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BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-76-02

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

and

Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.
Application for Approval of 1999 to 2001 Revenue Deficiencies
and 2003 to 2005 Revenue Requirements
and Application for Approval of Rate Design and Proposed 2003 Rates

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
R.D. Deane, Commissioner) October 24, 2002
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On July 31, 2002, Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas") applied, pursuant to Section 23 of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act") and the Special Direction (Order in Council 1510, 1995), for approval of its 1999 to 2001 actual revenue deficiencies and its forecast 2003 to 2005 revenue requirements as Phase 1 of a two phase process ("the Phase 1 Application") for its Vancouver Island and Sunshine Coast service areas. The Phase 1 Application requests that the Commission's review process involve the implementation of a Negotiated Settlement Process; and
- B. On September 30, 2002, Centra Gas filed its Phase 2 Rate Design Application, pursuant to Sections 60 and 61 of the Act, to determine rates effective January 1, 2003 that are appropriate for the recovery of both current cost of service and amortization of accumulated revenue deficiencies. The Phase 2 Application was also made pursuant to Sections 2.8 and 2.10(j) of the Special Direction. Centra Gas proposed that the Phase 2 Application be reviewed through a Negotiated Settlement Process; and
- C. Forecasted changes in gas supply costs for 2003 to 2005 were reflected in the Phase 1 Application but are separately determined by the Commission; and
- D. On October 22, 2002, participants at the Pre-hearing Conference, established by Order No. G-71-02, were advised of the regulatory review options and did not oppose the establishment of Negotiated Settlement Processes for both the Phase 1 and Phase 2 Applications; and

E. The Commission determines that the Applications should proceed to Negotiated Settlement Processes.

NOW THEREFORE a Regulatory Agenda and Timetable setting out the key filing dates for the proceedings is attached as Appendix A to this Order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 24th day of October 2002.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair

Attachment



REGULATORY AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.
Application for Approval of 1999 to 2001 Revenue Deficiencies
and 2003 to 2005 Revenue Requirements (Phase 1)
and Application for Approval of Rate Design and Proposed 2003 Rates (Phase 2)

ACTION

Filing of Commission Staff Information Requests (Phases 1 and 2)
Filing of Intervenor Information Requests (Phases 1 and 2)
Centra Gas Responses to Information Requests (Phases 1 and 2)
Phase 1 Revenue Requirements Negotiation Sessions commence in Victoria
Phase 2 Rate Design Negotiation Sessions commence in Victoria

DATES (2002)

Friday, November 1
Wednesday, November 6
Monday, November 18
Monday, November 25
Tuesday, December 3

TIME AND LOCATION OF PHASE 1 AND PHASE 2 NEGOTIATION SESSIONS:

Time: 9:00 a.m.
Hotel Grand Pacific
463 Belleville Street
Victoria, B.C. V8W 1A2
Telephone: (250) 386-0450