

ORDER NUMBER

G-57-03

SHITISH COLUMBIA

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

and

An Application by Terasen Gas Inc. for Approval of an Increase in the Deferral Account for the Commercial Commodity Unbundling Program

BEFORE: R.H. Hobbs, Chair)
R.D. Deane, Commissioner) September 4, 2003

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On April 16, 2003 the Commission, by Letter No. L-14-03, approved for BC Gas Utility Ltd., now known as Terasen Gas Inc. ("Terasen Gas"), a deferral account in the amount of \$1,050,000 to permit the Utility to continue work on the Design and Approval Phase of the Commodity Unbundling Program, in order to meet the expected November 1, 2004 implementation date; and
- B. On July 18, 2003, Terasen Gas filed its Commodity Unbundling and Customer Choice Phase 1 Report pursuant to Commission Letter No. L-18-03. The Report outlined the estimated costs for the next phase of the implementation plan ("the Implementation Phase") which is expected to cost between \$5.1 and \$6.1 million; and
- C. On August 22, 2003, Terasen Gas advised the Commission of the Implementation Phase costs for the Commercial Unbundling Program and asked the Commission to approve an increase of \$6.1 million to the deferral account; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the Application and finds that an increase in the deferral account for the next phase of the Commercial Commodity Unbundling Program is necessary and in the public interest.

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NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves for Terasen Gas an increase of \$6.1 million in the deferral account for the Implementation Phase of the Commercial Commodity Unbundling Program, for a total approved deferral account of \$7,150,000.

2. The Commission, by way of a further Order, will decide on the appropriate recovery period and cost allocation for the Commercial Commodity Unbundling deferral account.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 15th day of September 2003.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert H. Hobbs Chair