



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

and

An Application by Centra Gas Whistler Inc.  
for Approval to Purchase an Additional Five Propane Storage Tanks  
for the Nesters Propane Gas Facility

**BEFORE:** L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair )  
B.L. Clemenhagen, Commissioner ) July 8, 1999  
F.C. Leighton, Commissioner )

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On February 26, 1999, Centra Gas Whistler Inc. ("Centra Whistler") applied for approval of its 1999 Propane System Expansion Plan, which included the addition of four leased 30,000 US water gallon propane tanks in 1999 at the Nesters Propane Gas Facility ("Nesters site"); and
- B. Commission Order No. G-33-99 approved a Negotiated Settlement for Centra Whistler, which included approval of the 1999 Propane System Expansion Plan, but deferred the determination on whether to lease or purchase the tanks to a later date; and
- C. On April 6, 1999, Centra Whistler filed its Long Term Energy Supply Strategy, which recommended building out the existing propane system to accommodate growth through the winter of 2000/2001, including the addition of a further two propane storage tanks in 2000; and
- D. On June 21, 1999, the Resort Municipality of Whistler approved the addition of five propane storage tanks at the Nesters site (for a total of 11 tanks at the site); and
- E. On June 28, 1999, Centra Whistler requested Commission approval to purchase and install five new propane storage tanks at the Nesters site in 1999 at an estimated cost of \$970,000; and
- F. Centra Whistler is working with Squamish Gas Co. Ltd. and others, to determine the availability of used propane storage tanks that would provide an appropriate and cost effective alternative to new tanks; and

G. The Commission has considered the Centra Whistler application, and has determined that approval is in the public interest.

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

1. Pursuant to Section 45 of the Utilities Commission Act, a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is approved for Centra Whistler to purchase, install and operate five additional propane storage tanks at the Nesters site.
2. Centra Whistler is directed to file, by November 1, 1999, a report on the work completed and costs incurred under its 1999 Propane System Expansion Plan. The report should include a review, with reasons, of the decision to purchase new or used storage tanks.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of July 1999.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

Lorna R. Barr  
Deputy Chair