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CANADA



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-118-96

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

and

IN THE MATTER OF the Special Direction
to the British Columbia Utilities Commission by the
Lieutenant Governor in Council through
Order in Council 1510, dated December 13, 1995

and

An Application by Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.
for Approval of an Increase in New Customer Rates

BEFORE: M.K. Jaccard, Chairperson; and)
L.R. Barr, Deputy Chairperson) December 12, 1996

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 9, 1996 Centra Gas applied to the Commission pursuant to Sections 64 and 66 of the Act and the Special Direction issued by the Lieutenant Governor in Council through Order In Council No. 1510 dated December 13, 1995, to increase rates for New Customers, effective January 1, 1997 ("the New Customer Rate Application"); and
- B. Commission Order No. G-119-96 added the New Customer Rate Application to the issues to be dealt with in the Alternative Dispute Resolution process covering the utility's September 27, 1996 Revenue Requirements Application. This process will commence at 9:00 a.m., Monday, February 3, 1997 in the British Columbia Utilities Commission Hearing Room, Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6Z 2N3. A public hearing, if required, will commence at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 18, 1997 in the Commission Hearing Room.
- C. The Commission has reviewed the New Customer Rate Application and is satisfied that approval of an interim rate increase is appropriate.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves for Centra Gas on an interim basis, effective January 1, 1997, an amendment to Optional Rate Rider "A" and rate increases to the following rate schedules, subject to refund with interest calculated at the average prime rate of the principal bank with which Centra Gas conducts its business:

		Interim Rate Increase
Second Revision of Page 10	Small General Service Rate No. 11 (SGS-11)	8.00%
Second Revision of Page 11	Small General Service Rate No. 12 (SGS-12)	8.00%
Second Revision of Page 12	Large General Service Rate No. 11 (LGS-11)	8.01%
Second Revision of Page 13	Large General Service Rate No. 12 (LGS-12)	5.50%
Second Revision of Page 14	Small General Service Rate No. 13 (LGS-13)	3.17%
Second Revision of Page 15	Optional Rate Rider A - Service Line Charge	

2. Centra Gas is to notify all affected customers of the interim rate increases.
3. Centra Gas is to distribute copies of the New Customer Rate Application and any supplemental information to Intervenor as they become registered with the Commission.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 18th day of December, 1996.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Dr. Mark K. Jaccard
Chairperson