



ORDER NUMBER
G-36-20

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

and

Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd.
Application for Approval of the 2019 Franchise Agreement between
Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd. and the City of Fort St. John

BEFORE:

R. I. Mason, Panel Chair
W. M. Everett, QC, Commissioner
B. A. Magnan, Commissioner

on February 28, 2020

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 10, 2019, Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) (PNG (N.E.)) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC), for approval of a franchise agreement between the City of Fort St. John and PNG (N.E.). (Application), pursuant to section 45(7) of the *Utilities Commission Act*;
- B. PNG (N.E.) (through its predecessor company Centra Gas Fort St. John Inc.) and the City of Fort St. John entered into a franchise agreement (1997 Franchise Agreement) dated December 8, 1997, approved by BCUC Order C-4-98, dated May 26, 1998. The 1997 Franchise Agreement expired on December 7, 2018;
- C. PNG (N.E.) submits that on December 3, 2018, PNG (N.E.) and the City of Fort St. John entered into interim operating arrangements to provide for the continued service to customers in the franchise area while the negotiation and approval of new franchise terms were conducted; and
- D. The BCUC has reviewed the Application and considers that the following determinations are warranted.

NOW THEREFORE, the BCUC orders as follows:

- 1. A public hearing process and a Regulatory Timetable are established, as set out in Appendix A to this order.
- 2. PNG (N.E.) must publish, no later than March 20, 2020, on its website and in display-ad format, the Public Notice attached as Appendix B to this order. Publication should be in such appropriate news publications as may properly provide adequate notice to PNG (N.E.) customers in the City of Fort St. John.

3. In accordance with the Rules of Practice and Procedure as attached to BCUC Order G-15-19, parties who wish to participate in the proceeding may submit a letter of comment, register as an interested party or request intervener status. Parties who wish to request intervener status are to register with the BCUC by completing a Request to Intervene Form by the date established in the Regulatory Timetable attached as Appendix A to this order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 28th day of February 2020.

BY ORDER

Original Signed By:

R. I. Mason
Commissioner

Attachment

Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd.
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REGULATORY TIMETABLE

Action	Date (2020)
BCUC Information Request (IR) No. 1	Thursday, March 12
PNG (N.E.) to Publish Public Notice	Friday, March 20
PNG Response to BCUC IR No. 1	Thursday, March 26
Intervener Registration and Letters of Comment Deadline	Thursday, April 2
Further Process	To be Determined



Public Notice

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PACIFIC NORTHERN GAS (N.E.) AND THE CITY OF FORT ST. JOHN

On December 10, 2019, Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd. (PNG (N.E.)) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for approval of a franchise agreement with the City of Fort St. John. The franchise agreement between PNG (N.E.) and the City of Fort St. John outlines the terms of administering and operating gas distribution facilities within the City of Fort St. John.

More information on the Application can be found at bcuc.com on the “Current Proceedings” page. A hard copy of the application is also available for review at the BCUC’s office and PNG (N.E.)’s head office.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- 💡 **Submit a letter of comment**
- 💡 **Register as an interested party**
- 💡 **Request intervener status**

IMPORTANT DATES

- 💡 **Thursday, April 2, 2020** – Deadline to register as an intervener with the BCUC and submit letters of comment

For more information on getting involved, please visit our website (www.bcuc.com/get-involved) or contact us at the information below.

GET MORE INFORMATION

Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd.

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📞 P: 604.691.5680

British Columbia Utilities Commission

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