

BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER

NUMBER F-18-10

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IN THE MATTER OF the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 196, Chapter 473

and

Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. (PNG-West Division) and Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd. (Fort St. John/Dawson Creek and Tumbler Ridge Divisions)

Application for Capital Structure and Equity Risk Premium

Application for Participant Assistance/Cost Awards

BEFORE: L.A. O'Hara, Panel Chair/Commissioner

M.R. Harle, Commissioner May 28, 2010

ORDER

WHEREAS:

- A. By letter dated July 16, 2009, Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. and Pacific Northern Gas (N.E.) Ltd. [collectively (PNG)] filed with the British Columbia Utilities Commission (the Commission) an application for Capital Structure and Equity Risk Premium (CAP/ROE Application); and
- B. By Order G-13-10 dated January 19, 2010, the Commission established a regulatory timetable for a Written Hearing process, but the timetable also provided parties with the opportunity for the review to go to a Negotiated Settlement Process (NSP) if required. By Commission Letter L-28-10 dated April 1, 2010, the Commission accepted the preferences expressed by the major parties and varied the regulatory timetable established in Order G-13-10 to enable an NSP to take place commencing April 26, 2010; and
- C. The NSP discussions took place on April 26 and 27, 2010. A Negotiated Settlement Agreement (NSA) was reached among the participants and circulated to all Registered Interveners and the Commission on May 12, 2010; and
- D. The Commission approved the NSA by Order G-84-10 dated May 20, 2010; and
- E. On May 12, 2010, the British Columbia Old Age Pensioners' Association *et al.* (BCOAPO) filed an application for PACA with respect to its participation in the proceeding; and
- F. On May 28, 2010, PNG informed the Commission that it believes BCOAPO's participation in the CAP/ROE Application proceeding warrants an award at the level set forth in their submission to the Commission; and

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G. The Commission has reviewed the BCOAPO application for cost awards with regard to the criteria and rates as set out in Order G-72-07 and has concluded that the PACA application from BCOAPO be approved.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to section 118(1) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the Commission awards \$9,103.50 to BCOAPO for its participation in the proceeding:

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this

First

day of June, 2010

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

L.A. O'Hara Panel Chair/Commissioner