



ORDER NUMBER
G-55-23

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

Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc.
Burnaby Mountain District Energy Utility
UniverCity Energy Cost Reconciliation Account 2022 Annual Report
and Application regarding the UniverCity Variable Energy Charge rate change,
effective April 1, 2023

BEFORE:

B. A. Magnan, Panel Chair
T. A. Loski, Commissioner
A. Pape-Salmon, Commissioner

on March 16, 2023

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On March 1, 2023, pursuant to section 61(4) of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc. (Corix) filed its Energy Cost Reconciliation Account (ECRA) for the UniverCity customer group (UniverCity) at the Burnaby Mountain District Energy Utility (BMDEU). This annual report included a request for British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) approval to amend the UniverCity Variable Energy Charge to \$0.0338 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) effective April 1, 2023, in accordance with the rate-setting mechanism approved through BCUC Order G-279-21 dated September 24, 2021 (Application);
- B. By Order G-279-21, the BCUC approved the flow-through of energy costs of UniverCity's energy costs via the establishment of the ECRA to record variances between the actual energy costs and the revenue collected through the Variable Energy Charge, and the annual Variable Energy Charge rate setting mechanism;
- C. The approved rate-setting mechanism utilizes an ECRA ratio and established ECRA ratio thresholds of 0.95 and 1.05 (Trigger Ratios). The ECRA ratio is the ratio of expected 12-month Variable Energy Charge recovery revenue to the sum of the expected 12-month energy costs, plus the ECRA balance at the beginning of the forecast period. A rate change is warranted if the ECRA ratio falls outside the range established by the Trigger Ratios;
- D. The current UniverCity Variable Energy Charge of \$0.0273 per kWh was approved through Order G-87-22, effective April 1, 2022;
- E. Based on current energy supply costs, UniverCity is forecast to have a deficit balance of \$58,722 in its ECRA by March 31, 2023. UniverCity calculates the ECRA ratio at the current Variable Energy Charge rate to be 0.81 for the 12-month period April 2023 to March 2024, and the tested rate increase required to produce a

1.00 ECRA ratio to be \$0.0338 per kWh. Therefore, as the ECRA ratio falls outside the range established by the Trigger Ratios through Order G-279-21, a change to the Variable Energy Charge is indicated effective April 1, 2023;

- F. The proposed Variable Energy Charge increase utilizes a 12-month amortization period and is consistent with the rate-setting mechanism approved by Order G-279-21; and
- G. The BCUC has reviewed the ECRA 2022 Annual Report in accordance with the criteria set out by Order G-279-21 and determines that an increase to UniverCity's Variable Energy Charge is warranted.

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

- 1. Corix is approved to increase the Variable Energy Charge for UniverCity at the BMDEU from \$0.0273 per kWh to \$0.0338 per kWh effective April 1, 2023.
- 2. Corix is directed to notify UniverCity customers with a bill insert or bill message to be included with the next monthly billing.
- 3. Corix is directed to file revised tariff pages for acceptance by the BCUC within 30 days from the date of issuance of this Order.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 16th day of March, 2023.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

B.A. Magnan
Commissioner