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**BRITISH COLUMBIA  
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER  
NUMBER G-114-15**

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

and

**Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd.  
Application for Approval of Change of a Gas Commodity Rate Decrease**

**BEFORE:** L.F. Kelsey, Commissioner  
C.A. Brown, Commissioner  
H.G. Harowitz, Commissioner  
July 2, 2015

**O R D E R**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. By Order G-103-14 dated July 24, 2014, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) approved an increase in the Total Gas Commodity Charge to \$19.9258 per gigajoule for the Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd. (Sun Peaks) service area effective July 1, 2014;
- B. As requested by the Commission in Letter L-64-14 dated December 11, 2014, on May 22, 2015 Sun Peaks filed a Gas Cost Recovery Account (GCRA) statement for the period ending April 30, 2015 (GCRA Statement). At April 30, 2015, the balance in the Commodity portion of the GCRA is estimated to be a deficit of \$159,610 and the balance in the Storage portion of the GCRA is estimated to be a surplus of \$21,845 for a total net GCRA balance of \$137,765 deficit;
- C. On June 17, 2015, Sun Peaks filed an application (Original Application) for a decrease of \$6.5818 per gigajoule in the Total Gas Commodity Charge to \$13.3440 per gigajoule effective June 1, 2015;
- D. On June 26, 2015, Sun Peaks filed a revised application (Revised Application) for a decrease of \$6.8598 per gigajoule in the Total Gas Commodity Charge to \$13.0660 per gigajoule effective July 1, 2015. In the Revised Application Sun Peaks seeks approval for
  - i. a decrease of \$7.8980/GJ in the Gas Commodity Charge – Propane rate from \$16.5600/GJ to \$8.6620/GJ;
  - ii. maintaining the Gas Commodity Charge – GCRA rate rider unchanged at \$2.079/GJ; and
  - iii. an increase of \$1.0382/GJ in the Gas Commodity Charge – Storage rate from \$1.2868/GJ to \$2.3250/GJ;
- E. The net Total Gas Commodity Charge decrease requested in the Revised Application will decrease the annual bill for a typical customer by approximately 19.9 percent for a townhouse, 27.5 percent for a detached house, 29.3 percent for a small commercial customer, 29.5 percent for a large commercial customer, and 29.8 percent for a large hotel; and

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- F. The Commission reviewed the GCRA Statement and the Revised Application and finds that the requested changes to commodity rates set out in the Revised Application are warranted.

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to section 61(4) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the British Columbia Utilities Commission orders as follows:

1. A decrease in the Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd. (Sun Peaks) Gas Commodity Charge – Propane rate from \$16.5600/GJ to \$8.6620/GJ effective July 1, 2015, is approved.
2. The Sun Peaks Gas Commodity Charge – Gas Cost Reconciliation Account rate rider of \$2.0790/GJ remains unchanged effective July 1, 2015.
3. An increase in the Sun Peaks Gas Commodity Charge – Storage rate from \$1.2868/GJ to \$2.3250/GJ effective July 1, 2015, is approved.
4. Sun Peaks is to inform its customers of the approved rate changes in a timely fashion by way of a customer notice.
5. Sun Peaks is directed to file a report with the Commission by November 16, 2015, on the Gas Cost Recovery Account balances, updated forecast propane costs for the following 12 months and, if necessary, proposed changes to commodity rates to be effective December 1, 2015. The report should also include an update on the options being evaluated to convert the community of Sun Peaks to natural gas.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2015.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by:*

L. F. Kelsey  
Commissioner