



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-5-00

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

and

An Application by Centra Gas Whistler Inc.
for Approval of a Deferral Account to Record Expenditures
Relating to Increased Transportation Charges

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair) January 13, 2000
B.L. Clemenhagen, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On January 7, 2000, Centra Gas Whistler Inc. ("Centra Whistler", "the Company") applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission ("the Commission") for approval to set up a deferral account to record uncontrollable cost increases incurred in 1999 and 2000 for the transportation of liquid propane to its Whistler, B.C. propane facilities which are not recovered in current rates, pursuant to Section 23(1) of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"); and
- B. As a result of a labour dispute at BC Rail Ltd., Centra Whistler's costs to transport liquid propane increased by an additional \$0.01975/litre for a forecasted total of \$23,519, exclusive of additional Company labour, during December 1999 and January 2000. Centra Whistler has a current propane supply contract with Link Petroleum Services Ltd. that identifies the freight rate for rail or truck deliveries to the Whistler storage facilities; and
- C. The Commission has reviewed the Centra Whistler application and finds that a deferral account should be approved.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to Sections 23(1) and 61(4) of the Act, the Commission approves for Centra Whistler a deferral account to record the additional transportation costs of \$0.01975/litre, forecasted to total \$23,519, incurred to deliver liquid propane by truck to the Whistler storage facilities during the months of December 1999 and January 2000.
- 2. The Commission disallows the recovery of additional Company labour costs incurred as the costs do not qualify as a pass-through item under Section 61(4) of the Act.
- 3. The Commission will review the additional transportation costs incurred as part of the Centra Whistler 2000 Revenue Requirements Application review.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 21st day of January 2000.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chair