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BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-88-95

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

and

An Application by Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.
for Approval of a Deferral Account for IRP and DSM Initiatives

BEFORE: M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson;)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chairperson;)
K.L. Hall, Commissioner; and) October 19, 1995
F.C. Leighton, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On August 24, 1995 Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. - Fort St. John District ("Centra Gas") applied to the Commission for approval of a deferral account to capture costs associated with Demand-Side Management ("DSM") programs identified within its Integrated Resource Planning ("IRP"); and
- B. The Commission, by Letter No. L-36-95, approved Centra Gas' IRP and indicated that the approval did not constitute pre-approval of DSM programs discussed within the IRP; and
- C. The Centra Gas DSM initiatives requiring approval consist of residential water heater upgrade, residential home visits, commercial new envelope upgrade, commercial existing heating upgrade, commercial/industrial interruption and natural gas vehicles; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the application and finds that approval is necessary and in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves a deferral account for Centra Gas to capture up to \$398,000 of costs associated with six DSM initiatives as outlined in the utility's August 24, 1995 application:
 - Residential water heater upgrade;
 - Residential home visits;
 - Commercial existing heating upgrade;
 - Commercial/Industrial interruption;
 - Commercial new envelope upgrade; and
 - Natural gas vehicles.
2. Centra Gas is directed to collaborate with its sister company Pacific Northern Gas Ltd./Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd. through an information exchange on DSM initiatives.

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3. Centra Gas is directed to seek the co-operation of BC Gas Utility Ltd. and British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority as appropriate, to reduce its costs of DSM program design, monitoring and evaluation.
4. Centra Gas is directed to follow the DSM accounting policies as contained in Commission Order No. G-55-95 and in particular to expense recurring research costs commencing with its 1996 test year for rate making purposes. Centra Gas is to file annual progress reports of its DSM initiatives, both in text and in the format required by Order No. G-55-95.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 24th day of October, 1995.

BY ORDER



Dr. Mark K. Jaccard
Chairperson