

SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250  
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6Z 2N3  
CANADA



TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700  
BC TOLL FREE: 1-800-663-1385  
FACSIMILE: (604) 660-1102

IN THE MATTER OF  
the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473

and

An Application by Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.  
for Approval to Pass Through a Natural Gas Rate Increase

**BEFORE:** L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair )  
and Acting Chair ) June 5, 1997  
K.L. Hall, Commissioner )

**O R D E R**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On February 20, 1997 Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas"), pursuant to the Special Direction and under the terms of the Vancouver Island Natural Gas Pipeline Act, filed for Commission approval an application to amend its schedule of rates to natural gas customers located on Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast; and
- B. The Commission issued Order No. G-18-97 approving the February 20, 1997 application for a change to rate levels for natural gas service to Pioneer Customers and required the difference between the current rates to Centra Gas' Pioneer Customers and the required increase effective March 1, 1997 to be placed into a deferral account; and
- C. Pursuant to the Special Direction, Centra Gas surveyed competitive fuel oil markets on Vancouver Island and reported that a change in rates charged to Pioneer Customers under its Closed Rate Schedules is required to be increased effective June 1, 1997; and
- D. Centra Gas advised the Commission that at this time Light Fuel Oil prices had decreased by 15 percent and that local oil dealers had passed on approximately one-half of the oil price reduction to the Apartment Owners and Property Managers Association. Centra Gas advised that this action only justifies a lower rate for the ACR-1 class at this time; and

E. On May 26, 1997 Centra Gas applied for Commission approval to begin charging customers the full rate approved under Order No. G-18-97, a reduction in the rates for ACR-1 customers and, to begin recovering the deferred revenue accumulated, pursuant to Order No. G-18-97, through a new Rate Rider "B", all effective June 1, 1997; and

F. The Commission has reviewed the May 26, 1997 application and finds that approval is appropriate.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Commission orders as follows:

1. Centra Gas' application for a change to rate levels for natural gas service to Pioneer Customers (SGS-1, SGS-2, LGS-1, LGS-2, LGS-3 and CRR) effective June 1, 1997 is approved.
2. A reduction in rates for ACR-1 customers, effective June 1, 1997 is approved.
3. Recovery of the deferred revenue accumulated pursuant to Order No. G-18-97 through Rate Rider "B", effective June 1, 1997, is approved.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 19th day of June, 1997.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

Kenneth L. Hall  
Commissioner