



**ORDER NUMBER
G-104-16**

IN THE MATTER OF
the *Utilities Commission Act*, RSBC 1996, Chapter 473

and

Port Alice Gas Inc.
Application for Approval to Increase
the Basic Charge and Facility Charge

BEFORE:

B. A. Magnan, Commissioner

on July 5, 2016

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. On December 7, 2015, Port Alice Gas Inc. (PAG) applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (Commission) for an order approving an increase in the Basic Charge from \$6.00 per month to \$0.40 per day (nominally \$12.00 per month) and to increase the Facility Charge from \$17.32 to \$38.90 per cubic meter of propane, effective January 1, 2016 (Application);
- B. By Order G-211-15 on December 21, 2015, the Commission approved the requested rate changes on an interim and refundable basis effective January 1, 2016;
- C. On March 14, 2016, PAG filed a submission requesting that the utility be released from its obligations to operate as a regulated utility, and that PAG and the Commission no longer invest time in the Application while the request for PAG to be released from regulated utility operations is being considered. PAG requested that the interim increase in the Basic Charge and Facility Charge remain in effect while the requests are being considered;
- D. By Order G-45-16 on April 6, 2016, the Commission suspended the Application subject to Directive 2 in the order, which directed PAG to file a separate application that fully describes the modifications to PAG operations that are being requested, and directed that the interim and refundable increases in the Basic Charge and the Facility Charge remain in effect until the Commission makes a future determination;
- E. On May 6, 2016, PAG filed a Variance Request of Order G-211-15 and notice related to section 88 (3) of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA) requesting approval of the following items:
 - Decrease the interim Facility Fee from \$0.389 per litre to \$0.289 per litre, effective as soon as possible and preferably effective as of April 1, 2016;
 - Increase the interim Basic Charge for Commercial Customers from \$0.40 per day to \$0.50 per day, effective as soon as possible and preferably effective as of April 1, 2016; and
 - An extension of its application for relief under section 88 (3) of the UCA to June 30, 2016;

- F. On May 11, 2016, PAG filed a submission clarifying that the correct unit of measurement for the Facility Charge is dollars per litre, and that the proposed Facility Charge is \$0.389 per litre (\$389.00 per cubic meter of propane) effective January 1, 2016, not \$38.90 per cubic meter of propane as originally applied-for and approved by Order G-211-15;
- G. On May 17, 2016, Order G-211-15 was rescinded and replaced by Order G-69-16 and on May 20, 2016, Order G-72-16A approved the Variance Request of Order G-69-16 and notice related to section 88 (3) of the UCA;
- H. On July 4, 2016, PAG filed a request with the Commission to delay the deadline for PAG to file its application for an exemption from all or Part 3 of the UCA until July 22, 2016; and
- I. The Commission reviewed PAG's July 4, 2016 request and determines that the deadline for PAG to file its application for an exemption from all or Part 3 of the UCA should be approved.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 99 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the British Columbia Utilities Commission approves the Port Alice Gas Inc. request to extend the June 30, 2016 deadline approved by Order G-72-16A to July 22, 2016.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 5th day of July 2016.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

B. A. Magnan
Commissioner