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| <b>BRITISH COLUMBIA<br/>UTILITIES COMMISSION</b> |         |
| ORDER<br>NUMBER                                  | G-55-90 |

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 by  
BC Gas Inc.

|         |                     |   |               |
|---------|---------------------|---|---------------|
| BEFORE: | J.G. McIntyre,      | ) |               |
|         | Chairman;           | ) |               |
|         | N. Martin,          | ) | July 19, 1990 |
|         | Commissioner; and   | ) |               |
|         | W.M. Swanson, Q.C., | ) |               |
|         | Commissioner        | ) |               |

O R D E R

WHEREAS on March 26, 1990 BC Gas Inc. ("BC Gas") applied to the Commission for an order directing British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("B.C. Hydro") to transfer deferral credits of approximately \$373,000 relating to a B.C. Hydro refund residue of the 1987 Westcoast Energy Inc. ("Westcoast") toll credits, and of approximately \$907,000 relating to the 1988 Westcoast toll credits, to the credit of BC Gas customers in the Lower Mainland; and

WHEREAS by Order No. G-7-88 dated January 14, 1988, the Commission, in respect of a B.C. Hydro application, had ordered the 1987 Westcoast toll charges to be made permanent with any additional changes to be deferred; and the 1988 toll changes to be flowed through on an estimated basis with the difference to be deferred; and

WHEREAS by Order No. G-47-88 dated April 29, 1988, the Commission had ordered B.C. Hydro to make refunds to gas customers of approximately \$4 million resultant from the 1987 Westcoast toll charges and that B.C. Hydro was not required to refund such credits due to customers who had left the B.C. Hydro billing system; and

WHEREAS on September 29, 1988, the B.C. Hydro Gas Division was sold to Inland Natural Gas Co. Ltd., now known as BC Gas Inc. pursuant to the Hydro and Power Authority Privatization Act ("Privatization Act"); and

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WHEREAS the deferred accounts were not assets or liabilities subsequently transferred to BC Gas and therefore are not subject to Section 16 of the Privatization Act; and

WHEREAS the Commission has jurisdiction to order B.C. Hydro to refund to gas customers the 1988 toll changes deferred by Order No. G-7-88; and


WHEREAS the most practical means of effecting the refund is by a transfer to BC Gas and thereby avoiding unnecessary expense of an actual refund at this time.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders B.C. Hydro as follows:

1. B.C. Hydro is to refund the 1988 Westcoast gas toll credits amounting to approximately \$907,000, as received from Westcoast, to BC Gas customers in the Lower Mainland.
2. B.C. Hydro is to effect the refund by way of a transfer of the above funds to BC Gas, which will hold the funds directly in a deferral account for the credit of BC Gas Lower Mainland customers.
3. As directed by Order No. G-47-88, B.C. Hydro is not required to refund approximately \$373,000 to gas customers relating to the residue of a refund made by B.C. Hydro in respect of the 1987 Westcoast gas toll credits.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1990.

BY ORDER

  
John G. McIntyre  
Chairman

Attachments  
53I/51/cms