

SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6Z 2N3 CANADA
web site: <http://www.bcuc.com>



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-6-06

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

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

and

**A Submission by Terasen Gas (Whistler) Inc.
for Review of its of 2005 Resource Plan Update**

and

**An Application by Terasen Gas (Whistler) Inc.
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to convert its propane grid system
to natural gas and approval to enter into a Natural Gas Transportation Service
Agreement with Terasen Gas (Vancouver Island) Inc.**

and

**An Application by Terasen Gas (Vancouver Island) Inc.
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
for a natural gas pipeline lateral from Squamish to Whistler**

BEFORE: A.J. Pullman, Panel Chair and Commissioner
R. Milbourne, Commissioner
P.E. Vivian, Commissioner

January 25, 2006

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 12, 2005, Terasen Gas (Whistler) Inc. ("TGW") filed with the Commission its 2005 Resource Plan Update ("the Resource Plan") that provides an assessment of the current and future energy requirements at the Resort Municipality of Whistler ("RMOW") and concludes that the existing propane grid system should be converted to natural gas; and
- B. On December 16, 2005, TGW filed with the Commission its application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to convert its system to natural gas and for approval to enter into a long-term natural gas transportation agreement with Terasen Gas (Vancouver Island) Inc. ("TGVI"). In the application, TGW also requests approval to make a capital contribution to TGVI and to add the contribution to rate base, to amortize the net book value of the propane facilities and to recover pipeline study costs incurred prior to 2004 ("the TGW Application"); and

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-6-06

2

- C. Also, on December 16, 2005, TGVI filed with the Commission its application for a CPCN for construction of a natural gas pipeline lateral to connect RMOW to the TGVI transmission system at Squamish and to enter into a Transportation Service Agreement with TGW (“the TGVI Application”). The Resource Plan Application, the TGW Application and the TGVI Application will be referred to collectively as the “Applications”; and
- D. In the submission, TGW and TGVI (“the Companies”) requested that the Commission review the Applications concurrently through a joint proceeding. TGW recommended a written review process and proposes a regulatory timetable; and
- E. A Procedural Conference was held on January 17, 2005 and all intervenors who wished to make written submissions to the Commission on the proposals outlined during the conference were invited to submit these to the Commission by Friday, January 20, 2005 with the Companies response being due on Monday, January 23, 2006; and
- F. The Commission received responses from British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, the Ministry of Energy Mines and Petroleum Resources, the Squamish Nation, The British Columbia Public Advocacy Centre and the Vancouver Island Gas Joint Venture. The Companies responded to these submissions on Monday, January 23, 2005; and
- G. The Commission has reviewed the submissions from the Companies as well as the intervenors and determines that an oral public hearing is needed for the regulatory review of the Applications.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Applications will be examined through an Oral Public Hearing commencing at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, March 23, 2006 at the Second Floor Hearing Room, 855 Homer Street, Vancouver, B.C.
2. The Regulatory Timetable attached as Appendix A to this Order is established for this proceeding.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 25th day of January 2006.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

A.J. Pullman
Panel Chair and Commissioner

A Submission by Terasen Gas (Whistler) Inc. (“TGW”)
for Review of its of 2005 Resource Plan Update

and

An Application by Terasen Gas (Whistler) Inc.
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to convert its propane grid system
to natural gas and approval to enter into a Natural Gas Transportation Service
Agreement with Terasen Gas (Vancouver Island) Inc.

and

An Application by Terasen Gas (Vancouver Island) Inc. (“TGVI”)
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
for a natural gas pipeline lateral from Squamish to Whistler

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>
Workshop	Thursday, February 2
Applications for Participant Funding	Monday, February 6
Intervenors Information Requests No. 1 issued to TGW and TGVI	Wednesday, February 8
Commission Information Request No. 2 issued to TGW and TGVI	Wednesday, February 8
Commission Information Request No. 1 issued to the Squamish Nation	Wednesday, February 8
TGW and TGVI Response to Intervenors and Commission Information Requests No. 1 and No. 2 respectively	Friday, February 17
Squamish Nation Response to Commission Information Request No. 1	Friday, February 17
Intervenors to File Evidence and issue Information Request No. 2 to TGW and TGVI	Friday, February 24
Information Requests to Intervenors	Thursday, March 2
Intervenors, TGW and TGVI Responses to Information Requests	Thursday, March 9
Second Procedural Conference commencing 3:00 p.m. (if required)	Tuesday, March 14
Commission Oral Public Hearing at 9:00 a.m.	Thursday, March 23