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CANADA



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER F-1-96

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

and

Applications by Participants to
The Generic Hearing on Utility System Extension Tests
and
Participant Cost Awards - Order No. G-117-93

BEFORE: M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson; and)
K.L. Hall, Commissioner) April 3, 1996

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On October 30, 1995 a public review of the province's gas mains extension policies and electrical extension policies ("the MX Hearing") commenced in Vancouver, B.C.; and
- B. Requests for Intervenor funding and participant cost awards were received from the BC Energy Coalition, the B.C. Public Interest Advocacy Centre, the Renewable Energy Association, the Peace River Regional District, the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen, the Cariboo Regional District, and the Township of Spallumcheen; and
- C. The Commission Panel reviewed the claims having regard to the criteria and rates set out in Order No. G-117-93. It was agreed that participants would be allowed to claim a maximum of four days of preparation time, eight days of hearing time, and two days of preparation for argument and reply, based on each participant's submission and contribution to the hearing. The maximum awards to Counsel were based on \$800 per participation day plus expenses which the Panel felt was a reasonable contribution to legal costs and the maximum awards to Consultants were based upon the fee and expense schedules submitted; and
- D. The Commission Panel discussed the issue of how participant and Commission hearing costs associated with this hearing should be allocated amongst the participants to the MX Hearing; and
- E. The Commission Panel also considered an application by BC Gas Utility Ltd. ("BC Gas") dated December 6, 1995 (amended December 20, 1995) to record its hearing costs in a deferral account for subsequent recovery in rates; and
- F. The Commission Panel has reviewed the Participant Funding/Cost Award applications and requires the participating public utilities, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, West Kootenay Power Ltd., Princeton Light and Power Ltd., BC Gas Utility Ltd., Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. and Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. to pay for such awards as outlined below. The cost sharing ratio between the utilities is based on their 1995 energy sales in the province as published in the Commission's 1995 Annual Report to the Legislature. A breakdown of the cost awards can be found in the Participant Funding/Cost Award sheet attached as Appendix A to this Order.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission denies the BC Gas application for recording of MX Hearing costs in a deferral account. The costs have either been included or, should have been anticipated in BC Gas' 1996-1998 Revenue Requirements Alternative Dispute Resolution Negotiated Settlement.
2. Pursuant to Section 133.1 of the Utilities Commission Act the participating utilities in the MX Hearing are ordered to reimburse participants in the total amount of \$100,783.44 as follows:

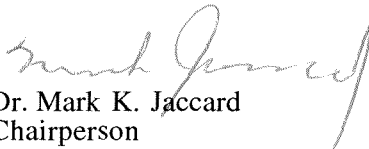
<u>Participant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BC Energy Coalition	\$ 25,245.52
B.C. Public Interest Advocacy Centre	17,637.41
Renewable Energy Association	36,743.64
Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen	619.51
Regional District Cariboo	737.28
Peace River Regional District	17,624.92
Township of Spallumcheen	<u>2,175.16</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 100,783.44</u>

3. The participating utilities in the MX Hearing are required to reimburse the participants listed in item 2 above in the ratio as follows:

<u>Utility</u>	<u>1995 Energy Sales</u> (GJ equivalent x000)	<u>Percent of Cost to Each Utility</u>
British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority	154,557	39.3847
West Kootenay Power Ltd.	6,274	1.5988
Princeton Light and Power Ltd.	194	0.0494
BC Gas Utility Ltd.	186,179	47.4426
Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.	10,158	2.5884
Pacific Northern Gas Ltd.	35,068	8.9361
	<u>392,430</u>	<u>100.0000</u>

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 18th day of April, 1996.

BY ORDER


Dr. Mark K. Jaccard
Chairperson

Participant Cost Summary

	PARTICIPANT FUNDING/COST AWARDS:					
	System Extension Hearing:		8 hearing days plus written argument and reply			
	Claimed:	\$123,642		Awarded:	\$100,783	
	INDIVIDUAL		COUNSEL		CONSULTANTS	
	Claim	Award	Claim	Award	Claim	Award
BC ENERGY COALITION						
\$34,817.32	Dermot Foley		Carol Reardon		Jim Lazar	
	(Case manager)					
RATE	\$175/day		\$100/hour	\$800/day	\$800/day	\$800/day
	\$60/hour					
TIME	92 hours prep	32 hrs @ \$60	150.5 hours	4 days prep		
	8 hearing days	8 days @ \$175		8 hearing days	6 days	6 days
	42 hours arg.	16 hrs @ \$60		2 days arg		
FEES (Incl. GST)	\$9,440.00	\$4,280.00	\$17,179.80	\$12,768.00		
EXPENSES	\$79.68	\$79.68	1,725.84	1,725.84	\$312	\$312
TOTAL (\$)	\$9,519.68	\$4,359.68	\$18,905.64	\$14,493.84	\$5,112.00	\$5,112.00
AWARD (%)		46%		77%		100%
	Bob Matthew					
RATE	\$60/hour					
TIME						
FEES (Incl. GST)	\$480 (prep)	\$480				
	\$480 (hear'g)	\$480				
EXPENSES	\$320	\$320				
TOTAL (\$)	\$1,280.00	\$1,280				
AWARD (%)		100%				
Total Award						
\$25,245.52						

