

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



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-55-98

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 British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
for Approval of Amendments to Real Time Pricing Rate Schedule 1848

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair)
K.L. Hall, Commissioner) June 18, 1998
F.C. Leighton, Commissioner)
P.G. Bradley, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. The Commission, by Order No. G-114-97, approved for British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("B.C. Hydro") its revised Rate Schedule 1848 Application effective November 18, 1997. The Rate Schedule defined a Real Time Pricing ("RTP") energy price tied directly to an electricity price index published by Dow Jones for transactions at the Mid-C trading hub; and
- B. On June 1, 1998, Dow Jones ceased reporting an average transaction price and began reporting two distinct indexes reflecting different degrees of firmness in the delivery obligation; and
- C. On June 12, 1998, B.C. Hydro applied to the Commission for approval to make its Rate Schedule 1848 energy rate interim, effective June 1, 1998, and to have the interim rate tied directly to the Dow Jones Mid-C Firm Electricity Index; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the application and finds that interim rates for Rate Schedule 1848 are appropriate.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission declares the energy rate under B.C. Hydro's Rate Schedule 1848 to be interim as at June 1, 1998.

2. The Commission denies B.C. Hydro's request that the energy rate be tied directly to the Dow Jones Mid-C Firm Electricity Index. B.C. Hydro is to follow the terms of its Tariff and base Rate Schedule 1848 energy sales on the Dow Jones Mid-C Non-Firm Electricity Index, except in cases where customers choose the optional Dow Jones One-Day Pre-schedule Price, as defined in the Tariff.
3. The Commission restructures the consultative process proposed by B.C. Hydro and establishes a Workshop for Tuesday, July 7, 1998 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission's Hearing Room, at which time B.C. Hydro and workshop participants will attempt to reach agreement on the most appropriate index for pricing RTP energy.
4. If consensus cannot be attained at the Workshop, the Commission invites comments from customers and interested parties, to be received in writing, by July 17, 1998.
5. B.C. Hydro is to provide, as soon as possible, a copy of this Order and its June 12, 1998 application to all Rate Schedule 1848 customers and other parties known to have an interest in the RTP process.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 25th day of June, 1998.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair