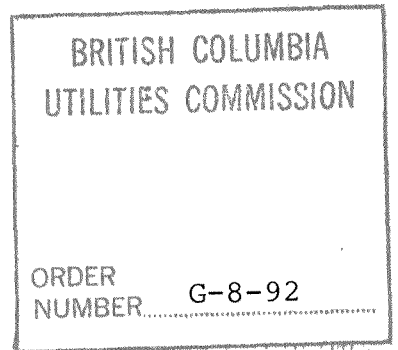




IN THE MATTER OF the Utilities Commission
Act, S.B.C. 1980, c. 60, as amended

and

IN THE MATTER OF an Application by
Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. and
Commission Order Nos. G-112-91 and G-119-91

BEFORE: J.G. McIntyre,)
Chairman;)
J.D.V. Newlands,) January 8, 1992
Deputy Chairman; and)
N. Martin,)
Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

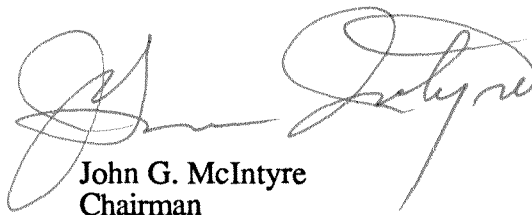
- A. On October 31, 1991 Centra Gas British Columbia Inc., Fort St. John Division ("Centra Gas") applied for Commission approval to pass-through a decrease in the cost of gas from its supplier and to pass-through certain uncontrollable cost increases in the amount of \$0.14 GJ, both effective November 1, 1991; and
- B. Commission Order No. G-112-91 required the cost of gas decrease to be passed through effective November 1, 1991, rejected Centra Gas' Application to pass-through uncontrollable costs, and required the utility to file a 1992 General Revenue Requirements Application by December 10, 1991; and
- C. On December 16, 1991 Centra Gas filed its 1992 Revenue Requirements Application ("the Application") pursuant to Sections 64 and 104 of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act") and requested an interim increase in rates of 11.1 percent, to all customers, effective January 1, 1992; and
- D. The Application for a general interim rate increase was based primarily on substantial increases in Centra Gas' rate base in excess of those confirmed by the Commission's May 8, 1985 Decision, along with inter-company allocations of costs which have not been previously determined in a public forum; and
- E. Commission Order No. G-119-91 reaffirmed its decision, denied the Centra Gas Application for an interim rate increase and set the Application down for public hearing to commence February 17, 1992 that was conditional upon the utility filing certain information with the Commission; and
- F. On January 7, 1992, pursuant to Section 114 of the Act, Centra Gas applied for a reconsideration and variation to Commission Order No. G-119-91 and requested:
 - a delay in the commencement of the public hearing into the Fort St. John 1992 Revenue Requirements Application until the latter half of April 1992;
 - an extension of time upon which to file supplementary information from January 20 to March 2, 1992;
 - Commission approval for an interim rate increase effective February 1, 1992.
- G. The Commission has reviewed the Application, Centra Gas requests and supplementary evidence filed to date and finds, that approval of a general interim rate increase to protect the financial integrity of Centra Gas is necessary and in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves for Centra Gas a 11.1 percent general, interim rate increase to all customers in the Fort St. John District effective with consumption on and after February 1, 1992.
2. A public hearing into the Application is set for May 25, 1992; the date, time and location of which will be made by way of future Commission Order and Notice of Public Hearing, and is conditional on the pre-filing of evidence by Centra Gas of a detailed review of inter-company charges study as previously required by Commission Order No. G-112-91.
3. Centra Gas is to file all supplementary evidence and testimonies, specifically on the topics of rate base additions, inter-company charges and rate of return on common equity, by March 2, 1992.
4. Centra Gas is to follow the directions with respect to refunds and the cost of gas decrease contained in Order No. G-112-91 and is to file with the Commission a reconciliation of such refunds before January 31, 1992.
5. Centra Gas, by way of Customer Notice, is to inform customers of the general, interim increase effective February 1, 1992, its effect on monthly gas bills along with the reasons for the increased rates. An information notice is also required to be published in the local newspapers in the service area of the utility.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 13th day of January, 1992.

BY ORDER


John G. McIntyre
Chairman

/ssc