

M A N I T O B A) Order No. 9/03
)
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT) January 22, 2003

BEFORE: G. D. Forrest, Chairman
M. Girouard, Member
Mario J. Santos, Member

**APPLICATION BY CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION
OF CANADA (MANITOBA) INC./MANITOBA
SOCIETY OF SENIORS; COMMUNICATIONS,
ENERGY AND PAPERWORKERS UNION OF CANADA
AND MUNICIPAL GAS TO INTERVENE IN THE
2003/04 GENERAL RATE APPLICATION OF
CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.**

The Public Utilities Board of Manitoba (the "Board") received applications for intervenor status from the Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba) Inc./Manitoba Society of Seniors; the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada and Municipal Gas, to intervene in the public hearing process to consider the 2003/04 General Rate Application (the "Application") of Centra Gas Manitoba Inc. ("Centra").

This Order is issued pursuant to Rule 26 of the Board's Draft Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba) Inc./Manitoba Society of Seniors

Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba) Inc./Manitoba Society of Seniors ("CAC/MSOS") by way of letter dated January 7, 2003 submitted a completed Intervenor Request Form requesting intervenor status.

As set out in its application, CAC/MSOS indicated that it was interested in full intervention on all issues of the Application, that they intend to appear throughout the hearing, to participate in the production and testing of evidence and to present final argument. CAC/MSOS indicated that it will be calling a witness or witnesses to be determined at a later date. CAC/MSOS also indicated it will be applying for costs and that a detailed budget will be provided at the Pre-Hearing Conference.

At the Pre-Hearing Conference on January 15, 2003, CAC/MSOS submitted its budget of estimated costs of intervention.

Centra indicated that it had no objections to CAC/MSOS' application to intervene and noted that it had just received the Applicant's proposed budget and could not comment on it. Centra further indicated that it felt that it could not comment on the Applicant's costs until such time as it had received an application for costs.

Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada

The Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada ("CEPU") by way of letter received December 18, 2002 submitted a completed Intervenor Request Form.

As set out in its application, CEPU indicated that the reasons for its proposed intervention was "to gather information so that we may provide one of Manitoba's Gas Industry's Major Shareholder's viewpoint in order to assist The Public Utilities Board with its deliberations in this matter". CEPU indicated that it would appear throughout the hearing and present final argument. CEPU indicated that it would not be providing evidence or testing the evidence of the Applicant, nor calling a witness or applying for costs.

Centra indicated that it had no objection to CEPU's application for intervenor status.

Municipal Gas, a division of Direct Energy Marketing Limited

Municipal Gas, by way of letter dated December 16, 2002, submitted a completed Intervenor Request Form requesting intervenor status.

As set out in its application, Municipal Gas indicated that the reason for the proposed intervention is to monitor proceedings. Municipal Gas noted that they intend to appear throughout the hearing and to present final argument. Municipal Gas did not indicate any intention to produce evidence or test the Applicant's evidence, but did indicate that it would not be calling a witness or applying for costs.

Centra indicated that it had no objections to Municipal Gas' application for intervenor status.

BOARD FINDINGS

The Board considered these applications for intervenor status and is prepared to approve such requests.

Further, those parties providing evidence are requested to advise the Board of their intentions at the earliest opportunity and certainly in compliance with the timetable attached.

On the matter of the timetable, the Board has considered the submissions of CAC/MSOS and Centra as well as its own availability. The Board is of the opinion that the matter should proceed as expeditiously as possible and will approve the attached timetable.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Intervenor status be awarded to:
 - a) Consumers' Association of Canada
(Manitoba) Inc./Manitoba Society of
Seniors;
 - b) Communications, Energy and Paperworkers
Union of Canada;
 - c) Municipal Gas.
2. The attached timetable be approved.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"G. D. FORREST"
Chairman

"H. M. SINGH"
Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order
No. 9/03 issued by The Public
Utilities Board

Acting Secretary

**TIMETABLE
JANUARY 22, 2003**

**CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.
2003/04 GENERAL RATE APPLICATION**

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DATE</u>
CENTRA TO FILE REVENUE REQUIREMENT AND COST OF GAS MATERIAL (PHASE I)	DECEMBER 9, 2002
CENTRA TO PUBLISH NOTICE IN DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS	JANUARY 4 & 5-10, 2003
INTERESTED PARTIES TO REGISTER WITH THE PUB FOR INTERVENOR STATUS	JANUARY 13, 2003
PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE	JANUARY 15, 2003
CENTRA TO BE IN RECEIPT OF 1ST ROUND INFORMATION REQUESTS FROM PUB	JANUARY 22, 2003
CENTRA TO FILE COST ALLOCATION, RATES, AND TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SERVICE MATERIAL (PHASE II)	JANUARY 31, 2003
CENTRA TO BE IN RECEIPT OF 1ST ROUND INFORMATION REQUESTS FROM INTERVENORS & PUB ON PHASE II	FEBRUARY 6, 2003
CENTRA TO FILE RESPONSES TO 1ST ROUND INFORMATION REQUESTS	FEBRUARY 20, 2003
CENTRA TO BE IN RECEIPT OF 2ND ROUND INFORMATION REQUESTS	FEBRUARY 26, 2003
CENTRA TO FILE RESPONSES TO 2ND ROUND INFORMATION REQUESTS	MARCH 14, 2003
CENTRA TO PUBLISH REMINDER NOTICE IN DAILY/WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS	MARCH 15, 17-21, 2003
ALL PARTIES TO BE IN RECEIPT OF INTERVENOR EVIDENCE	MARCH 21, 2003
ALL PARTIES TO FILE INFORMATION REQUESTS OF INTERVENOR EVIDENCE	MARCH 27, 2003
INTERVENORS TO FILE RESPONSES TO INFORMATION REQUESTS	APRIL 3, 2003
CENTRA TO FILE REBUTTAL EVIDENCE	APRIL 10, 2003
2003/04 GRA HEARING COMMENCES	APRIL 14, 2003

