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BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER F-1-95

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

and

Commission Review into Electricity Markets and the Unbundling of Services

BEFORE: M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson;)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chairperson; and) February 2, 1995
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 16, 1994 the Lieutenant Governor in Council ordered the Commission to hold a public review of British Columbia's electricity market structure and issued Order in Council No. 1536 ("OIC 1536") and Terms of Reference pursuant to Section 6 of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"). A panel consisting of Dr. Mark K. Jaccard, Chair, Ms. Lorna Barr, Deputy Chair and Mr. Kenneth Hall, Commissioner were appointed for the review; and
- B. On January 24, 1995 the Commission issued a letter to Interested Parties stating that it was prepared to consider applications for Participant Funding pursuant to Section 133.1(2) of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act") and requested all parties intending to apply for Participant Funding to file a budget consistent with the Commission's revised guidelines and rate sheet as outlined in Order No. G-117-93 no later than Monday, January 30, 1995. Further, the letter stated that the budget should cover expenditures that will be incurred prior to the commencement of the hearing, e.g. costs related to expert advice, attendance at educational seminars, non-hearing related counsel costs, etc. and that in awarding funds based on the information received to January 30, 1995, the Commission reserved the right to withhold funds for possible later distribution to eligible groups that may be identified later in the process; and
- C. The Commission received requests for Participant Funding pursuant to Section 133.1(2) of the Act from the Columbia River Treaty Committee Inc., The British Columbia Energy Coalition, The Consumers Association of Canada - B.C. Branch, Sustainable BC and British Columbia Utility Reduction Consultants; and

D. The Panel reviewed the budgets submitted by these parties and found them to be generally reasonable;
and

E. The Panel discussed the claims having regard to the criteria and rates set out in Order no. G-117-93.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. Pursuant to Section 133.1(2) of the Act, the Commission awards funds in the total amount of \$110,500 as follows:

Columbia River Treaty Committee Inc.	\$8,000
British Columbia Energy Coalition	\$50,000
Consumers Association of Canada - BC Branch	\$50,000
Sustainable BC	\$2,500

The request of the British Columbia Utility Reduction Consultants is denied at this time pending receipt of further information.

2. The awarded funds are not tied explicitly to the expenses outlined in the budget but may be used as required to fund expenses such as fees for legal counsel, participation in educational seminars, education of membership with respect to electricity market restructuring issues, consultants' fees, preparation of papers related to this proceeding, and other reasonable expenses. Parties will be required to keep clear records and to provide the Commission with receipts showing how the awarded funds were spent.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 8th day of February, 1995.

BY ORDER


Dr. Mark K. Jaccard
Chairperson