



**ORDER NUMBER
F-8-17**

IN THE MATTER OF
the *Utilities Commission Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

Stargas Utilities Ltd.
Application to Vary Delivery Rate, Amend Cost of Service Formula and
Approve Replacement Term Financing/Redemption of Preferred Shares
Participant Assistance/Cost Award Application

BEFORE:

R. I. Mason, Panel Chair/Commissioner
D. M. Morton, Commissioner

on May 15, 2017

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On September 26, 2016, Stargas Utilities Ltd. (Stargas) filed an application with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) for interim and permanent approval of a \$0.45 per gigajoule delivery rate decrease for all customers, effective November 1, 2016 (Application). The Application also requests approval to, among other things, replace Stargas' existing term loan with a \$300,000 term loan at an interest rate of prime plus 1.25 percent (Replacement Financing) and to redeem 1,000 Class G preferred shares with a par value of \$100,000 using Replacement Financing proceeds (Preferred Share Redemption);
- B. Stargas submitted amendments to its Application on December 8, 2016 with respect to changes to its revenue requirement, on January 9, 2017, with respect to application cost estimates, and on January 27, 2017, in its responses to Commission information requests with respect to various application requests;
- C. The Application was reviewed by way of a written hearing and a streamlined review process established by Orders G-155-16, G-176-16 and G-196-16 dated October 6, 2016, December 1, 2016, and December 22, 2016, respectively;
- D. Order G-192-16 dated December 16, 2016 approved the Replacement Financing and Preferred Share Redemption, and Order G-59-17 with reasons for decision dated April 27, 2017 established, among other things, a permanent delivery rate for all customers, effective November 1, 2016;
- E. On March 17, 2017, the Silver Star Property Owners Association (SSPOA) filed its application for a Participant Assistance/Cost Award (PACA) in the amount of \$8,568.00;
- F. No comments were provided by Stargas with respect to SSPOA's PACA application; and

- G. The Commission reviewed the PACA application in accordance with the criteria and rates as set out in the PACA Guidelines attached to Commission Order G-143-16 and concludes that the cost award should be approved.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 118(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act* the British Columbia Utilities Commission orders as follows:

1. Funding in the amount of \$8,568.00 is awarded to the Silver Star Property Owners Association for their participation in the proceeding regarding Stargas Utilities Ltd.'s Application to Vary Delivery Rate, Amend Cost of Service Formula and Approve Replacement Term Financing/Redemption of Preferred Shares.
2. Stargas is directed to reimburse the above-noted participant for the awarded amount in a timely manner.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 15th day of May 2017.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

R. I. Mason
Commissioner