#### MANITOBA ) THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT ) July 30, 2012

**BEFORE:** Régis Gosselin, CGA, MBA, Chair Leonard Evans LLD, Member Monica Girouard CGA, Member Raymond Lafond, CA, Member

### CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.: APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL FEASIBILITY TEST (RURAL MUNICIPALITIES OF BIFROST AND WOODLANDS)

## 1.0 Summary

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves, on an interim *ex parte* basis, Centra Gas Manitoba Inc.'s (Centra) financial feasibility test for a main extension in the Rural Municipality (RM) of Bifrost. Directive 8 of Order 95/00 requires Centra to obtain approval from the Board for the financial feasibility test for all main extensions in excess of 500 m within Centra's franchise areas in the Rural Municipalities of Bifrost and Woodlands.

## 2.0 Application

Order 95/00 granted Centra a franchise to distribute natural gas in the RMs of Bifrost and Woodlands. Directive 8 of Order 95/00 stated:

8. For any future expansion in excess of 500 meters within the RMs of Woodlands and Bifrost, Centra shall submit a feasibility test to the Board for approval prior to the commencement of construction.

On July 5, 2012, Centra applied to the Board, requesting approval of its financial feasibility test related to the planned expansion of natural gas service to an agricultural customer within the franchise area in the RM of Bifrost. The main extension is located in Section NE 29, Township 22, Range 3, EPM.

With a capital contribution from the customer in the amount of \$31,247, the financial feasibility test shows that the main extension is feasible with a 30 year net present value of \$2,149 and a revenue-to-cost ratio of 1.0 by year 5. The total capital cost is \$39,871.

## **3.0 Board Findings**

The financial feasibility test was filed consistent with the Board's requirements as established in Orders 109/94, 124/96, and 89/97. Accordingly, the Board will approve the Application.

Board decisions may be appealed either in accordance with the provisions of Section 58 of The Public Utilities Board Act, or reviewed in accordance with Section 36 of the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules). The Board's Rules may be viewed on the Board's website at <a href="http://www.pub.gov.mb.ca">www.pub.gov.mb.ca</a>.

# 4.0 It Is Therefore Ordered That:

 The financial feasibility tests for the extension of natural gas service to the agricultural customer within Centra's franchise areas in the RM of Bifrost BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED, on an interim ex parte basis.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

<u>"RÉGIS GOSSELIN, CGA, MBA"</u> Chair

<u>"KURT SIMONSEN, P. Eng."</u> Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 94/12 issued by The Public Utilities Board

Acting Secretary