

British Columbia
Utilities Commission

ORDER

Number E-7-02

TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700 BC TOLL FREE: 1-800-663-1385 FACSIMILE: (604) 660-1102

SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250 VANCOUVER, B.C. V6Z 2N3 CANADA web site: http://www.bcuc.com

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

and

A Filing by Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. of a Natural Gas Storage Agreement for June 2002 through March 2004

BEFORE:	P. Ostergaard, Chair R.D. Deane, Commissioner K.L. Hall, Commissioner)))	August 15, 200
	ORDER		

WHEREAS:

- A. On July 25, 2002, Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas") filed with the Commission, a July 17, 2002 Memorandum of Understanding for the storage of natural gas including pricing and delivery terms with BC Gas Utility Ltd. ("BC Gas") for the period June 1, 2002 through March 31, 2004, in accordance with its 2002/03 Gas Contracting Plan that was accepted by Commission on August 6, 2002; and
- B. Centra Gas is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BC Gas Inc., and BC Gas Utility Ltd. has agreed to contract on Centra Gas' behalf with Northwest Natural Gas Company ("NWN") for 5,000 MMBtu/d (5,275 GJ/d) of deliverability and 25 days of storage capacity at the Mist storage facility in Oregon, U.S.A. for the next two storage years from June 1, 2002 to March 31, 2004; and
- C. The Commission has reviewed the Centra Gas filing and is satisfied that the arrangements with BC Gas for 5,000 MMBtu/d of storage are in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to Section 71 of the Utilities Commission Act and the Rules for Energy Supply Contracts:

- 1. The Commission accepts for filing for Centra Gas, the July 17, 2002 Memorandum of Understanding with BC Gas with respect to 5,000 MMBtu/d of storage deliverability and 125,000 MMBtu of storage capacity at the Mist storage facility from June 1, 2002 to March 31, 2004, subject to the timely filing of a fully-executed contract for the storage.
- 2. Centra Gas is to file and justify with the Commission contracts for additional amounts of storage when the terms for such additional storage are known.
- 3. The Commission accepts Centra Gas' request to maintain the documents contained in the filing as confidential.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 20^{th} day of August 2002.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard Chair