



PO Box 815 • Winnipeg Manitoba Canada • R3C 2P4
Street Location for DELIVERY: 22nd floor 360 Portage Ave

Telephone / N° de téléphone: (204) 360-3257 • Fax / N° de télécopieur: (204) 360-6147 • baczarnecki@hydro.mb.ca

July 16, 2015

PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD OF MANITOBA
400-330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0C4

ATTENTION: Mr. D. Christle, Board Secretary and Executive Director

Dear Mr. Christle:

**RE: CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC. ("CENTRA")
2015/16 COST OF GAS APPLICATION- CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION OF
CANADA (MANITOBA) ("CAC") BUDGET**

Centra is in receipt of the CAC's letter of July 15, 2015 providing its budget with respect to Centra's 2015/16 Cost of Gas Application. CAC's total budget is \$93,882, including approximately \$65,367.82 for legal fees and related disbursements, and \$28,514 for consultant fees and related disbursements.

Centra has the following comments with respect to CAC's budget for the Public Utilities Board's consideration at this time:

1. CAC's budget includes hours for two legal counsel for this proceeding, with duplicating hours for certain activities. CAC has budgeted a total of 143 hours for Mr. Meronek, excluding the actual hours incurred for the Interim Application, and 73 hours for Mr. Masi. Centra notes that the participation of two or more legal counsel by interveners was questioned at the Pre-hearing Conference for Manitoba Hydro's 2015 Electric General Rate Application. Centra leaves it to the PUB to determine whether two legal counsel are required by CAC in this proceeding.
2. CAC's budgeted hours for preparation for and attendance at the oral hearing is based on an estimated 4-5 day hearing, which does not include delivery of Closing Argument. Centra notes that the proposed timetable contemplates a 3-day oral hearing, which it believes is adequate for this proceeding.

Should you have any questions with respect to this submission, please contact the writer at 204-360-3257 or Greg Barnlund 204-360-5243.

Yours truly,

MANITOBA HYDRO LAW DIVISION

Per:

Brent A. Czarnecki
Barrister and Solicitor

cc. Mr. B. Meronek, D'Arcy & Deacon LLP.
Ms. N. Ruzycski, Just Energy Manitoba L.P.