follows:

 Clause 2 of Commission Order No. G-35-89 that required B.C. Hydro to cease construction on the segment of the 230 kV line in the Courtenay/Cumberland area is rescinded, effective immediately.

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- The request, by the Regional District of Comox-Strathcona and others, to reroute the 230 kV line away from populated areas is denied.
- 3. B.C. Hydro is ordered to extend the deadline of the buy-out offer made to residents immediately adjacent to the right-of-way of the Dunsmuir to Gold River 230 kV transmission line in the Comox, Cumberland and Merville areas from May 31, 1989 to September 15, 1989, in accordance with recommendations contained in the Report.
- 4. B.C. Hydro is ordered to exclude the net cost of the the buy-out program from their cost of service.
- B.C. Hydro is directed to collaborate with the Ministry of Health in both devising and funding research programs into electro magnetic field related issues.
- 6. Pursuant to Section 51(3) of the Utilities Commission Act, B.C. Hydro is ordered to make application to the Commission for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for all future transmission lines rated at 138 kV and above.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 27 day of July, 1989.

BY ORDER

John G. McIntyre Chairman

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