

SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6Z 2N3
CANADA



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-109-96

TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700
BC TOLL FREE: 1-800-663-1385
FACSIMILE: (604) 660-1102

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

An Application by Squamish Gas Co. Ltd.
Review of Utility Operations for Fiscal Periods August 6, 1991 to December 31, 1995

BEFORE: M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson; and) November 5, 1996
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. The Commission, by Order No. G-56-96, directed Squamish Gas Co. Ltd. ("Squamish Gas") to file an application by August 31, 1996 covering utility operations for the fiscal periods August 6, 1991 to December 31, 1995 as required by the Ministry of Employment and Investment ("the Ministry") in its letter dated May 31, 1996; and
- B. On August 30, 1996 Squamish Gas filed its Application and, by Order No. G-88-96, the Commission ordered that a pre-hearing conference be held on October 9, 1996; and
- C. As a result of information provided by the participants at the pre-hearing conference, the Commission held a pre-hearing workshop on October 24, 1996 that provided customers with information about the Application and discussed alternative processes for the public review of the Application; and
- D. At the workshop Squamish Gas indicated that it has replied to information requests issued by the Ministry and discussions regarding the Application are ongoing between Squamish Gas and the Ministry. Both parties have agreed to make the information responses public; and
- E. The Commission considers that a timetable should be established for the public review of the Application.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Timetable attached as Appendix A to this Order, summarizes the key dates for review of the Squamish Gas Application.

2. Details of the process are provided in the Notice of Public Hearing attached as Appendix B to this Order.
3. Squamish Gas is to file a copy of the information responses made to the Ministry and to make a copy available for public review at the local office of Squamish Gas.
4. As interested parties and registered intervenors become registered, Squamish Gas is to provide a copy of the information responses to those registrants.
5. Squamish Gas is to contact the customers and municipal representatives that attended the October 24, 1996 workshop and determine whether they will become registered intervenors and their preference for a public hearing or a negotiated settlement.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 6th day of November, 1996.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Dr. Mark K. Jaccard
Chairperson

Attachments

TIMETABLE
SQUAMISH GAS CO. LTD.
Review of Utility Operations
for Fiscal Periods
August 6, 1991 to December 31, 1995

ACTION	DATE
Deadline to register as an intervenor or interested party	November 22, 1996
Deadline for requests for Participant Assistance	November 22, 1996
Deadline for Squamish Gas and the Ministry of Employment and Investment to report on the status of negotiations	December 13, 1996
Deadline for Intervenor Information Requests	December 18, 1996
Deadline for Squamish Gas Information Responses	January 6, 1997
Deadline for Intervenor Written Submission or Evidence	January 10, 1997
or Public Hearing begins (if required)	January 14, 1997

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SQUAMISH GAS CO. LTD. **Review of Utility Operations 1991 to 1995**

Date: January 14, 1997 (if required)
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: Sea to Sky Hotel
40330 Tantalus Way, Garibaldi Highlands
Squamish, B.C.

THE APPLICATION

Squamish Gas filed an Application covering its utility operations for the period August 6, 1991 through December 31, 1995 as directed by Commission Order No. G-56-96. Squamish Gas advised the Commission that it is in discussions with the Ministry of Employment and Investment ("the Ministry") to resolve certain outstanding matters relating to the Application. Following completion of these negotiations, Squamish Gas and the Ministry will release such information to all participants by December 13, 1996. The Commission has set a provisional hearing date of January 14, 1997 for either the commencement of a Public Hearing or a Negotiated Settlement, should the discussions between Squamish Gas and the Ministry be unsuccessful.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE APPLICATION

The Application, supporting material and Commission Orders No. G-56-96, G-102-96 and G-109-96 are available for inspection at the following locations:

Squamish Gas Co. Ltd.

Head Office: 1111 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6E 4M4

District Office: 38152 - 2nd Avenue, Squamish, B.C.

A copy of the Application is available to Interested Parties from Squamish Gas upon request.

Copies of the Application and supporting material are also available for inspection at the office of the British Columbia Utilities Commission, Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2N3.

INTERVENTIONS

Intervenors or Interested Parties are to advise the Commission Secretary, in writing, of their intention to participate in the proceedings, by November 22, 1996. Intervenors are to indicate whether they prefer review of the Application through a public hearing or a negotiated settlement.

INFORMATION REQUESTS

Registered Intervenor or Interested Parties requesting additional information from the Applicant should do so as soon as possible, but no later than December 18, 1996. Information Requests shall be responded to by Squamish Gas as soon as possible, but no later than January 6, 1997.

SUBMISSIONS BY INTERVENORS

Written submissions or evidence from Intervenor is required to be filed with both the Commission Secretary and Squamish Gas by January 10, 1997.

PARTICIPANT ASSISTANCE

All parties intending to apply for Participant Assistance must file a budget by November 22, 1996 consistent with the Commission's Policy and Rate Sheet as outlined in Order No. G-103-96. Copies of the Participant Assistance Policy and Rate Sheet are available from the Commission upon request.

CLARIFICATION

Persons intending to participate in the public hearing or negotiated settlement process, who are uncertain as to the manner in which to proceed, may contact Mr. R.J. Pellatt, Commission Secretary, the Information Services Group, or Mr. Philip Nakoneshny, Senior Financial Analyst-Petroleum; by telephone at (604) 660-4700, or B.C. Toll Free: 1,800,663-1385, by facsimile at (604) 660-1102 or in writing to the above address. The Commission can also be reached on the Internet at bcuc@pop.gov.bc.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by:

Robert J. Pellatt
Commission Secretary