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CANADA



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER F-2-94

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AN ORDER IN THE MATTER OF the Utilities Commission
Act, S.B.C. 1980, c. 60, as amended
and
BC Gas Utility Ltd. Furnace Repair Plan
and
Participant Cost Awards

BEFORE: K.L. Hall, Commissioner; and) February 17, 1994
K. Wellman, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On June 18, 1993 legislative approval was given to participant funding with changes to Section 133 of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act") to allow for the payment of participant costs; and
- B. On December 8, 1993 the Commission issued Order No. G-117-93 setting out its Policy on Participant Funding and Cost Awards to participants to its hearings pursuant to Section 133.1 of the Act; and
- C. On January 21, 1994 the Commission advised participants to its hearings held after April 1, 1993 that applications for cost awards must be made to the Commission by January 28, 1994; and
- D. Following a request by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers ("IBEW") and other public complaints, the Commission, by Order No. G-39-93, ordered that a public review of the BC Gas Utility Ltd. ("BC Gas") Furnace Repair Plan ("FRP") and the Sands Inquiry Report take place; and
- E. A public hearing into the FRP and the Sands Inquiry Report was held in Vancouver commencing on July 12, 1993 and concluding on July 19, 1993 with a Decision issued by the Commission on September 17, 1993; and
- F. The Commission has reviewed the cost award applications and requires BC Gas to reimburse participant costs and expenses for the FRP.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. BC Gas is to reimburse the Consumers Association of Canada (CAC, B.C. et al) in the amount of \$7,074.86. The cost award is made pursuant to Section 133.1 of the Act and includes \$4,800 for counsel fees, \$2,274.86 for out-of-pocket expenses.
- 2. BC Gas is to reimburse the IBEW-Local 213 in the amount of \$6,463.01. The cost award is made pursuant to Section 133.1 of the Act and includes \$4,800 for counsel fees, \$1,500 for expert fees and the balance of \$163.01 for out-of-pocket expenses.
- 3. BC Gas is to reimburse the Gas Contractors' Association in the amount of \$11,264.54. The cost award is made pursuant to Section 133.1 of the Act and includes \$4,800 for counsel fees, \$2,602.50 for expert fees and the balance of \$3,862.04 for out-of-pocket expenses.

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4. BC Gas is to reimburse the United Association of Plumbing and Pipefitting in the amount \$1,273.00. The cost award is made pursuant to Section 133.1 of the Act and includes \$1,225.00 for expert fees and \$48.00 for out-of-pocket expenses.
5. BC Gas is to set up a deferral account to record participant cost awards at the FRP public hearing with such balances attracting interest at the average prime rate of its principal bank. This deferral account is to be amortized over two years commencing January 1, 1994 as part of its overall revenue requirements.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 4th day of March, 1994.

BY ORDER



Kenneth L. Hall
Commissioner