



**ORDER NUMBER  
F-43-20**

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

Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd.  
Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity  
To Implement Automated Meter Reading Infrastructure

**BEFORE:**

W. M. Everett, QC, Panel Chair  
C. Brewer, Commissioner  
R. I. Mason, Commissioner

on November 23, 2020

**ORDER**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. On March 25, 2020, Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd. (PNG(NE)) filed an application (Application) with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) seeking a Certification of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) pursuant to sections 45 and 46 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) for the implementation of Automated Meter Reading (AMR) Infrastructure in its service areas (the AMR Project);
- B. On April 9, 2020, by Order G-86-20, the BCUC established a regulatory timetable for the initial review of the Application, which provided for, among other things, provision of public notice, a round of BCUC Information Requests (IR), PNG(NE) responses to IRs, and intervener registration.
- C. British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Organization, Active Support Against Poverty, Disability Alliance BC, Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations of BC, and Tenants Resource and Advisory Centre (collectively, BCOAPO *et al.*) registered as an intervener in the proceeding.
- D. On June 24, 2020, by Order G-169-20, the BCUC amended the regulatory timetable, which provided for a subsequent round of IRs, final and reply arguments.
- E. On September 24, 2020, the BCUC issued Order C-3-20, granting the CPCN for reasons to follow.
- F. On November 9, 2020, the BCUC issued its reasons to Order C-3-20.
- G. The following participant filed a Participant Assistance/Cost Award (PACA) Application with the BCUC with respect to its participation in the proceeding:

Date	Participant	Application
September 28, 2020	BCOAPO <i>et al.</i>	\$5,233.64

- H. By email dated November 9, 2020, PNG(NE) provided its comments on the BCOAPO *et al.*'s PACA Application, stating that it finds the PACA application to be reasonable; and
- I. The BCUC has reviewed the PACA Application in accordance with the criteria and rates set out in the PACA Guidelines attached to Order G-97-17 and concludes that PACA funding is warranted.

**NOW THEREFORE** the BCUC orders as follows:

- Funding is awarded to the following intervener in the listed amount for their participation in the PNG(NE) Application for a CPCN for the implementation of the AMR Project:

Participant	Award
BCOAPO <i>et al.</i>	\$5,233.64

- PNG 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 23rd day of November 2020.

BY ORDER

*Original Signed By:*

W. M. Everett, QC  
Commissioner