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**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-96-05

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

and

**An Application by British Columbia Transmission Corporation
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
for Vancouver Island Transmission Reinforcement Project**

BEFORE: R.H. Hobbs, Chair
N.F. Nicholls, Commissioner October 3, 2005

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. By application dated July 7, 2005, the British Columbia Transmission Corporation ("BCTC") requested that the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the "Commission") grant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") for the Vancouver Island Transmission Reinforcement Project ("VITR") to reinforce the electric transmission system serving Vancouver Island and the Southern Gulf Islands (the "Application"); and
- B. The VITR consists of a new 67 kilometer 230 kilovolt ("kV") transmission line between South Delta and North Cowichan that will replace an existing 138 kV line, plus certain upgrading of the second existing 138 kV line; and
- C. BCTC proposes to construct the new 230 kV line entirely within the existing 138 kV right-of-way, and to place underground 3.7 km of the new 230 kV line in the community of Tsawwassen ; and
- D. The VITR is estimated to cost \$245 million, and is scheduled to be in service by October 2008; and
- E. In the Application, BCTC also requests approval, contingent upon confirmation of external funding, to underground the VITR in public streets and/or to advance the underground replacement of the second 138 kV line in the Tsawwassen area; and
- F. Pursuant to Order No. G-70-05, the Commission held a Procedural Conference on August 4, 2005 to hear submissions on the regulatory process for the review of the Application; and
- G. At the Procedural Conference, Sea Breeze Pacific Regional Transmission System, Inc. ("Sea Breeze") advised that it may file a CPCN application for an alternative transmission project; and
- H. By Order No. G-72-05, the Commission Panel established the Regulatory Timetable for an oral hearing to review the Application; and

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- I. In the letter dated August 9, 2005 that accompanied Order No. G-72-05, the Commission stated that participants in the VITR proceeding will be given an opportunity at the Pre-Hearing Conference to comment on any motion(s) by Sea Breeze; and
- J. The Commission by letter dated September 1, 2005 proposed a schedule for Town Hall Meetings, with the locations and times for the meetings to be discussed at the Pre-Hearing Conference scheduled for October 17, 2005; and
- K. On September 27, 2005, BCTC advised the Commission that it would be unable to completely respond to all the Information Requests in accordance with the Regulatory Agenda, and by letter dated September 30, 2005 requested that the filing date for responses be extended to October 10, 2005; and
- L. The Commission has also received requests from Mr. Hans Karow and Mr. Karsten Holmsen, Intervenors in the proceeding to extend the Regulatory Timetable; and
- M. On September 30, 2005 Sea Breeze filed a CPCN application for the Vancouver Island Cable Project and requested that the Commission confirm the consolidation of the review of its CPCN Application with the BCTC VITR proceeding. The Commission will issue a separate procedural Order that initiates the regulatory review of the Sea Breeze CPCN application; and
- N. The Commission concluded that the Regulatory Timetable should be revised.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Revised Regulatory Agenda for the oral public hearing to review the Application is established as set out in Appendix A to this Order.
- 2. The oral public hearing will commence at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 28, 2005 on the Third Floor, 855 Homer Street, Vancouver, BC.
- 3. A Pre-Hearing Conference regarding the regulatory process for the review of the Application will be held on Friday, October 21, 2005 commencing at 9:00 a.m. on the Third Floor, 855 Homer Street, Vancouver, B.C.
- 4. Sea Breeze will file any further motion that it desires to be considered at the Pre-Hearing Conference by Wednesday, October 12, 2005.
- 5. Town Hall Meetings will be held at locations that will be established after the Pre-Hearing Conference.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 3rd day of October 2005.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Robert H. Hobbs
Chair

Attachment

**British Columbia Transmission Corporation (“BCTC”)
Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”)
Vancouver Island Transmission Reinforcement Project (“VITR”)**

REVISED REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2005)
BCTC Response to BCUC Information Request No. 1	Friday, August 26
BCUC Information Request No. 2 and Intervenor Request No. 1	Wednesday, September 7
Intervenor and Interested Party Registration	Friday, September 16
Participant Assistance/Cost Award Budgets	Friday, September 16
BCTC Responses to Information Requests	Monday, October 10
Intervenor Evidence	Monday, October 17
Pre-Hearing Conference	Friday, October 21
BCUC and Participant Information Requests to Intervenor	Wednesday, October 26
Intervenor Responses to Information Requests	Thursday, November 10
Town Hall Meeting (Salt Spring)	Saturday, November 12
Staff issue Hearing Issues List	Wednesday, November 16
Town Hall Meeting (Vancouver Island)	Saturday, November 19
Opening Oral Submissions	Monday, November 21
Town Hall Meeting (Tsawwassen)	Monday, November 21
BCTC Consolidation of Hearing Issues List	Tuesday, November 22
Panel issues Hearing Issues List	Thursday, November 24
Public Hearing commences	Monday, November 28