

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



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-33-98

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 West Kootenay Power Ltd.
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Rebuild its
Transmission Line No. 44 – Oliver to Osoyoos

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair) April 1, 1998
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. As a result of increased load growth in the Oliver-Osoyoos region, West Kootenay Power Ltd. ("WKP") found that its 63 kV Transmission Line No. 44 is reaching its design capacity; and
- B. In January to March 1997, WKP undertook an environmental overview of the system and proposed a number of alternative projects to reinforce the electrical supply to the Town of Osoyoos, B.C. On April 21, 1997, WKP filed with the Commission the February 21, 1997 Stanley Consulting Group Report on the Proposed 44 Transmission Line Environmental Overview; and
- C. In April to June 1997, WKP sought stakeholder input on the proposed alternative projects and in August 1997, held a stakeholder forum in Oliver, B.C. on the Oliver to Osoyoos transmission line rebuild; and
- D. On November 19, 1997, following stakeholder input, WKP applied to the Commission for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for approval to rebuild its Oliver to Osoyoos, B.C. Transmission Line No. 44 to 138 kV standards along the existing corridor (the "CPCN Application"); and
- E. The Commission, by Order No. G-123-97, requested written public comments on the CPCN Application which were received in January, 1998; and
- F. The Commission finds that a public hearing into the CPCN Application is now required.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The review of WKP's CPCN Application will be by way of public hearing, pursuant to Section 46(2) of the Utilities Commission Act.
2. The following Regulatory Timetable summarizes the key dates in the public review process:

ACTION	DATE (1998)
Publication of Notice of Public Hearing	Friday, April 17
Registration of Intervenors	Friday, May 1
Filing information requests to WKP	Friday, May 15
Response to Information Requests	Friday, May 29
Submissions and filing of Intervenor evidence	Friday, June 10
Public Hearing	Wednesday, June 24

The public hearing will commence at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 24, 1998 at the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort, Highway 3, Osoyoos, B.C., Telephone: (250) 495-7223.

3. WKP is to distribute copies of the CPCN Application and Commission Order No. G-33-98 to all Intervenors as they become registered with the Commission. Parties who have already received the Application, or who have already registered with the Commission, do not need to reapply.
4. WKP is to publish the attached Notice of Public Hearing in the local newspapers in Oliver, Osoyoos and Penticton and the Notice should be placed on community bulletin boards in the service area. WKP is to advise customers in Oliver and Osoyoos of the CPCN Application by way of printed notice on the next customer bill, including the availability of the Executive Summary as well as contact telephone numbers for further details.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 9th day of April, 1998.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

An Application by West Kootenay Power Ltd.
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Rebuild its
Transmission Line No. 44 – Oliver to Osoyoos

Time: 9:00 a.m.
Date: Wednesday, June 24, 1998
Location: Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort
Highway 3, Osoyoos, B.C.
(250) 495-7223

THE APPLICATION REGULATORY PROCESS

West Kootenay Power ("WKP") applied to the Commission on November 19, 1997 for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to rebuild its existing 69 kV Transmission Line No. 44 from Oliver to Osoyoos, B.C. to 138 kV standards along the existing corridor (the "CPCN Application").

Under the Utilities Commission Act, WKP is required to obtain a CPCN in order to construct and operate the project. In January 1998, the Commission asked for and received written comments from the public. The Commission now requires the CPCN Application to be set down for public hearing.

A Regulatory Timetable is set out in Commission Order No. G-33-98, and is summarized in this Notice.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE APPLICATION

The CPCN Application and supporting material, including Orders No. G-123-97 and G-33-98, are available for inspection at the following locations:

West Kootenay Power Ltd.

Head Office: 1290 Esplanade, Trail, B.C. V1R 4L4
District Offices: 36895 - 71st Street, Oliver, B.C. V0H 1T0
1260 Commercial Way, Penticton, B.C. V2A 3H5
Osoyoos Town Hall, 8707 Main Street, Osoyoos, B.C. V0H 1V0

Copies of the CPCN Application and supporting material are also available for inspection at the office of the B.C. Utilities Commission, 6th Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2N3.

INTERVENTIONS

Intervenors and Interested Parties who have not already registered with the Commission are to advise the Commission Secretary of their intention to participate in the proceedings, in writing, by Friday, May 1, 1998 indicating the nature of their interest and whether they propose to be full participants at the public hearing.

INFORMATION REQUESTS

Registered Intervenors or Interested Parties requesting additional information from WKP should do so no later than Friday, May 15, 1998. WKP is required to respond no later than Friday, May 29, 1998.

SUBMISSIONS BY INTERVENORS

Intervenors must file two copies of their written submissions or evidence, one copy with the Commission Secretary and the other to WKP at P.O. Box 130, Trail, B.C., V1R 4L4, no later than Wednesday, June 10, 1998.

PARTICIPANT ASSISTANCE

All parties intending to apply for Participant Assistance must file a budget by Friday, May 8, 1998 consistent with the Commission's Policy and Rate Sheet as outlined in Order No. G-103-96. Copies of the Participant Assistance Policy and Rate Sheet are available upon request.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Persons intending to participate in the CPCN Application and who are uncertain as to the manner in which to proceed, may contact Mr. Robert J. Pellatt, Commission Secretary, or Mr. Bob Rerie, Senior Electrical Engineer as follows:

Telephone:	(604) 660-4700	Facsimile:	(604) 660-1102
B.C. Toll Free:	1-800-663-1385	E-mail:	Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert J. Pellatt
Commission Secretary