



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-122-09

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

TELEPHONE: (604) 660-4700
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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 the Vancouver City Central Transmission Project**

BEFORE: A.A. Rhodes, Commissioner October 8, 2009

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On September 21, 2009, the British Columbia Transmission Corporation ("BCTC") applied (the "Application"), pursuant to sections 45 and 46 of the Utilities Commission Act (the "Act"), to the Commission for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to construct and operate the Vancouver City Central Transmission Project (the "VCCT Project") as described in this Application; and
- B. BCTC is proposing the VCCT Project as the preferred solution to: i) serve load growth in the Mount Pleasant/South False Creek area, ii) resolve reliability concerns associated with the end of life condition of the Main Street distribution duct banks being used to serve the Mount Pleasant/South False Creek area, and iii) resolve reliability concerns in view of the zero-rating of transmission circuit 2L53; and
- C. The VCCT Project has an estimated capital cost of approximately \$174 million and a further \$27 million would be incurred for British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority's Substation Distribution Assets ("SDA") which are not the subject of this Application, and includes the construction of a new Mount Pleasant substation and the construction of a new transmission line approximately 8 km in length that follows the route described in the Application as Route Option B; and
- D. In the F2010/2011 BCTC Capital Plan Decision, dated July 13, 2009, the Commission directed BCTC to work with BC Hydro to either accept its proposal to have BCTC or BC Hydro seek regulatory approval for the entire project, including both transmission and SDA components, or develop an alternative approach and directed BCTC and BC Hydro to provide their report within 90 days from the date of Decision; and
- E. BCTC will update the Application once the report concerning the treatment of SDA components has been filed and further directions are made by the Commission, or if BC Hydro requests that BCTC seek approval of the related SDA assets on its behalf; and

- F. The Commission considers that a Procedural Conference is required to hear submissions on the appropriate regulatory process for the review of the Application.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. A Workshop on the Application will be held on Wednesday, November 25, 2009 commencing at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Hearing Room on the Twelfth Floor, 1125 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC.
2. A Procedural Conference regarding the regulatory process for the review of the Application will be held on Wednesday, November 25, 2009, commencing at 1:00 p.m. and ending by 4:00 p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room on the Twelfth Floor, 1125 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC, to address procedural matters which will include, but may not be limited to, the following:
 - a) identification of the principal issues arising from or related to the Application,
 - b) process options for the review of the Application, including an oral public hearing, a written public hearing or some other process,
 - c) whether any Intervenors intend to submit written evidence,
 - d) the Regulatory Timetable for information requests and responses, written evidence, other submissions and other steps in the process, and
 - e) other matters that will assist the Commission to efficiently review the Application.
3. The initial Regulatory Timetable for the Procedural Conference and review of the Application is attached as Appendix A. The Commission will issue a further procedural Order and Regulatory Timetable for the proceeding following the Procedural Conference.
4. BCTC will publish, as soon as possible, in display-ad format, the Notice attached as Appendix B to this Order, in the Vancouver Sun, the Province, the Victoria Times Colonist and such other appropriate local news publications as may properly provide adequate notice to residents in the vicinity of the Vancouver City Central Transmission Project.
5. The Application, together with any supporting materials, will be made available for inspection at the BCTC Suite 1100, Four Bentall Centre, 1055 Dunsmuir Street PO Box 49260, Vancouver, BC V7X 1V5, and at the British Columbia Utilities Commission, Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 2N3 and will also be available on the BCTC and BCUC websites.

