

BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER

NUMBER F-6-10

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

and

An Application for Participant Assistance/Cost Award Regarding the Application by Terasen Gas Inc. for Approval of the Customer Choice – 2009 Program Summary and Recommendations Report

BEFORE: L.F. Kelsey, Commissioner February 25, 2010

D.A. Cote, Commissioner

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. In 2006 Terasen Gas Inc. (Terasen Gas) applied for approval of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the Commodity Unbundling Project for Residential Customers pursuant to section 45 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, to implement effective November 1, 2007, unbundling for residential customers in its service territory (excluding Fort Nelson and Revelstoke) (the 2006 Application); and
- B. Terasen Gas recommended in its 2006 Application for the Residential Commodity Unbundling Project (the Project) that a post implementation review be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of the Project; and
- C. British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) Order C-6-06 granted a CPCN to Terasen Gas for the Project effective November 1, 2007; and
- D. In its Decision dated August 14, 2006 the Commission directed that a post implementation review take place approximately six months after the projected November 1, 2007 start of the Project; and
- E. Article 32 of the Code of Conduct for Gas Marketers (Code or Code of Conduct) states that, "The Code shall be reviewed and modified if required at an annual meeting to be held prior to May 1 of each year"; and
- F. On April 23, 2009, the second Customer Choice Annual General Meeting was held to discuss the concerns and suggestions of interested parties and to review both the communication activities planned for 2009 and 2010, as well as system enhancements that have taken place since 2008. Terasen Gas was requested by Commission staff to file a Application, the Customer Choice 2009 Program Summary and Recommendations (the Application); and
- G. On October 16, 2009 Terasen Gas filed its Application with the Commission and a general meeting was held on April 23, 2009 to discuss the concerns and suggestions of interested parties; and
- H. On January 15, 2010 the British Columbia Old Age Pensioners Organization (BCOAPO) applied for a Participant Assistance Cost Award (PACA) in the amount of \$2,365.02; and

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- I. By Order A-03-10 the Commission approved the Customer Choice Program changes as set out in the Reasons for Decision; and
- J. By letter dated February 16, 2010 Terasen Gas agreed to BCOAPO's PACA funding request; and
- K. The Commission has reviewed the BCOAPO funding request.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant Section 118(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act,* the Commission awards PACA funds in the amount of \$2,365.02 to BCOAPO for participation in the review of Terasen Gas' Application, Customer Choice – 2009 Program Summary and Recommendations.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 25th day of February 2010.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D.A. Cote Commissioner