



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-81-00

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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 of Billing Plan Name Changes
and Treatment of New Residential Customers

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
K.L. Hall, Commissioner) August 31, 2000
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On August 3, 2000, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("B.C. Hydro") applied to the Commission for approval of Billing Plan Name Changes and Treatment of New Residential Customers ("the Billing Plan"), pursuant to Section 61(2) of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"), effective November 1, 2000; and
- B. The new Tariffs will require all new residential customers to either establish satisfactory credit, participate in Pay-As-You-Go Billing, or provide a security deposit for one year. Current residential customers who do not have a satisfactory payment history will be required to provide B.C. Hydro with a security deposit for one year or participate in Pay-As-You-Go Billing; and
- C. The Billing Plan Application addressed B.C. Hydro's increasing bad debts expense related to residential customers. The Billing Plan Application also provides for housekeeping tariff amendments that will reduce customer confusion associated with the current billing and payment plan names; and
- D. On August 2, 2000, The British Columbia Public Interest Advocacy Centre expressed support for B.C. Hydro's Billing Plan Application, stating that it achieves the goal of reducing B.C. Hydro's outstanding debts expense in a manner which is not unduly onerous; and
- E. The Commission has reviewed the Billing Plan Application and finds that approval is necessary and in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission approves for B.C. Hydro the August 3, 2000 Billing Plan Application, effective November 1, 2000, pursuant to Section 61(2) of the Act.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 6th day of September 2000.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair