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IN THE MATTER OF
the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473

and

An Application by Centra Gas British Columbia Inc.
for Approval of an NGV Rate in its Service Area

BEFORE: L.R. Barr, Deputy Chair and)
Acting Chair) May 1, 1997
K.L. Hall, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On March 20, 1997 Centra Gas British Columbia Inc. ("Centra Gas") applied, pursuant to Sections 60 and 61 of the Utilities Commission Act, to make a rate available for Natural Gas for Vehicles ("NGV") refueling stations in its Vancouver Island and Sunshine Coast service areas that will be competitive with gasoline. Centra Gas has set the rate at \$5.00 per GJ, will review the rate on an annual basis, and will adjust the rate for cost of gas changes in January of each year; and
- B. British Columbia NGV Alliance requested a rate for NGV on Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast and is proposing to provide natural gas compression and refueling facilities at three area service stations; and
- C. The Commission has reviewed the Application and is satisfied that approval is necessary and in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves for Centra Gas the March 20, 1997 Application for an NGV rate of \$5.00 per GJ in its Vancouver Island and Sunshine Coast service areas effective May 1, 1997.
- 2. The conversion grants of \$500/vehicle should be taken out of capital expenditures and placed into a rate base account for Deferred Charges-Conversions and Grants, with an amortization period of seven years, as proposed in the Application.
- 3. The remaining two components, Contract Sales or 1-800 service and Mailout Advertising/Postage/Bill Inserts, should be a component of the Operating and Maintenance expense which is fixed for 1997.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 15th day of May 1997.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chair and
Acting Chair