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BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER F-1-94

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

BEFORE: M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson;)
F.C. Leighton, Commissioner; and) February 17, 1994
E.C. Sleath, Commissioner)

ORDER

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. An application by BC Gas Utility Ltd. ("BC Gas") into Phase B Rate Design was heard in Vancouver, B.C. in July and August 1993 with a Decision issued by the Commission on September 21, 1993; and
- C. 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
- D. 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
- E. The Commission has reviewed the cost award applications and requires BC Gas to reimburse applicant costs and expenses.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. BC Gas is ordered to reimburse the Consumers Association of Canada (CAC, B.C. et al) in the amount of \$57,210.26. The cost award is made pursuant to Section 133.1 of the Act and includes \$16,800 for counsel fees, \$21,000 for expert fees and the balance for out-of-pocket expenses.
- 2. BC Gas is to set up a deferral account to record the cost awards concerning participant participation at the Phase B Rate Design 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 24th day of February, 1994.

BY ORDER


Dr. Mark K. Jaccard
Chairperson