

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



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-141-05

TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700
BC TOLL FREE: 1-800-663-1385
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IN THE MATTER OF
the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473

and

An Application by British Columbia Transmission Corporation
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
for Vancouver Island Transmission Reinforcement Project

and

An Application by Sea Breeze Victoria Converter Corporation
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
for Vancouver Island Cable Project

BEFORE:

R.H. Hobbs, Chair
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner
L.A. O'Hara, Commissioner

December 22, 2005

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. By application dated July 7, 2005, the British Columbia Transmission Corporation ("BCTC") requested that the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the "Commission") grant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for the Vancouver Island Transmission Reinforcement Project ("VITR") to reinforce the electric transmission system serving Vancouver Island and the Southern Gulf Islands (the "VITR Application"); and
- B. By Order No. G-70-05, the Commission established a Procedural Conference on August 4, 2005 regarding the regulatory process for the review of the VITR Application; and
- C. By Order No. G-72-05, the Commission Panel established the Regulatory Timetable for an oral hearing to review the VITR Application; and
- D. On September 30, 2005 Sea Breeze Regional Transmission System, Inc. [now Sea Breeze Victoria Converter Corporation ("Sea Breeze")] filed a CPCN application (the "VIC Application") for the Vancouver Island Cable Project ("VIC") and requested that the Commission confirm the consolidation of the review of its

CPCN Application with the BCTC VITR proceeding. The Commission issued a separate procedural Order No. G-97-05 to initiate the regulatory review of the Sea Breeze VIC Application; and

- E. By Order No. G-96-05, the Commission Panel revised the Regulatory Timetable for the review of the VITR Application, established Pre-hearing Conference No. 2 on October 21, 2005 and ordered Sea Breeze to file any further motion that it desired to be considered at Pre-hearing Conference No. 2; and
- F. Following Pre-hearing Conference No. 2, the Commission Panel issued Order No. G-109-05 which established a Revised Regulatory Timetable for the review of the VITR Application which assumed that a consolidated process would be used to review the VITR and VIC Applications, and established Pre-hearing Conference No. 3 on November 10, 2005; and
- G. At Pre-hearing Conference No. 3 the Chair granted the application by Sea Breeze for the consolidation of the proceedings for the VITR Application and the VIC Application, and maintained the Revised Regulatory Timetable that was established by Order No. G-109-05; and
- H. By letter dated December 9, 2005, BCTC requested an extension to the date for filing Intervenor Evidence with respect to the VIC Application since Sea Breeze had not fully responded to its Information Requests by the response date in the Revised Regulatory Timetable. By letter dated December 15, 2005, BCTC stated that it was prepared to file its Intervenor Evidence by December 21, 2005; and
- I. By letter dated December 15, 2005, Sea Breeze advised that it had responded to all information requests from BCTC and submitted that the date for filing Intervenor Evidence should be December 19, 2005 and not December 21, 2005 as requested by BCTC; and
- J. By letters dated December 9 and 16, 2005, the Commission Panel extended the date for filing Intervenor Evidence, proposed a Draft Revised Regulatory Timetable for the review of the VITR and VIC Applications and requested comments from participants; and

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- K. The Commission Panel has received comments on the Draft Revised Regulatory Timetable and the need to provide notice to the public regarding the change to the date for the Tsawwassen Town Hall Meeting from a number of participants; and
- L. The Commission Panel has considered the comments and determines that a Revised Regulatory Timetable is necessary.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Revised Regulatory Agenda for the oral public hearing to review the VITR Application and the VIC Application is established as set out in Appendix A to this Order.
2. The Oral Public Hearing will commence at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 6, 2006 on the Second Floor, 855 Homer Street, Vancouver, BC.
3. Town Hall Meetings will be held in Ganges on Salt Spring Island on Saturday, January 7, 2006 commencing at 11:00 a.m., and in Tsawwassen on Saturday, January 14, 2006 commencing at 9:00 a.m.
4. BCTC will publish the Revised Notice of Town Hall Meetings that is attached as Appendix B to this Order, in the Vancouver Sun and Province, the Victoria Times Colonist and such appropriate local papers as will provide adequate notice to the public on Salt Spring and Galiano Islands and in the Delta/Tsawwassen area.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 22nd day of December 2005.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert H. Hobbs
Chair

