



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

and

An Application by Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.
for Approval to Decrease Pioneer Customer Rates

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
R.D. Deane, Commissioner)
K.L. Hall, Commissioner) January 31, 2002
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On January 28, 2002, Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas") applied to the Commission for approval to decrease rates to its Pioneer Small General Service ("SGS") and Large General Service ("LGS") customers, effective March 1, 2002, pursuant to the Special Direction (Order in Council 1510, 1995), and the terms of the Vancouver Island Natural Gas Pipeline Act; and
- B. Under the Special Direction, effective in 2002, the current Pioneer General Service rates are set at the lower of either the average competitive price of fuel oil with a zero percent discount or the applicable New Customer rate; and
- C. As a result of the monthly survey of competitive fuel oil prices in the service area, the oil-based natural gas rates to Pioneer SGS and LGS customers are proposed to decrease effective March 1, 2002; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed Centra Gas' application and finds that the decreases to the Pioneer SGS and LGS rates should be approved.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders the following for Centra Gas:

1. The Commission approves for Centra Gas a decrease in the following Pioneer SGS and LGS rates effective March 1, 2002:

	<u>Current Rate</u> (\$/GJ)	<u>New Rate</u> (\$/GJ)	<u>Percent Change</u> (Decrease)
SGS-1	12.20	11.88	(2.62%)
SGS-2	10.86	10.57	(2.67%)
LGS-1	8.42	8.20	(2.61%)
LGS-2	7.93	7.72	(2.65%)
LGS-3	7.44	7.25	(2.55%)
CRR-Top	7.44	7.25	(2.55%)
CRR-Bottom	6.10	5.94	(2.62%)

2. Centra Gas is to advise all affected customers of the decreases in natural gas rates with an appropriate bill message.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 31st day of January 2002.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair