

BRITISH COLUMBIA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER  
NUMBER G-81-02

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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 Increase Pioneer Apartment Customer Rates

**BEFORE:** P. Ostergaard, Chair )  
R.D. Deane, Commissioner ) November 14, 2002  
K.L. Hall, Commissioner )

**O R D E R**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On October 29, 2002, Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas") applied to the Commission for approval to increase rates to its Pioneer Apartment Customer Rates ("ACR-1") customers consuming a minimum of 200 GJ per annum, effective December 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 customer 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 ACR-1 customers are proposed to increase effective December 1, 2002; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed Centra Gas' application and finds that the increases to the Pioneer ACR-1 customer rates should be approved.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Commission approves the following for Centra Gas:

- 1. An increase to ACR-1 Pioneer customer rates effective December 1, 2002 as follows:

<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>December 1/02</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
(\$/GJ)	(\$/GJ)	Increase

**ACR-1 (Min Use)**  
**Capital Regional District**

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ACR-1 (200)	11.12	11.38	2.34%
<b>Other Communities</b>			
ACR-1 (200)	11.51	11.72	1.82%

2. Centra Gas is to advise all affected ACR-1 customers of the increase in natural gas rates with an appropriate bill message.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 2002.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

Peter Ostergaard  
Chair