

MANITOBA | **Order No. 132/04**
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT | **November 1, 2004**

Before: Graham F. J. Lane, C.A., Chairman
Monica Girouard, C.G.A., Member
Mario J. Santos, B.A., LL.B., Member

**AN INTERIM ORDER APPROVING CENTRA GAS MANITOBA
INC. SALES RATES, PURSUANT TO BOARD ORDERS 129/04 AND
131/04, TO BE EFFECTIVE FOR ALL NATURAL GAS CONSUMED
ON AND AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 2004**

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1.0 Background

The Public Utilities Board of Manitoba (“the Board”) issued Order 131/04 dated October 28, 2004 related to Centra’s 2004/05 Cost of Gas Application. The Board directed Centra Gas Manitoba Inc. (“Centra”) to refile a series of schedules, including base and billed rate schedules to recover all non-Primary Gas costs to reflect Board decisions outlined in that Order. Billed rates, other than for Primary Gas, were to be effective for all gas consumed on and after November 1, 2004. A rate rider would be required to refund various non-Primary PGVA and other gas cost deferral account balances over a nine month period ending July 31, 2005.

The Board issued Order 129/04, also dated October 28, 2004, approving the Primary Gas Base Rate, as requested by Centra. Additionally, the Board approved the Primary Gas Billed Rate that consisted of the Base Rate as well as a rate rider necessary to recover the October 31, 2004 Primary Gas PGVA balance over the ensuing 12 month period.

In Order 129/04, the Board also instructed Centra to calculate and file a Schedule of Rates and the combined impact of all November 1, 2004 rates on Customer Classes incorporating Board decisions pursuant to Orders 129/04 and 131/04.

2.0 The Application

On October 29, 2004 Centra filed the required information, including base and billed rate schedules and customer impact tables, as directed by the Board. The rate schedules and customer impact tables showed the combined effects of the November 1, 2004 rate changes for Supplemental Gas, Transportation (to Centra) and Distribution (to Customer), pursuant to Order 131/04 and Primary Gas rate changes pursuant to Order 129/04.

3.0 Board Directives from Orders 129/04 and 131/04 and Customer Impacts

In Order 131/04, the Board directed Centra to change its allocation of Unaccounted For Gas ("UFG") so that the Special Contract class would be allocated 2.8% of the total UFG, rather than the 5.7% as had been proposed by Centra. Further, the Board directed that the shortfall in the UFG revenue from the Special Contract Class be recovered from the small general service ("SGS") and Large General Service ("LGS") customer class.

Additionally, the Board approved Centra's request to refund the net Supplemental PGVA October 31, 2004 balance by way of a Distribution (to Customer) rate rider, rather than a Supplemental Gas Rate Rider for all classes except the Mainline Class. The Mainline Class was to have the Supplemental Gas balance refunded by a separate and distinct rate rider.

In Order 131/04, as a result of changes to the Supplemental Gas, Transportation (to Centra) and Distribution (to Customer) rates on November 1, 2004, the average residential customer's annual bill would have decreased by \$52 relative to August 1, 2004 rates.

In Order 129/04, the Board granted interim ex-parte approval of Centra's request for Primary Gas Rates to be effective for all gas consumed on and after November 1, 2004, as filed. The November 1, 2004, rates were based on the Board approved Rate Setting Methodology for Primary Gas and incorporated the October 1, 2004 forward price strip for natural gas commodity. The Primary Gas Base Rate was established at \$0.2721 per m³. The October 31, 2004 Primary PGVA was estimated to be \$7,852,404, owing to customers, resulting in a Billed Rate for Primary Gas of \$0.2661 per m³. The August 1, 2004 Primary Gas Billed Rate was \$0.2587 per m³. The average residential customer annual bill would have increased by approximately \$23, relative to August 1, 2004 rate, as a result of the increase in Primary Gas commodity price.

Combined Customer Impacts of Orders 129/04 and 131/04.

The average residential customer bill will decrease by approximately \$32 or 2.4% when all rate changes are made pursuant to Board directives contained in Orders 129/04 and 131/04, including the recovery of all non-Primary PGVA and other gas cost deferral balances over a nine month period ending July 31, 2005.

The following table projects the annual average natural gas bill impacts when all rate changes are considered.

Customer Class	Annual Bill Impact
SGS	(2.4)% to (2.6)%
LGS	(1.3)% to (1.5)%
HVF	(5.3)% to (6.6)%
Co-op	9.8% to 10.0%
Mainline	(2.1)% to (4.3)%
Special Contract	(25.8)%
Power Station	13.2%
Interruptible	3.4% to 3.7%

4.0 Board Findings

The Board is satisfied that the Schedule of Rates filed by Centra on October 29, 2004 properly reflects all related Board directives. The Board will therefore approve the Schedule of Rates for all gas consumed on and after November 1, 2004, as filed by Centra on October 29, 2004.

