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**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER F-9-05**

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

and

**Applications for Participant Assistance/Cost Awards
in Regard to a Filing by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Call for Tenders for Capacity on Vancouver Island
Review of Electricity Purchase Agreement**

BEFORE: R.H. Hobbs, Chair
L.A. Boychuk, Commissioner April 25, 2005

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On February 17, 2005, the British Columbia Utilities Commission ("the Commission") issued Order No. E-1-05 setting out its decision regarding the Electricity Purchase Agreement ("EPA") that resulted from the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("BC Hydro") Call for Tenders for Capacity on Vancouver Island. On March 9, 2005, the Commission issued the Reasons for Decision for Order No. E-1-05; and
- B. The Commission Panel established a funding cap of \$400,000 for Participant Assistance/Cost Awards ("PACA") for participation in the proceeding on the EPA, and this cap was communicated to participants in letters from Commission staff to participants in response to PACA budgets that they submitted to the Commission; and
- C. On February 23, 2005, The British Columbia Public Interest Advocacy Centre ("BCPIAC") on behalf of the BC Old Age Pensioners Organization *et al.* applied for a PACA for their participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and
- D. On March 2, 2005, Trinity Resources Consulting Ltd. ("Trinity Resources") and Mr. David Lewis, Mayor, on behalf of the Village of Gold River, applied for a PACA for his participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and
- E. On March 8, 2005, the GSX Concerned Citizens Coalition, on behalf of itself, BC Sustainable Energy Association and the Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (collectively "GSXCCC *et al.*"), applied for a PACA for their participation in the proceeding on the EPA. GSXCCC *et al.* requested that the Commission revise the cap on PACA funding for this proceeding, to take into account the additional hearing days; and
- F. On March 16, 2005, Mr. Bob McKechnie applied for a PACA for his participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and

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- G. On March 16, 2005, Mr. John Hill applied for a PACA for his participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and
- H. On March 20, 2005, the Joint Industry Electricity Steering Committee ("JIESC") applied for a PACA for their participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and
- I. On March 22, 2005, Mr. J.R. Young, on behalf of the Gabriola Ratepayers and Residents Association ("Gabriola Ratepayers") applied for a PACA for his participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and
- J. On March 22, 2005 the Commercial Energy Consumers of British Columbia ("CEC") applied for a PACA for their participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and
- K. By letters dated March 23, March 24, and April 11, 2005, Vanport Sterilizers Inc. ("Vanport") applied for a PACA for its participation in the proceeding on the EPA; and
- L. On April 18, 2005, BC Hydro provided its comments on the PACA applications. BC Hydro stated that the requested funding amount for the Village of Gold River should be granted provided that the Village be reimbursed for the retainer and any disbursements that it paid on the Mayor's behalf. BC Hydro also stated that Vanport's claim did not appear to be supported by the evidence presented. BC Hydro had no comment on the other applications; and
- M. The Commission Panel has reviewed the PACA applications with regard to the criteria and rates set out in Commission Order No. G-15-04 and the established funding cap.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission increases the PACA funding cap for the proceeding to \$460,000.
2. Pursuant to Section 118(1) of the Utilities Commission Act, the Commission awards funds to the following for their participation in the proceeding on the EPA:

	<u>Application</u>	<u>Award</u>
BCPIAC	82,483.43	\$82,483.43
CEC	77,030.37	64,291.10
Gabriola Ratepayers	270.47	270.47
GSXCCC et al.	127,267.58	121,667.58
Mr. John Hill	1312.60	1,312.60
JIESC	174,152.00	159,707.00
Mr. Bob McKechnie	144.00	144.00
Vanport	26,182.50	875.00
Trinity Resources	27,057.73	27,057.73

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3. The award to Trinity Resources is on the condition that it reimburses the Village of Gold River for the retainer and disbursements that the Village of Gold River paid on behalf of Mayor David Lewis.
4. BC Hydro is directed to reimburse the above noted participants for the total amounts awarded in a timely manner.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 25th day of April 2005.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert H. Hobbs
Chair