



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

and

An Application by Squamish Gas Co. Ltd.
for Approval to Increase Natural Gas Customer Rates

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair) October 14, 1999
P.G. Bradley, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On October 6, 1999 with revisions on October 12, 1999, Squamish Gas Co. Ltd. ("Squamish Gas") applied to the Commission for approval to increase rates to all natural gas customers, effective November 1, 1999, consistent with the Commission's approval of rate increases to Pioneer General Service and Apartment Customer Rate ("ACR-1") schedules for Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas") under Order No. G-105-99; and
- B. As a condition of the Special Direction and the terms of the Vancouver Island Natural Gas Pipeline Act, Centra Gas monitors the prices for heating oil available to customers. Centra Gas found that the prices for heating oil had increased, resulting in a corresponding increase to the oil-based Pioneer General Service and ACR-1 rates in the Vancouver Island and Sunshine Coast service areas, effective November 1, 1999; and
- C. Squamish Gas adopts the same rate changes for its oil-based natural gas rates as those approved for Centra Gas; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the Squamish Gas application and finds that approval is required.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves for Squamish Gas its revised October 6, 1999 application to increase rates to General Service customers of between 8.59 and 8.73 percent, and to ACR-1 customers of between 10.95 and 12.46 percent, effective November 1, 1999.

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UTILITIES COMMISSION

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2. Squamish Gas is to inform all customers of the November 1, 1999 rate increase by way of a customer notice included in the next billing.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 15th day of October 1999.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chair