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CANADA



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-126-97

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

and

IN THE MATTER OF the Special Direction
to the British Columbia Utilities Commission by the
Lieutenant Governor in Council through
Order in Council 1510, dated December 13, 1995

and

An Application by Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.
for Approval of an Increase in New Customer Rates

BEFORE: L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair)
and Acting Chair) December 4, 1997
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)
P.G. Bradley, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On November 24, 1997, Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas") applied, pursuant to Section 60 of the Utilities Commission Act and the Special Direction issued by the Lieutenant Governor in Council through Order In Council No. 1510 dated December 13, 1995, to change rates for New Customers, effective January 1, 1998 ("the New Customer Rate Application"); and
- B. The Special Direction directs the Commission on the fixing of New Customer rates up to 2002 and allows an increase of up to 6 percent in New Customer rates, effective January 1, 1998; and
- C. Centra Gas proposes to change the basic monthly charge and the energy charge for New Customers which results in changes to the annual bill ranging from about a 1.67 percent decrease to a 6 percent increase; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the New Customer Rate Application and is satisfied that approval of the rate changes is appropriate.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves for Centra Gas, effective January 1, 1998, changes to the basic charge and energy charge for New Customer rates as follows:

		<u>Approximate Annual Rate Increase [Decrease]</u>
Fourth Revision of Page 10	Small General Service Rate No. 11 (SGS-11)	6.00%
Fourth Revision of Page 11	Small General Service Rate No. 12 (SGS-12)	6.00%
Fourth Revision of Page 12	Large General Service Rate No. 11 (LGS-11)	4.87%
Fourth Revision of Page 13	Large General Service Rate No. 12 (LGS-12)	(0.48%)
Fourth Revision of Page 14	Large General Service Rate No. 13 (LGS-13)	(1.67%)

2. Centra Gas is to notify all affected customers of the rate changes to the basic charge and energy charge by way of customer notice.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 11th day of December, 1997.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chair and
Acting Chair