Attachments

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REVISED REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2005)
BCUC Information Request No. 1 to Sea Breeze with respect to the VIC Application	Monday, October 17
Intervenor Evidence with respect to VITR Application	Wednesday, October 19
Pre-hearing Conference No. 2	Friday, October 21
BCUC and Participant Information Requests to Intervenors with respect to the VITR Application	Wednesday, October 26
Sea Breeze Response to BCUC Information Request No. 1 with respect to the VIC Application	Monday, November 7
Intervenor Responses to Information Requests with respect to Evidence regarding the VITR Application	Thursday, November 10
Pre-hearing Conference No. 3	Thursday, November 10
BCUC Information Request No. 2 and Intervenor Information Request No.1 to Sea Breeze with respect to the VIC Application	Friday, November 18
Sea Breeze Response to BCUC Information Request No. 2 and Intervenor Information Request No. 1 with respect to the VIC Application	Tuesday, December 6
BCTC and BC Hydro re: Consultation and Accommodation	Monday, December 12
Intervenor Evidence with respect to the VIC Application	Wednesday, December 21

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REVISED REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2006)
Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group Rebuttal Evidence	Friday, January 6
Town Hall Meeting (Salt Spring)	Saturday, January 7
BCUC and Participant Information Requests to Intervenors with respect to the VIC Application	Monday, January 9
Town Hall Meeting (Tsawwassen)	Saturday, January 14
Intervenor Responses to Information Requests with respect to the VIC Application	Monday, January 23
Staff issue Hearing Issues List	Thursday, January 26
Opening Oral Submissions	Monday, January 30
Proponent Consolidation of Hearing Issues List (Oral)	Wednesday, February 1
Panel issues Hearing Issues List	Friday, February 3
Public Hearing commences	Monday, February 6



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REVISED NOTICE OF TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Saturday, January 7, 2006 Commencing at 11:00 a.m.	Saturday, January 14, 2006 Commencing at 9:00 a.m.
Salt Spring Island Artspring Exhibit And Meeting Area 100 Jackson Avenue Ganges, BC	Delta/Tsawwassen South Delta Secondary School 750 – 53 rd Street Tsawwassen, BC

THE APPLICATIONS

By Application dated July 7, 2005, BCTC requests a CPCN to construct and operate the VITR to reinforce the electric transmission system serving Vancouver Island and the Southern Gulf Islands. BCTC proposes to replace an existing 138 kilovolt ("kV") transmission line between South Delta and North Cowichan with a new 230 kV line that will be entirely within the existing 138 kV right-of-way. The VITR is estimated to cost \$245 million and is scheduled to be in service by October 2008.

By Application dated September 30, 2005, Sea Breeze requests a CPCN for the VIC. Sea Breeze proposes to construct a High Voltage Direct Current Light® transmission system between the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island that it estimates will cost \$302 million and is scheduled to be in service by March 2008. Sea Breeze proposes the VIC as an alternative to the VITR to reinforce the transmission system serving Vancouver Island.

THE REGULATORY PROCESS

The Commission Panel has consolidated the review of the BCTC VITR Application and the Sea Breeze VIC Application, and by Order No. G-141-05 established the Revised Regulatory Timetable for the consolidated proceeding. The Oral Public Hearing will commence at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, February 6, 2006 in the Hearing Room on the Second Floor at 855 Homer Street in Vancouver.

The Commission will also hold Town Hall Meetings on Salt Spring Island and in the Delta/Tsawwassen area to provide participants who have registered to make a presentation pursuant to Commission Letter No. L-102-05 dated November 25, 2005 with an opportunity to make presentations to the Commission Panel on the VITR and VIC Applications. Town Hall Meetings will not be held on Vancouver Island or in the Surrey/White Rock area. Each presentation at a Town Hall Meeting will be limited to 10 minutes, and the presentations will be recorded.

SCHEDULE OF PRESENTATIONS AT TOWN HALL MEETINGS

The Commission will post on its web page at <http://www.bcuc.com>, the Order of Presentations for each Town Hall Meeting, showing the names of persons who registered to make a presentation and the scheduled time for each presentation. In order that the presentations can proceed in sequence and without interruption, persons making presentations must be present and available to proceed at least 30 minutes prior to their scheduled times. Questions about the Order of Presentations should be directed to Mr. Gordon Fulton, Commission Counsel by email at gfulton@boughton.ca or by telephone at (604) 687-6789 after January 2, 2006.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact Mr. Robert J. Pellatt, Commission Secretary, or Mr. Brian Williston, Director, Engineering and Commodity Markets, as follows:

Telephone: (604) 660-4700
Facsimile: (604) 660-1102

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