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BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-126-00

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

and

An Application by BC Gas Utility Ltd. – Fort Nelson Division
for Approval of a Natural Gas Rate Increase effective January 1, 2001

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
B.L. Clemenhagen, Commissioner) December 20, 2000
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. In an Application dated December 15, 2000, BC Gas Utility Ltd. – Fort Nelson Division (“BC Gas”) applied to the Commission for a flow-through increase in the Gas Cost Recovery Charge of \$2.169/GJ. This would increase Fort Nelson customer rates to account for the gas purchase cost changes resulting from higher gas supply costs and tolls for the calendar year ending December 31, 2001. The \$2.169/GJ increase represents a 48 to 50 percent increase in rates depending on the customer rate class; and
- B. The Commission has reviewed the Application and finds that approval of a January 1, 2001 rate increase to BC Gas - Fort Nelson Division customers is required.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves for BC Gas - Fort Nelson Division an increase in customer rates of \$2.169/GJ, effective January 1, 2001. BC Gas is to accumulate the difference between the rate recovered from customers and the actual commodity cost of gas in the Fort Nelson Division Gas Cost Reconciliation Account (“GCRA”).
- 2. BC Gas is to file, by June 5, 2001, a report on actual gas prices and costs for 2001 year to date compared to forecast, price expectations for the remainder of the year, impact on the GCRA, and any rate changes proposed. The report should also discuss the effect of current and proposed rates on natural gas sales.
- 3. The Commission will accept, subject to timely filing, amended Gas Tariff Rate Schedules in accordance with the terms of this Order.
- 4. BC Gas is to provide all affected customers with a bill insert notice of the rate changes, and is to provide Commission staff with its communication plan and bill insert related to the rate increase prior to its release.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 27th day of December 2000.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair