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BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-51-96

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

and

An Application by Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. and Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd.
for 1996 Revenue Requirements and Interim and Permanent Rate Changes

BEFORE: L.R. Barr, Deputy Chairperson; and)
F.C. Leighton, Commissioner) May 29, 1996

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On November 29, 1995 Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. - West Division ("PNG") and Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd. - Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge Divisions ["PNG(N.E.)"] applied to the Commission, pursuant to Sections 64 and 106 of the Utilities Commission Act, for approval to amend its Gas Tariff Rate Schedules on an interim and permanent basis effective January 1, 1996 ("the Application"); and
- B. The Commission issued Order No. G-117-95 which approved for PNG and PNG(N.E.) interim rate changes effective January 1, 1996, and set down a public hearing into the Application; and
- C. Following a pre-hearing conference, the Commission issued Order No. G-12-96 setting the review of the Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge sections of the Application to be dealt with by the Alternate Dispute Resolution ("ADR") process and the PNG section of the Application by a public hearing; and
- D. PNG and PNG(N.E.) filed updates to the Application on February 16 and March 1, 1996 respectively. The update to the PNG(N.E.) sections of the Application contained new requests and changes similar to those contained in that of PNG; and
- E. As a result of formal changes to PNG's Application, the Commission canceled the ADR process as directed in Order No. G-12-96 and by Order No. G-24-96 set the hearing to commence on April 9, 1996 to examine issues pertaining to PNG and PNG(N.E.); and
- F. The Commission has considered the Application and evidence adduced therein, all as set forth in the Decision issued concurrently with this Order.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission hereby orders PNG and PNG(N.E.) as follows:

- 1. The Rate Base and Revenue Requirements for the year ending December 31, 1996 are as set out in the Schedules contained in the Decision.

2. The interim rates, approved by Order No. G-117-95, are considered to be excessive and are required to be partially refunded with appropriate interest to customers from January 1, 1996 to the date upon which the new Gas Tariff Rate Schedules will come into effect.
3. PNG and PNG(N.E.) will comply with the several directions incorporated in the Commission Decision.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 29th day of May, 1996.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chairperson