Participant Cost Summary

	INDIVIDUAL		COUNSEL		CONSULTANTS	
	Claim	Award	Claim	Award	Claim	Award
PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE						
\$17,637.41			Jim Quail		John Todd	
RATE			800/day	\$800/day	\$165/hr	\$165/hr
TIME			8 hearing	8 hearing	11.1 hours	11.1 hrs
			5 prep	5 prep/arg	prep/arg	
FEES (Incl. GST)			\$11,856.00	\$11,856.00	\$1,959.71	\$1,959.71
EXPENSES			\$3,786.82	\$3,786.82	\$34.88	\$34.88
TOTAL (\$)			\$15,642.82	\$15,642.82	\$1,994.59	\$1,994.59
AWARD (%)				100%		100%
Total Award						
\$17,637.41						
	INDIVIDUAL		COUNSEL		CONSULTANTS	
	Claim	Award	Claim	Award	Claim	Award
PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT						
\$23,567.92	G Johansson		J. Yardley		H. Johnson	
RATE			\$135/hour	\$800/day	\$180/hour	
					Secretarial	
					\$30/hour	
TIME			47.5 hrs prep	3 days	30 hrs@\$180	30 hrs@\$180
			42.9hrs hrg.	5.5 days	2.5 hrs@\$30	2.5 hrs@\$30
			20.2hrs arg	2 days		
FEES (Incl. GST)			\$14,931.00	\$8,988.00	\$5,859.79	\$5,859.79
EXPENSES	\$59.10		\$2,696.08	\$2,696.08	\$21.95	\$21.95
TOTAL (\$)	\$59.10	\$59.10	\$17,627.08	\$11,684.08	\$5,881.74	\$5,881.74
AWARD (%)		100%		66%		100%
Total Award						
\$17,624.92						

Participant Cost Summary

	INDIVIDUAL		COUNSEL		CONSULTANTS	
	Claim	Award	Claim	Award	Claim	Award
RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION						
\$44,087.86	Ezra Auerbach		R.J. Gathercole		M. Margolick	
RATE	\$175/day		\$800/day	\$800/day	\$825/day	
TIME	5.5 days		6 prep days	6 prep/arg		
			7 hearing days	7 hearing		
FEES (Incl. GST)	\$962.50				\$18,310.96	\$12,711.60
EXPENSES	\$723.70		\$275.62	\$275.62	\$165.08	\$165.08
TOTAL (\$)	\$1,686.20	\$1,686.20	\$12,180.70	\$12,180.70	\$18,476.04	\$12,876.68
AWARD (%)		100%		100%		70%
					G.E. Bridges	
RATE					\$750/day	
TIME					13.5 days	
FEES (Incl. GST)					\$10,893.36	\$9,148.50
EXPENSES					\$851.56	\$851.56
TOTAL (\$)					\$11,744.92	\$10,000.06
AWARD (%)						85%
Total Award						
\$36,743.64						
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILAMEEN						
\$619.51	V. Sutton					
RATE	N/A					
TIME	N/A					
FEES (Incl. GST)	N/A					
EXPENSES	\$619.51					
TOTAL AWARD	\$619.51	\$619.51				
AWARD (%)		100%				

Participant Cost Summary

CARIBOO REGIONAL DISTRICT						
\$737.28	R. A. LONG					
RATE	N/A					
TIME	N/A					
FEES (Incl. GST)	N/A					
EXPENSES	\$737.28					
TOTAL AWARD	\$737.28	\$737.28				
AWARD (%)		100%				
	INDIVIDUAL		COUNSEL		CONSULTANTS	
	Claim	Award	Claim	Award	Claim	Award
TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN						
\$2,175.16	G.A. Reiger					
RATE	N/A		\$110/hour			
TIME	N/A		10.7 hours			
FEES (Incl. GST)	N/A		\$1,328.10			
			(see note 1)			
EXPENSES	\$716.69		\$130.37			
TOTAL (\$)	\$716.69	\$716.69	\$1,458.47	\$1,458.47		
AWARD (%)		100%		100%		
Total Award						
\$2,175.16						
Note 1 Re:	Spallumcheen Legal:	Amount shown is based on invoiced amount rather than amount claimed in letter, per discussion with G. Sawada.				