

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-125-09

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

and

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
Large General Service Rate Application

BEFORE: A. A. Rhodes, Commissioner October 19, 2009

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On October 26, 2007, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the "Commission") issued its Decision on BC Hydro's 2007 Rate Design Application ("2007 RDA"). Directive 19 of the Decision, in part, instructed British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("BC Hydro") to commence meaningful stakeholder engagement with its Large General Service ("LGS") customers to develop and file with the Commission an application for a rate structure or structures that encourage conservation without unduly benefiting or harming any of its customers in that class; and
- B. On October 16, 2009 BC Hydro filed its LGS Rate Application ("Application") under sections 58-61 of the *Utilities Commission Act* seeking orders approving the establishment of new energy rates for customers who take service under Rate Schedules (RS) 1200, 1201, 1210, 1211 – General Service (35 kW and Over) referred to as its Existing Large General Service ("ELGS") customers, and consequential relief; and
- C. BC Hydro is seeking to have the ELGS accounts split into two new rates classes which BC Hydro refers to as the Medium General Service ("MGS") class and the Large General Service ("LGS") class. The specific orders

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that BC Hydro seeks, including the form of the new MGS and LGS rate schedules and consequential changes required to BC Hydro's Electric Tariff, are included as Appendices S and T of the Application; and

- D. The Commission Panel has determined that a Workshop and a Procedural Conference should be held to assist with the review of the Application.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

1. BC Hydro is to hold a Workshop with respect to the Application on Friday, November 6, 2009, commencing at 9 a.m. A Procedural Conference regarding the regulatory process for the review of the Application will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, commencing at 1:30 p.m. Both the Workshop and the Procedural Conference are to be held in the Commission's Hearing Room on the Twelfth Floor, 1125 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC.
2. The deadlines for Intervenor registration, Commission and Intervenor Information Requests No. 1 and No. 2 to BC Hydro, the responses from BC Hydro and filing of Intervenor Evidence and Information Requests on that evidence are set out in the Preliminary Regulatory Timetable attached as Appendix A to this Order.
3. BC Hydro is to provide a copy of this Commission Order and the Preliminary Regulatory Timetable to Intervenors who participated in the 2007 RDA proceeding. Also, BC Hydro is to publish, as soon as possible, the Notice attached as Appendix B to this Order, in Display Ad format, in such appropriate local news publications as may properly provide adequate notice to the public in its service areas.
4. Intervenors and Interested Parties should register to participate in the Commission's review of the Application with the Commission, in writing or by online web registration, by Wednesday, November 4,

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2009. Intervenors should specifically state the nature of their interest in the Application and identify the general nature of the issues that they intend to pursue during the review of the Application and the nature and extent of their anticipated involvement in the review process or processes. They should advise the Commission whether they plan to attend the Workshop and the Procedural Conference.

5. The Application, together with any supporting materials, will be made available for inspection at the BC Hydro office, 333 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, BC and at the British Columbia Utilities Commission, Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC, and will also be available on the BC Hydro and BCUC websites.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 19th day of October 2009.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

A.A. Rhodes
Commissioner

Attachments



APPENDIX A
to Order G-125-09
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An Application by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
for Large General Service Rate

Preliminary Regulatory Timetable

ACTION	DATE (2009)
Filing by BC Hydro of Appendices S and T to the Application	Friday, October 30
Registration of Intervenors and Interested Parties with the Commission	Wednesday, November 4
LGS Rate Application Workshop	Friday, November 6
Filing of Rate Models (Confidential) by BC Hydro	Friday, November 6
Commission Information Request No. 1	Thursday, November 12
Intervenor Information Request No. 1	Monday, November 16
Filing of Participant Assistance/Cost Award Budgets	Wednesday, November 18
BC Hydro Responses to Information Request No. 1	Monday, December 7
Procedural Conference	Tuesday, December 8
BCUC and Intervenor Information Request No. 2	Thursday, December 17
	DATE (2010)
BC Hydro Responses to Information Request No. 2	Friday, January 22
Intervenor Evidence (if any) filed	Monday, February 1
Commission, BC Hydro and Intervenor Information Request No. 1 on Intervenor Evidence	Wednesday, February 10
Intervenor Responses to Information Request No. 1	Tuesday, March 2



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An Application by British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
for Large General Service Rate

NOTICE OF APPLICATION, WORKSHOP AND PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE

	WORKSHOP	PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE
DATE:	Friday, November 6, 2009	Tuesday, December 8, 2009
TIME:	9:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.
LOCATION:	Commission Hearing Room Twelfth Floor, 1125 Howe Street Vancouver, BC	Commission Hearing Room Twelfth Floor, 1125 Howe Street Vancouver, BC

THE APPLICATION

On October 16, 2009 British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority ("BC Hydro") filed its Large General Service Rate Application (the "Application") with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the "Commission"), pursuant to sections 58-61 of the *Utilities Commission Act* and in accordance with Commission Order G-41-09 which required this application to be filed no later than October 16, 2009.

In the Application, BC Hydro seeks orders that would establish new energy rates for its existing Large General Service ("ELGS") customers. The new energy rate schedules proposed by BC Hydro will result in the splitting of ELGS into two new rate classes (or segments), which BC Hydro refers to as the Medium General Service ("MGS") class and the Large General Service ("LGS") class.

The focus of the Application is the declining block rate that is part of the current ELGS rate structure. The proposed MGS rate structure would be the same as the current ELGS rate structure except that the declining block energy rate would be a constant flat rate for all energy consumed in a monthly billing period. The proposed LGS rate structure would contain two parts to the energy rate. The first part would be the current declining block energy rate which would be applied against the historical consumption level or baseline of each account. The second part would be equal to BC Hydro's long run marginal cost of new energy supply which would be applied against the difference between an account's current monthly (billed) energy consumption and its historical monthly consumption, or baseline.

THE REGULATORY PROCESS

The Commission will hold a Workshop on Friday, November 6, 2009 and a Procedural Conference on Tuesday, December 8, 2009. The Preliminary Regulatory Timetable can be viewed on the Commission website at www.bcuc.com.

INTERVENTION

Persons who expect to actively participate in the BC Hydro proceeding should register as intervenors with the Commission, and should identify the issues that they intend to pursue as well as the nature and extent of their anticipated involvement in the review process indicating whether they plan to attend the Workshop and the Procedural Conference. Intervenors will receive email notice of all correspondence, filed documentation and should provide an email address if available.

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.

Intervenors and Interested Parties should register in writing, no later than Wednesday, November 4, 2009. Notification by mail, courier delivery, fax or email 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 web site.

The deadline for filing budgets for participation funding/cost awards is Wednesday, November 18, 2009.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE DOCUMENTS

The Application and supporting material, including Commission correspondence, will be made available for inspection at:

British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority
333 Dunsmuir Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 5R3

British Columbia Utilities Commission
Sixth Floor, 900 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6Z 2N3

Internet: www.bchydro.com and www.bcuc.com

FURTHER INFORMATION

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

Telephone: 604-660-4700
BC Toll Free: 1-800-663-1385
Facsimile: 604-660-1102
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