

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



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-63-97

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 BC Gas Utility Ltd.
regarding its Southern Crossing Pipeline Project

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

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On May 30, 1997 BC Gas Utility Ltd. ("BC Gas") applied to the Commission, pursuant to Section 45 of the Utilities Commission Act, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to expand its existing Interior Transmission System pipeline a distance of 312 km (194 miles), with a 610 mm, (24 inch) pipeline, from Yahk to Oliver, B.C. The CPCN will allow the Utility to construct and operate certain loop and compression facilities which comprise the Southern Crossing Pipeline ("SCP") Project. The SCP Project was previously referred to in the SCP Project Engineering Report and the BC Gas 1997 Integrated Resource Plan update that were filed with the Commission on February 7 and May 5, 1997. These filings have been incorporated as appendices to the CPCN application; and
- B. The SCP Project application included a proposed regulatory timetable suggesting dates for introductory technical workshops, information request and response deadlines, and possible dates for an oral public hearing; and
- C. The Commission has reviewed the information filed on the SCP Project and finds that an initial pre-hearing conference should be held prior to setting the dates for workshops and the public hearing.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. A Pre-hearing Conference into the SCP Project will commence at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, June 26, 1997 in the Commission's Hearing Room, Sixth Floor - 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C.
2. A Regulatory Timetable into the SCP Project setting down dates for introductory and technical workshops, information request and response deadlines and a public hearing will be set by the Commission following the June 26, 1997 Pre-Hearing Conference.
3. Parties intending to participate in the SCP Project Pre-hearing Conference and subsequent proceedings, and parties wishing to receive documentation only, are to register with the Commission no later than June 20, 1997, indicating the nature of their interest and whether they propose to be full participants or interested parties.
4. In order to properly notify those parties who may wish to participate, BC Gas is to publish, in display ad format, as soon as possible, the attached Notice of Pre-Hearing Conference in the business section of the Vancouver Sun, The Province, The Globe and Mail and other newspapers in the Utility's SCP Project service area.

BC Gas is to send copies of this Order and Notice to any other party, including gas suppliers, known to have an interest in the proceedings.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 5th day of June, 1997.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chair
and Acting Chair

Attachment

ROBERT J. PELLATT
COMMISSION SECRETARY



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APPENDIX A
to Commission Order No. G-63-97
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NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

BC GAS UTILITY LTD. Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for Approval to Construct the Southern Crossing Pipeline Project

Date: Thursday, June 26, 1997
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: B.C. Utilities Commission Hearing Room
Sixth Floor - 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, B.C.

THE APPLICATION

BC Gas Utility Ltd. ("BC Gas") applied to the Commission on May 30, 1997 for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to expand its existing Interior Transmission System pipeline a distance of 312 km (194 miles), with a 610 mm (24 inch) pipeline, from Yahk to Oliver, B.C. The CPCN will allow the Utility to construct and operate certain loop and compression facilities which comprise the Southern Crossing Pipeline ("SCP") Project.

Under the Utilities Commission Act, BC Gas is required to obtain a CPCN in order to construct and operate the SCP Project. The Commission has determined that a Pre-Hearing Conference into the Application is required.

THE REGULATORY PROCESS

Following the results of the June 26, 1997 Pre-Hearing Conference the Commission will issue a Regulatory Timetable summarizing the key dates for workshops, information request and response deadlines and dates for an oral public hearing.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE APPLICATION

The SCP Project Application is available for inspection at the following locations:

BC Gas Utility Ltd.

Head Office: Mr. Ron Cliff, Project Manager
1111 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6E 4M4
Telephone: (604) 443-6500

District Offices: Fraser Valley, Prince George, Kamloops, Kelowna and Cranbrook

Service Area Offices: Penticton, Osoyoos, Grand Forks, Castlegar, Trail, Nelson and Creston

Copies of the Application and supporting material are also available for inspection at the office of the British Columbia Utilities Commission, Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2N3. Parties intending to participate in the proceedings are to register no later than June 20, 1997 indicating the nature of their interest and whether they propose to be full participants or interested parties.

CLARIFICATION

Persons intending to participate in the BC Gas Pre-hearing Conference and who are uncertain as to the manner in which to proceed, may contact Mr. Robert J. Pellatt, Commission Secretary or Mr. Paul Gronert, Manager, Engineering as follows: by telephone at 660-4700, B.C. Toll Free: 1-800-663-1385, in writing to the above address or by fax at (604) 660-1102. The Commission can also be reached by email at bcuc@pop.gov.bc.ca .

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert J. Pellatt