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

and

An Application by Pacific Northern Gas Ltd.
for Amendments to its Gas Tariff covering its System Extension Test
and Service Connection Charge Policy

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

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 3, 1996, Pacific Northern Gas ("PNG") filed its revised proposal regarding its Main Extension Policy and Test, and Service Connection Charge Policy; and
- B. The Commission reviewed the submission and concluded that the proposal was appropriate and in most respects consistent with the Commission's September 5, 1996 System Extension Test Guidelines; and
- C. The Commission in its Letter No. L-67-96 dated December 19, 1996 recommended that PNG submit tariff pages summarizing the proposal for Commission approval; and
- C. On April 15, 1997 Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. ("PNG") filed with the Commission tariff sheets regarding the system extension test and service connection charge policy for PNG-West and PNG(N.E.) for approval by the Commission; and
- D. The Commission has reviewed the filed tariffs, and although it has concluded that the tariffs are generally reasonable and in the public interest, has some concerns that the ranges of consumption for which the maximum allowable investment are specified may be too broad; and
- E. PNG files annually with the Commission, pursuant to Order No. G-36-90, a report on the estimated and actual sign-up rates on all main extensions in the first five years of operation.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Gas Tariff sheets, covering PNG and PNG (N.E.)'s revised Main Extension Policy and Test and Service Connection Charge Policy, are approved as filed, effective June 1, 1997.
2. PNG is directed to include in its next report an evaluation of the appropriateness of the consumption ranges used in the tariffs to estimate the maximum allowable investment.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 2nd day of May, 1997.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Lorna R. Barr
Deputy Chair
and Acting Chair