



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-102-00

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 Centra Gas Whistler Inc.
for Approval to Pass-Through Propane Cost Increases

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair)
B.L. Clemenhagen, Commissioner) November 2, 2000
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On October 17, 2000, Centra Gas Whistler Inc. ("Centra Whistler") applied to the Commission, pursuant to Section 61(4) of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"), for approval to increase rates charged to its customers as a result of significantly higher liquid propane costs from its suppliers, effective November 1, 2000; and
- B. The liquid propane energy cost component benchmark has increased from \$8.420/GJ to \$10.840/GJ resulting in a cost of gas pass-through to customer rates. This will increase the combined sales rate for the average residential customer (consuming 97.3GJ/yr) from \$12.52/GJ to \$14.94/GJ effective November 1, 2000, and will result in an approximate 19.3 percent increase; and
- C. On October 17, 2000, Centra Whistler responded to a Commission staff information request. On October 31, 2000, Whistler Blackcomb Corporation and, on November 2, 2000 the Resort Municipality of Whistler, provided further comment to the Utility's application; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the cost of gas pass-through application and subsequent filed information and finds that an increase in rates to all customers is required.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves for Centra Whistler an increase in the allowed cost of propane recovered in rates from \$8.42/GJ to \$10.84/GJ effective with consumption commencing November 1, 2000, pursuant to Section 61(4) of the Act.
- 2. The basic charge will remain at \$5.00/month and the commodity rate level will increase to \$14.32/GJ.
- 3. Centra Whistler, by way of a Customer Notice, is to provide all affected customers with a detailed explanation of the November 1, 2000 propane rate increase.

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

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chair