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BRITISH COLUMBIA UTILITIES COMMISSION Order Number **G-61-99**

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 to Extend Service to the Community of Meziadin Lake, B.C.

BEFORE:	P. Ostergaard, Chair L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair P.G. Bradley, Commissioner B.L. Clemenhagen, Commissioner K.L. Hall, Commissioner F.C. Leighton, Commissioner))))	June 3, 1999
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ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. In 1990 the residents in the community of Meziadin Lake, B.C. contacted the Commission, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("B.C. Hydro") and others to attempt to become connected to B.C. Hydro's integrated system. However, the proposed 13 km extension was uneconomical and, due to a significant up-front contribution required from customers, did not proceed; and
- B. In 1998 the majority of residents and a community group, identified as the Meziadin Lake Fellowship Association, committed to a service extension with B.C. Hydro using the surcharge method on electrical consumption that was previously approved for a similar extension by Commission Order No. G-89-90; and
- C. On May 20, 1999, B.C. Hydro applied to the Commission to extend service to Meziadin Lake and to finance the customers' capital contribution by way of a surcharge estimated to be 15.6 cents/kWh over existing rates that will remain in place until such time as the community's share of the capital and financing charges are repaid; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the application and is satisfied that the collection of the customers' contribution by way of a surcharge on kilowatt hour consumption is necessary and in the public interest.



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NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves for B.C. Hydro its May 20, 1999 application to extend service to Meziadin Lake, B.C. and to collect the required customer contributions by way of a surcharge over existing Electric Tariff rates.
- 2. Following completion of the project, B.C. Hydro is to file, in Tariff Supplement format, the calculation and amortization of the surcharge that will be used to bill customers connecting for service.
- 3. The 13 km, 25 kV distribution line extension to serve Meziadin Lake does not require a separate application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

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

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna Barr Deputy Chair