

BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER NUMBER

G - 6 - 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 Northland Utilities (B.C.) Limited

**BEFORE:** M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson; and K.L. Hall, Commissioner ) January 20, 1994

## ORDER

## WHEREAS:

- A. The Commission, by Order No. G-107-93, approved Northland Utilities (B.C.) Limited's ("NUL") November 1, 1993 application to pass-through an anticipated \$.50/GJ increase in gas costs to customers effective November 1, 1993 and a deferral account to record the difference between \$0.50/GJ and the approved increases in gas supply costs ("the Application"); and
- B. On December 24, 1993, NUL requested approval of revised permanent rates effective January 1, 1994 which included rate increases of between \$.519/GJ and \$.729/GJ (including the \$.50/GJ approved by Order No. G-107-93) due to the pass-through of higher gas supply costs, the collection of franchise fees for 1993 and 1994 from residents of the City of Dawson Creek and a deferral account to record the fees collected until the conditions precedent in the franchise agreement are fulfilled; and
- C. By letter dated January 18, 1994, NUL amended its Application to request that the revised permanent rates be made effective February 1, 1994; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the Application and finds that approval of the requested increase, franchise fee collection and deferral account is necessary and in the public interest.

## NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to Section 67(4) of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"), the Commission approves for NUL an increase in the cost of gas to all customers effective February 1, 1994 that result in the flowing through of gas price increases for the 1993/94 gas contract year as set out in the Gas Tariff Rate Schedules filed by NUL on December 24, 1993.
- 2. Pursuant to Section 67(4) of the Act, the Commission approves the collection from customers, within the municipal boundaries of the City of Dawson Creek, a \$0.03/GJ rider until the total amount collected equals the 1993 licence fee and the January 1994 franchise fee that would have been collected under the Franchise Agreement approved by Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Order No. C-1-94 and of the 3 percent franchise fee under the Agreement, with the collection of both charges to commence February 1, 1994.
- 3. The Commission approves a deferral account to record the monies that NUL collects with regard to 1993 and 1994 franchise fees, with the balance in the account to earn interest at NUL's cost of short-term debt, and with the balance to be paid to the City of Dawson Creek when the conditions precedent in the Franchise Agreement are fulfilled. For greater certainty, all monies collected from the \$.03/GJ rider are to be paid to the City after collection.

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- 4. The Commission will accept, subject to timely filing by NUL, gas tariff rate schedules amended to reflect approvals contained in this Order.
- 5. NUL, by way of a customer notice, is to inform all affected customers of the gas tariff rate changes approved by this Order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this day of February 1994.

**BY ORDER** 

Dr. Mark K. Jaccard

Chairperson