3.0 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Schedule of Rates attached as Appendix "A" to this Order, to be effective for all natural gas consumed on and after November 1, 2004 BE AND IS HEREBY APPROVED.
2. This interim Order shall be in full force and effect until confirmed or otherwise dealt with by a future Order of the Board.

CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.
FIRM SALES AND DELIVERY SERVICES
RATE SCHEDULES (BASE RATES ONLY - NO RIDERS)

- 1 **Territory:** Entire natural gas service area of Company, including all zones.
 2
 3 **Availability:**
 4 SGC: For gas supplied through one domestic-sized meter.
 5 LGC: For gas delivered through one meter at annual volumes less than 680,000 m³.
 6 HVF: For gas delivered through one meter at annual volumes greater than 680,000 m³.
 7 Co-op: For gas delivered to natural gas distribution cooperatives.
 8 MLC: For gas delivered through one meter to consumers served from the Transmission system.
 9 Special Contract: For gas delivered under the terms of a Special Contract with the Company.
 10 Power Station: For gas delivered under the terms of a Special Contract with the Company.
 11

12 **Rates:**

	Distribution to Customers			Primary Gas Supply	Supplemental Gas Supply ¹
	Transportation to Centra	Sales Service	T-Service		
13					
14					
15	Basic Monthly Charge: (\$/month)				
16	Small General Class (SGC)	N/A	\$10.00	N/A	N/A
17	Large General Class (LGC)	N/A	\$70.00	\$70.00	N/A
18	High Volume Firm Class (HVF)	N/A	\$681.00	\$681.00	N/A
19	Cooperative (Co-op)	N/A	\$254.01	\$254.01	N/A
20	Main Line Class (MLC)	N/A	\$1,360.87	\$1,360.87	N/A
21	Special Contract	N/A	N/A	\$93,021.62	N/A
22	Power Station	N/A	N/A	\$11,912.92	N/A
23					
24	Monthly Demand Charge (\$/m³/month)				
25	High Volume Firm Class (HVF)	\$0.2443	\$0.1392	\$0.1392	N/A
26	Cooperative (Co-op)	\$0.6751	\$0.0945	\$0.0945	N/A
27	Main Line Class (MLC)	\$0.4456	\$0.1164	\$0.1164	N/A
28	Special Contract	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
29	Power Stations	N/A	N/A	\$0.0343	N/A
30					
31	Volumetric Charge: (\$/m³)				
32	Small General Class (SGC)	\$0.0445	\$0.0709	N/A	\$0.2861
33	Large General Class (LGC)	\$0.0435	\$0.0266	\$0.0266	\$0.2861
34	High Volume Firm Class (HVF)	\$0.0192	\$0.0088	\$0.0088	\$0.2861
35	Cooperative (Co-op)	\$0.0087	\$0.0001	\$0.0001	\$0.2861
36	Main Line Class (MLC)	\$0.0072	\$0.0030	\$0.0030	\$0.2861
37	Special Contract	N/A	N/A	\$0.0003	N/A
38	Power Station	N/A	N/A	\$0.0028	N/A
39					

40 ¹Supplemental Gas is mandatory for all Customers except T-Service.

41
 42 **Minimum Monthly Bill:** Equal to the Basic Monthly Charge as described above, plus Demand Charge as appropriate.

43
 44 **Effective:** Rates to be charged for all billings based on gas consumed on and after November 1, 2004.
 45

46 **Approved by Board Order:**

47 **Effective From: November 1, 2004**

48 **Date Implemented: November 1, 2004**

Supersedes Board Order: 100/04
Supersedes: August 1, 2004 Base Rates

CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.
INTERRUPTIBLE SALES AND DELIVERY SERVICES
RATE SCHEDULES (BASE RATES ONLY - NO RIDERS)

1 **Territory:** Entire natural gas service area of Company, including all zones.
 2
 3 **Availability:** For any Consumer at one location whose annual natural gas requirements equal or exceed 680,000m³ and who contracts for such service for a minimum of one year, or who received Interruptible Service continuously since December 31, 1996. Service under this rate shall be limited to the extent that the Company considers it has available natural gas supplies and/or capacity to provide delivery service.

4
 5 **Rates:**

	Transportation to Centra	Distribution to Customers		Primary Gas Supply	Supplemental Gas Supply ¹
		Sales Service	T-Service		
6					
7					
8 Basic Monthly Charge: (\$/month)					
9 Interruptible Service	N/A	\$861.06	\$861.06	N/A	N/A
10 Mainline Interruptible (with firm delivery)	N/A	\$1,360.87	\$1,360.87	N/A	N/A
11					
12 Monthly Demand Charge (\$/m³/month)					
13 Interruptible Service	\$0.1127	\$0.0644	\$0.0644	N/A	N/A
14 Mainline Interruptible (with firm delivery)	\$0.1734	\$0.1164	\$0.1164	N/A	N/A
15					
16 Commodity Volumetric Charge: (\$/m³)					
17 Interruptible Service	\$0.0118	\$0.0059	\$0.0059	\$0.2721	\$0.2767
18 Mainline Interruptible (with firm delivery)	\$0.0077	\$0.0030	\$0.0030	\$0.2721	\$0.2767

