



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

and

IN THE MATTER OF an Application by  
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority

BEFORE: J.D.V. Newlands, )  
Deputy Chairman; and ) September 9, 1991  
N. Martin, )  
Commissioner )

**O R D E R**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On September 3, 1991, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("B.C. Hydro") applied to the Commission for approval of a variance to its Electric Tariff relating to the billing of electric consumption in Victoria, B.C., pursuant to the Utilities Commission Act and, in particular, to Section 69 thereof; and
- B. B.C. Hydro selected Victoria, B.C. as a pilot project for the regional billing system that is intended to replace the present central Customer Information System, using regional computers with centralized bill printing and mailing capabilities; and
- C. The September 3, 1991 B.C. Hydro Application requested a variance to the Electric Tariff, by applying to the Commission for approval: to issue customer consumption bills on a monthly basis; to use estimated and actual meter readings; to replace the four digit rate codes with three digits; to pro-rate customer consumption on opening and closing bills; and to terminate waiver provisions concerning minimum charges for motels, trailer camps and apartment buildings presently under construction; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the Application and finds that approval of the Application for an Electric Tariff variance is necessary and in the public interest.

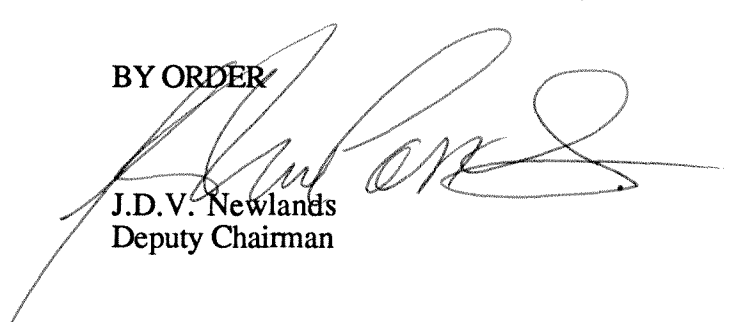
**NOW THEREFORE** the Commission orders B.C. Hydro as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves for B.C. Hydro, the September 3, 1991 Application for an Electric Tariff variance that permits the installation and operation of the Victoria billing system, as a pilot project.
- 2. B.C. Hydro is to advise all affected customers of the pilot project not less than 30 days prior to the proposed implementation date of December 1, 1991 in order to provide time for comments, if any, to be received by the Commission.
- 3. By way of monthly reports, B.C. Hydro is to advise the Commission of customer reactions and/or objections to the Electric Tariff variance.
- 4. B.C. Hydro is to file with the Commission monthly progress reports on the status of the Victoria billing system pilot project, commencing with the period ending October 31, 1991.

5. Should the Commission determine that the results of the Victoria, B.C. pilot project indicate that such a regional monthly billing system is desirable in other regions of its service area, then B.C. Hydro must file an application or applications to amend its Electric Tariff accordingly.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1991.

BY ORDER



J.D.V. Newlands  
Deputy Chairman