



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**ORDER
NUMBER** G-98-08

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

and

Big White Gas Utility Ltd.
2006 Revenue Requirements Application

BEFORE: L.F. Kelsey, Commissioner June 19, 2008

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On June 14, 2006, Big White Gas Utility Ltd. ("BWGU") filed its 2006 Revenue Requirements Application ("2006 RRA") pursuant to Sections 23, 58, 60 and 61 of the Utilities Commission Act ("the Act"); and
- B. BWGU in the 2006 RRA requested an amendment to Special Rate Schedule, effective immediately or alternatively September 1, 2006, and to further amend its General Terms and Conditions of supplying services to its end users at Big White Ski Resort on a permanent basis. The 2006 RRA proposed an overall increase of 4.910 percent in the rates of the Propane Tariff; and
- C. The 2006 RRA was filed to comply with Commission Order No. G-64-05 which directed BWGU to file by April 28, 2006 an application for revenue requirements and revised tariff rate schedules for its fiscal year commencing on June 1, 2006; and
- D. On December 19, 2006, BWGU filed a letter that provides a status update regarding its 2006 RRA ("December Filing"). The December Filing noted that in order to revise its 2006 RRA, BWGU would likely retain an outside consultant. Also the December Filing indicates that BWGU is in discussions with another company for the possible purchase and sale of the propane utility. BWGU proposed an extension for the filing of its revised 2006 RRA; and
- E. On December 22, 2006 the Commission, by Order No. G-174-06, ordered:
 - The current BWGU Propane Tariff rate schedules to be interim, effective with consumption commencing on January 1, 2007; and
 - BWGU to inform the Commission of the status of the sale of the propane utility by May 31, 2007 or earlier; and
 - BWGU (or if the propane utility is sold, the purchaser) to file an amended 2006 RRA, updated for actual results, along with a new 2007 Revenue Requirements Application (for the period June 1, 2007 to May 31, 2008), all by June 1, 2007; and

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- F. On May 22, 2007 the Commission, by Letter No. L-35-07, accepted BWGU's extension request to file the amended 2006 RRA by September 30, 2007; and
- G. BWGU in its letter dated March 7, 2008 requested a further extension for the filing of its amended 2006 RRA on the basis of four conditions; and
- H. On May 29, 2008, the Commission, by Letter No. L-22-08, asked BWGU to withdraw its 2006 RRA and to request that the Commission rescind Order No. G-174-06, in part, for the requirement for an amended 2006 RRA since the fiscal year had passed; and
- I. On June 3, 2008 BWGU responded by requesting that the 2006 RRA be formally withdrawn and the Commission rescind Order No. G-174-06, in part, for the requirement for an amended 2006 RRA since the fiscal year had passed over a year ago. Upon approval by the Commission of BWGU's request, BWGU stated in its letter that is hopeful that the Commission would make permanent the rates that were made interim on January 1, 2007 by Order No. G-174-06, which reflect the original rates approved in the originally filed tariff; and
- J. The Commission has reviewed BWGU's June 3, 2008 request and considers the withdrawal of the 2006 RRA to be in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to Section 58 of the Act, the Commission orders as follows:

1. The Commission approves BWGU's request to withdraw its 2006 RRA.
2. The Commission rescinds Order No. G-174-06, in part, for the requirement to file an amended 2006 RRA and a 2007 Revenue Requirements Application.
3. The Commission approves for BWGU the Propane Tariff rate schedules that were made interim, effective with consumption commencing on January 1, 2007 by Order No. G-174-06, to be made permanent to reflect the original rates approved in the originally filed tariff.
4. BWGU is directed to file by September 30, 2008 a financial forecast for the June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009 fiscal year that demonstrates that its current rates are reasonable so that a filing of a 2008 Revenue Requirements Application would not be required.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 19th day of June 2008.

BY ORDER

Original signed by

L.F. Kelsey
Commissioner