

MANITOBA) **Order No. 175/07**
)
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT) **December 31, 2007**

Before: Graham Lane C.A., Chairman
Leonard Evans, LLD, Member
Monica Girouard CGA, Member

CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.
AN ORDER OF THE BOARD:

**APPROVING A NEW FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH
THE VILLAGE OF ST. CLAUDE**

1.0 Executive Summary

By this Order, the Manitoba Public Utilities Board (Board) approves on an interim ex-parte basis Centra Gas Manitoba Inc.'s (Centra) application for a new franchise agreement with the Village of St. Claude (St. Claude).

2.0 The Application

On October 24, 2007, Centra applied to the Board for approval of a new franchise agreement to replace the existing franchise agreement between Centra and St. Claude. The existing agreement, authorized by the Board in 1966, had last been renewed for a new ten year term in 1996.

Centra's current franchise agreement with St. Claude is to be replaced with the new generic form of franchise agreement approved by the Board in 1994. The new agreement provides for a term of thirty (30) years, requires Centra to provide seven days notice of its intention to break up streets (repair and/or install) and frees St. Claude of liability in connection to damage done by reason of any repairs or alterations to St. Claude's public works.

St. Claude gave first reading to By-Law No. 6878 on July 17th, 2007, which authorized St. Claude to enter into the franchise agreement with Centra subject to approval of the Board.

3.0 Board Findings

The Board notes that the application was filed in a manner consistent with the Board's requirements for franchise agreements, as approved in Board Order 109/94 dated August 2, 1994. The Board will therefore approve the application on an interim ex parte basis, to be confirmed as final at a later date.

4.0 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The new Franchise Agreement between Centra Gas Manitoba Inc. and the Village of St. Claude, attached as Appendix "A" to this Order, BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED, on an interim ex-parte basis.
2. This interim Order will remain in full effect until confirmed or otherwise by a subsequent Order of the Board.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"GRAHAM LANE CA"

Chairman

"HOLLIS. SINGH"

Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No.
175/07 issued by The Public Utilities
Board

Acting Secretary