



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER C-8-02

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

and

An Application by BC Gas Utility Ltd.
for Approval to Further Extend the Expiry Date of the Operating Agreement
with the District of Chetwynd

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
R.D. Deane, Commissioner)
K.L. Hall, Commissioner) June 13, 2002
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner)

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

WHEREAS:

- A. On June 5, 2002, BC Gas Utility Ltd. ("BC Gas") applied to the Commission for approval to extend by one year the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") No. C-20-80 which approved the 21-year Operating Agreement between Inland Natural Gas Co. Ltd. (a predecessor company to BC Gas) and the District of Chetwynd (formerly the Village of Chetwynd) ("the District"); and
- B. By Order No. C-5-01 dated May 24, 2001, the Commission granted a CPCN to BC Gas approving the extension of its Operating Agreement with the District for a term of one year, ending June 30, 2002; and
- C. BC Gas and the District have agreed to further extend the expiry date of the Operating Agreement from June 30, 2002 to June 30, 2003, and to continue for that period, payment of the franchise fee equivalent to three percent of the gross annual revenues of BC Gas derived from sales of natural gas within the area encompassed by the terms of the Operating Agreement; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the application and finds that a further one-year extension to the expiry date of the Operating Agreement and continuation of the franchise fee to June 30, 2003 is in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission, pursuant to Section 45(7) of the Utilities Commission Act, approves for BC Gas a further one-year extension to CPCN No. C-20-80 and the continuation of the payment of the three percent franchise fee to the District of Chetwynd to June 30, 2003.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 20th day of June 2002.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair