



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

and

An Application by Silver Star Mountain Resorts Utilities Ltd.
for Approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
for a Natural Gas Distribution Utility

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair)
B.L. Clemenhagen, Commissioner) March 30, 2000
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

WHEREAS:

- A. On January 14, 2000, Silver Star Mountain Resorts Utilities Ltd. ("SSMRUL") applied for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to operate a natural gas distribution system at the resort community of Silver Star (the "Resort") in British Columbia, and requested approval of rates for gas service (the "Application"); and
- B. SSMRUL has acquired an existing propane distribution grid system at the Resort; and
- C. The Application states that two public meetings were held in October 1999 regarding SSMRUL's plans to install and operate a natural gas distribution system in the Resort, and that no major concerns were raised; and
- D. SSMRUL has entered into an agreement with DESCO Distributed Energy Service Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of BC Gas Inc., for services related to the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the natural gas distribution system; and
- E. On January 17, 2000, SSMRUL filed a pro forma Balance Sheet; and
- F. On January 26, 2000, Commission staff requested comments on the Application from a member of the Silver Star Standing Committee, and has received comments that are generally supportive of the Application, providing rates will be reviewed in detail before the rates are made permanent; and
- G. Commission Order No. G-19-00, dated February 17, 2000, approved an agreement with BC Gas Utility Ltd. for natural gas service to SSMRUL at the Resort as a Rate Schedule 3 Tariff Supplement; and
- H. The Commission has reviewed the Application and the supporting documentation received to date and has determined that the construction and operation of a natural gas distribution utility by SSMRUL is necessary and properly conserves the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to Section 45 of the Utilities Commission Act, the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for SSMRUL for the construction and operation of a natural gas distribution utility at the Resort, a community northeast of Vernon, British Columbia, as generally outlined on the map that is attached to this Order as Appendix A.
2. SSMRUL will construct, operate and maintain the gas distribution facilities to the standards of BC Gas Utility Ltd. or other standards approved by the Commission.
3. SSMRUL will, by May 1, 2000, furnish the Commission with a copy of the approval of the Provincial Gas Inspector for the gas distribution facilities.
4. SSMRUL will, by May 1, 2000, file drawings that clearly describe and identify the propane underground distribution grid, the 1999 Initial Main Extension and any other distribution main extensions that have been constructed.
5. SSMRUL will, by May 1, 2000, file a report describing its emergency response plan, and will include its 24-hour contact number for gas odour and other emergency calls and describe how customers have been provided with the contact number.
6. SSMRUL will file Annual Reports which summarize the results of the utility's operations, in a form to be developed in consultation with Commission staff. The reports will identify customer additions and extensions of distribution mains that occurred during the previous year.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 30th day of March 2000.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair

Attachment

SILVER STAR MOUNTAIN RESORT,

APPENDIX A
to Order No. C-4-00
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Key Map
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