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6. Intervenor or Interested Parties should register with the Commission in writing or by electronic submission by Friday, November 20, 2009 and advise whether they plan to attend the Workshop and Procedural Conference.
7. To assist the discussion at the Procedural Conference, Intervenor is requested to file by Friday, November 20, 2009, a written submission that states the nature of their interest in the Application and generally identifies the nature of the issues that they may intend to pursue during the proceeding and the nature and extent of their anticipated involvement in the review process and if possible outlines the regulatory process that the Intervenor recommends for the review of the Application.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 9th day of October 2009.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

A.A. Rhodes
Commissioner

Attachments

SIXTH FLOOR, 900 HOWE STREET, BOX 250
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APPENDIX A
to Order No. G-122-09
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REGULATORY TIMETABLE

ACTION	DATE (2009)
Commission Information Request No. 1	Thursday, October 29
BCTC Responses to Information Request No. 1	Thursday, November 19
Registration of Intervenor and Interested Parties with the Commission	Friday, November 20
BCTC Workshop and Procedural Conference (9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)	Wednesday, November 25

An Application by British Columbia Transmission Corporation
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NOTICE OF APPLICATION, WORKSHOP AND PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE

DATE:	Wednesday, November 25, 2009
TIME:	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Commission Hearing Room Twelfth Floor 1125 Howe Street Vancouver, BC

THE APPLICATION

On September 21, 2009, the British Columbia Transmission Corporation applied to the Commission pursuant to sections 45 and 46 of the *Utilities Commission Act* for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct and operate the Vancouver City Central Transmission Project (the “VCCT Project”) as described in this Application.

The proposed Project is comprised of a 200 MVA indoor substation and two underground 230 kV transmission circuits (3.4 km of 230 kV underground transmission circuits connecting the proposed Mount Pleasant Substation to the existing Cathedral Square Substation and 4.8 km of 230 kV underground transmission circuits connecting the proposed Mount Pleasant Substation to the existing Sperling Substation).

The proposed Mount Pleasant Substation would be housed in a new building occupying a 30,000 square foot site at the corner of Alberta Street and West 6th Avenue in the City of Vancouver, and the forecasted project-cost for the transmission assets for the VCCT Project is \$174 million and a further \$27 million would be incurred for Substation Distribution Assets (which are not the subject of this Application). The total VCCT Project cost including both transmission assets and Substation Distribution Assets is estimated to be \$201 million. The new substation is planned to be in service by June 2012.



The impact of the VCCT Project on the Transmission Revenue Requirement is forecasted to be \$17.5 million per year or 2.96 percent and the impact of the VCCT Project on the BC Hydro Revenue Requirement including both the Transmission and SDA components is forecasted to be \$24.4 million per year or 0.80 percent of the BC Hydro Revenue Requirement.

THE REGULATORY PROCESS

The Commission will hold a Workshop commencing at 9:00 a.m. and Procedural Conference commencing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 2009 in the Commission Hearing Room at Twelfth Floor, 1125 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC to hear submissions on the regulatory process for review of the Application. The initial Regulatory Timetable for the Procedural Conference can be viewed on the Commission website at www.bcuc.com.

INTERVENTIONS

Persons who expect to actively participate in the BCTC proceeding should register as Intervenor with the Commission and should identify the issues that they intend to pursue and the nature and extent of their anticipated involvement in the review process. Intervenor will each receive a copy of the Application and all correspondence and filed documentation and should provide an e-mail address if possible.

Persons not expecting to actively participate, but who have an interest in the proceeding should register as Interested Parties. Interested Parties will receive a copy of the Executive Summary in the Application, and all Orders and Decisions issued.

Intervenor and Interested Parties should register in writing no later than **Friday, November 20, 2009**. Notification by mail, courier delivery, fax or e-mail is acceptable.

All submissions and/or correspondence received from active participants or the general public relating to the Application will be placed on the public record and posted to the Commission's website.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE DOCUMENTS

The Application and supporting materials will be available for inspection at the following locations:

British Columbia Utilities Commission

Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3 Telephone: 1-800-663-1385

British Columbia Transmission Corporation

Suite 1100, Four Bentall Centre, 1055 Dunsmuir Street
PO Box 49260, Vancouver, BC V7X 1V5

Internet: www.bctc.com and www.bcuc.com

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Ms. Erica Hamilton, Commission Secretary as follows:

Telephone: (604) 660-4700
Telephone: (BC Toll Free): 1-800-663-1385
Facsimile: (604) 660-1102
E-mail: Commission.Secretary@bcuc.com