



**ORDER NUMBER  
C-3-18**

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

and

Pacific Northern Gas Ltd.  
Application for Approval of the Franchise Agreement with the District of Fort St. James

**BEFORE:**

B. A. Magnan, Commissioner

on June 26, 2018

**CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

**WHEREAS:**

- A. Pacific Northern Gas Ltd. (PNG) and the District of Fort St. James (Municipality) entered into a memorandum of agreement dated March 19, 1969 (1969 Operating Agreement). The initial term of the 1969 Operating Agreement was set at 20 years, with renewal on an evergreen basis every 10 years thereafter;
- B. On September 20, 2017, the Municipality adopted a bylaw approving a new franchise agreement with PNG dated September 1, 2017 (2017 Franchise Agreement) that would replace the 1969 Operating Agreement;
- C. On October 2, 2017, PNG applied to the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) for approval of the 2017 Franchise Agreement, dated September 1, 2017, for a term of 21 years expiring on June 30, 2038, pursuant to section 45(7) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, and as required under section 2.1(b) of the 2017 Franchise Agreement;
- D. On May 28, 2018, PNG filed an amended 2017 Franchise Agreement (Amended Agreement) to the BCUC for approval; and
- E. The BCUC reviewed the Amended Agreement and considers that approval is warranted.

**NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to section 45(7) of the *Utilities Commission Act*, the BCUC orders as follows:

1. The Amended Agreement is approved effective the date of this order.
2. PNG is directed to file the fully executed Amended Agreement and a copy of any Municipality approvals within 60 days of this order.

**DATED** at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 2018.

BY ORDER

*Original signed by*

B. A. Magnan  
Commissioner