



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER G-159-09**

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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 the Vancouver City Central Transmission Project**

BEFORE: A.A. Rhodes, Commissioner/Panel Chair
L.A. O'Hara, Commissioner December 16, 2009
A.J. Pullman, Commissioner

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On September 21, 2009, the British Columbia Transmission Corporation ("BCTC") applied (the "Application"), pursuant to sections 45 and 46 of the Utilities Commission Act (the "Act"), to the Commission for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to construct and operate the Vancouver City Central Transmission Project (the "VCCT Project") as described in this Application; and
- B. BCTC is proposing the VCCT Project as the preferred solution to: i) serve load growth in the Mount Pleasant/South False Creek area, ii) resolve reliability concerns associated with the end of life condition of the Main Street distribution duct banks being used to serve the Mount Pleasant/South False Creek area, and iii) resolve reliability concerns in view of the zero-rating of transmission circuit 2L53; and
- C. The VCCT Project as originally filed, had an estimated capital cost of approximately \$174 million and a further \$27 million to be incurred for British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority's Substation Distribution Assets ("SDA") which were not at that time the subject of the Application, and included the construction of a new Mount Pleasant substation and a new transmission line approximately 8 km in length that follows the route described in the Application as Route Option B; and
- D. In the F2010/2011 BCTC Capital Plan Decision, dated July 13, 2009, the Commission directed BCTC to work with BC Hydro to either accept its proposal to have BCTC or BC Hydro seek regulatory approval for the entire project, including both transmission and SDA components, or develop an alternative approach and directed BCTC and BC Hydro to provide their report within 90 days from the date of Decision; and
- E. On October 21, 2009, BCTC filed amendments to its Application to incorporate an application for an order issuing a CPCN to BC Hydro for the construction and operation of the VCCT Substation Distribution Assets; and

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- F. On Wednesday, November 25, 2009, the Commission held a Procedural Conference to hear submissions on the appropriate regulatory process for the review of the Application; and
- G. The Commission has considered all submissions on the appropriate regulatory process for the review of the Application and concludes that a written public hearing process for the review of the Application would be in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission amends the written public hearing process for the review of the Application, in accordance with the Amended Regulatory Timetable attached as Appendix A to this Order.
2. Intervenors intending to apply for participant assistance must submit a budget estimate consistent with the Commission's Participant Assistance/Cost Award Guidelines and Order G-72-07 by the date as set out in Appendix A to this Order. Copies of the Commission's Participant Assistance/Cost Award Guidelines and Order G-72-07 are available upon request or can be downloaded from the Commission's web site at <http://www.bcuc.com>.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 16th day of December 2009.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

A.A. Rhodes
Commissioner

Attachments

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AMENDED REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2010)
Submission of Intervenor Evidence	Friday, January 15, 2010
Intervenor Participant Assistance Budgets	Thursday, January 21, 2010
Commission, Applicant and Intervenor Information Requests on Intervenor Evidence	Friday, January 22, 2010
Commission Information Request No. 2 and Intervenor Information Request No. 1 to BCTC	Friday, January 29, 2010
Response to Information Requests on Intervenor Evidence	Friday, February 5, 2010
BCTC Response to Intervenor Information Request No. 1, and Commission Information Request No. 2	Thursday, February 11, 2010
Rebuttal Evidence (if required)	Friday, March 5, 2010
BCTC written Final Submissions	Friday, March 12, 2010
Intervenors written Final Submissions	Friday, March 26, 2010
BCTC written Reply Submissions	Thursday, April 1, 2010