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BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-12-95

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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 1995/96 Revenue Requirements - Whistler and Port Alice Districts

BEFORE: M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson; and)
K.L. Hall, Commissioner) January 19, 1995

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 7, 1994 Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. - Whistler and Port Alice Districts ("Centra Gas") filed, pursuant to Sections 64 and 104 of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"), an Application for a permanent rate increase to customers effective May 1, 1995; and
- B. The Application requested the Commission to approve the recovery of a revenue deficiency for 1995 of \$105,651 and for 1996 of \$277,513 over the 20 month period beginning May 1, 1995 as an average compound rate increase of 10.3% over the existing rates. Centra Gas requested that the current rates be made interim effective January 1, 1995 pending resolution of its Revenue Requirements Application; and
- C. Centra Gas also applied to consolidate its Whistler and Port Alice Districts for rate making purposes and to revise the rates for both districts to incorporate a common fixed and commodity charge; and
- D. Centra Gas applied to the Commission to settle the Application by way of an Alternate Dispute Resolution ("ADR") process and has proposed a timetable to effect the process including public informational meetings on January 18, 1995 in Port Alice and on January 25, 1995 in Whistler, B.C.; and
- E. The Commission has reviewed the Application and finds that a formal ADR or public hearing process must be established.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission orders that the current rates for Centra Gas effective January 1, 1995 are interim pending the resolution of the 1995 and 1996 Revenue Requirements Application.
2. The Commission adopts the following timetable for public review of this Application:
 - January 23-27, 1995 Commission staff information request to be issued to the utility.
 - February 6, 1995 Centra Gas is to respond to staff information request.
 - February 10, 1995 Intervenor questions to be sent to Centra Gas.
 - February 20, 1995 Centra Gas is to respond to intervenor questions.
 - February 23-March 3, 1995 ADR meetings in Whistler. (Exact times and dates to be arranged by Centra)

- March 28, 1995 Public hearing, if required. Location and time to be published by way of a Commission issued Notice of Public Hearing.
- 3. Centra Gas is to provide a copy of this Order to all parties who have expressed an interest in the Application during the January 18 and 25, 1995 public informational meetings.
- 4. The Application and supporting materials are to be made available at the Head Office of Centra Gas, 1675 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C. and at each district office located in the service area. The Application will also be available for inspection at the B.C. Utilities Commission office, 6th Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C.
- 5. Not later than February 1, 1995, Intervenor intending to participate in the ADR or public hearing process should give written notice of intention to the Commission Secretary and to the Applicant. Such notice should state the nature of interest in the proceeding. Any Intervenor seeking Participant Funding should contact the Commission Secretary for a copy of the approved Policy and Guidelines on Participant Funding. Any Intervenor seeking participant funding is required to submit a budget of their proposed costs by February 10, 1995.
- 6. Centra Gas is to distribute copies of the Application and any supplemental information to Intervenor as they become registered with the Commission. Centra Gas is to distribute a copy of the Executive Summary and Order No. G-12-95 to Interested Parties.
- 7. Registered Intervenor and Interested Parties intending to file written statements pertaining to the Application must do so with the Commission and the Applicant by February 22, 1995.
- 8. Centra Gas will arrange for publication before January 27, 1995 in the business sections of the news publications in the service areas of the utility a notice that a revenue requirements application including a proposal for consolidation and postage stamp rates has been filed for the service area, interested parties may send written submissions to the Commission by February 22, 1995, Intervenor must register by February 1, 1995, and the timetable for public review of the application.
- 9. Centra Gas is to make available at the local library in the service areas, a copy of the Application, Executive Summary and Order No. G-12-95.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 23rd day of January, 1995.

BY ORDER



Mark K. Jaccard
Chairperson