

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER G-66-09**

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

and

An Application by Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd.
for Approval of Changes to Customer Rates

BEFORE: L.F. Kelsey, Chair
P.E. Vivian, Commissioner June 4, 2009
D.A. Cote, Commissioner

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. By Order G-176-08 dated November 28, 2008, the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the "Commission") approved changes to commodity rates for Residential, Small Commercial and Large Commercial customers of Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd. ("SPUCL"), effective December 1, 2008; and
- B. On May 12, 2009, SPUCL filed an application (the "Application") to amend commodity rates for Residential, Small Commercial and Large Commercial customers effective June 1, 2008, largely as a result of a reduction in propane costs; and
- C. In the Application, SPUCL requests approval to reduce the Gas Commodity Charge - GCRA, which is a charge to repay balances in the Commodity portion of the Gas Cost Reconciliation Account ("GCRA"), from \$1.34/GJ to zero. SPUCL also requests approval to reduce the Gas Commodity Charge - Propane from \$19.460/GJ to \$13.581/GJ, and to increase the Gas Commodity Charge – Storage from \$2.0405/GJ to \$2.1550/GJ; and
- D. The combined effect of the proposed changes would reduce variable rates by \$7.1045/GJ. This would reduce the annual bill for typical customers by approximately 19 percent for a townhouse, 26 percent for a detached house, and 27 percent for a Large Commercial customer; and
- E. In the Application, SPUCL also reported its fixed prices for the hedged component of propane supply for winter 2009/10; and
- F. The Commission has considered the proposed changes to propane charges, and finds that changes to customer rates are necessary.

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NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 61(4) of the Utilities Commission Act, the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves the changes to SPUCL rates as set out in the Application, effective June 1, 2009.
2. SPUCL is to inform its customers of the approved rates in a timely fashion, by way of a Customer Notice.
3. By November 15, 2009, SPUCL is directed to file with the Commission a report on GCRA balances, forecast propane costs for the following 12 months and, if necessary, proposed changes to commodity rates to be effective December 1, 2009.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 4th day of June 2009.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

D.A. Cote
Commissioner