19
 20 **Alternate Supply Service:**
 21 Gas Supply (Interruptible Sales and Mainline Interruptible) Negotiated
 22 Delivery Service - Interruptible Class Cost of Gas
 23 Delivery Service - Mainline Interruptible Class \$0.0080
 24 \$0.0068

25 ¹Supplemental Gas is mandatory for all Customers except T-Service.
 26

27 **Minimum Monthly Bill:** Equal to the Basic Monthly Charge as described above, plus Demand Charge as appropriate.
 28

29 **Effective:** Rates to be charged for all billings based on gas consumed on and after November 1, 2004.
 30

31 **Approved by Board Order:** **Supersedes Board Order: 100/04**
 32 **Effective From: November 1, 2004** **Supersedes: August 1, 2004 Base Rates**
 33 **Date Implemented: November 1, 2004**

CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.
FIRM SALES AND DELIVERY SERVICES
RATE SCHEDULES (BASE RATES PLUS RIDERS)

1 **Territory:** Entire natural gas service area of Company, including all zones.

2

3 **Availability:**

4 SGC: For gas supplied through one domestic-sized meter.

5 LGC: For gas delivered through one meter at annual volumes less than 680,000 m³.

6 HVF: For gas delivered through one meter at annual volumes greater than 680,000 m³.

7 Co-op: For gas delivered to natural gas distribution cooperatives.

8 MLC: For gas delivered through one meter to consumers served from the Transmission system.

9 Special Contract: For gas delivered under the terms of a Special Contract with the Company.

10 Power Station: For gas delivered under the terms of a Special Contract with the Company.

11

12 **Rates:**

	Distribution to Customers			Primary Gas Supply	Supplemental Gas Supply ¹
	Transportation to Centra	Sales Service	T-Service		
13					
14					
15	Basic Monthly Charge: (\$/month)				
16	Small General Class (SGC)	N/A	\$10.00	N/A	N/A
17	Large General Class (LGC)	N/A	\$70.00	\$70.00	N/A
18	High Volume Firm Class (HVF)	N/A	\$681.00	\$681.00	N/A
19	Cooperative (Co-op)	N/A	\$254.01	\$254.01	N/A
20	Main Line Class (MLC)	N/A	\$1,360.87	\$1,360.87	N/A
21	Special Contract	N/A	N/A	\$93,021.62	N/A
22	Power Station	N/A	N/A	\$11,912.92	N/A
23					
24	Monthly Demand Charge (\$/m³/month)				
25	High Volume Firm Class (HVF)	\$0.2803	\$0.1397	\$0.1397	N/A
26	Cooperative (Co-op)	\$0.6751	\$0.0945	\$0.0945	N/A
27	Main Line Class (MLC) (Firm)	\$0.2975	\$0.1162	\$0.1162	N/A
28	Special Contract	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
29	Power Station	N/A	N/A	\$0.0336	N/A
30					
31	Commodity Volumetric Charge: (\$/m³)				
32	Small General Class (SGC)	\$0.0373	\$0.0645	N/A	\$0.2661
33	Large General Class (LGC)	\$0.0389	\$0.0202	\$0.0272	\$0.2661
34	High Volume Firm Class (HVF)	\$0.0073	\$0.0019	\$0.0090	\$0.2661
35	Cooperative (Co-op)	\$0.0087	\$0.0001	\$0.0001	\$0.2661
36	Main Line Class (MLC) (Firm)	\$0.0071	\$0.0032	\$0.0032	\$0.2661
37	Main Line Class (MLC) (Firm)	N/A	N/A	N/A	(\$0.0070)
38	Special Contract	N/A	N/A	\$0.0003	N/A
39	Power Station	N/A	N/A	\$0.0028	N/A
40					

41 ¹ Supplemental Gas is mandatory for all Sales and Western T-Service Customers.

42 ² Refunded over total annual volumes.

43

44 **Minimum Monthly Bill:** Equal to the Basic Monthly Charge as described above, plus Demand Charge as appropriate.

45

46 **Effective:** Rates to be charged for all billings based on gas consumed on and after November 1, 2004.

47

48 **Approved by Board Order:**

Supersedes Board Order: 100/04

49 **Effective From: November 1, 2004**

Supersedes: August 1, 2004 Billed Rates

50 **Date Implemented: November 1, 2004**

CENTRA GAS MANITOBA INC.
INTERRUPTIBLE SALES AND DELIVERY SERVICES
RATE SCHEDULES (BASE RATES PLUS RIDERS)

1 **Territory:** Entire natural gas service area of Company, including all zones.

2

3 **Availability:** For any Consumer at one location whose annual natural gas requirements equal or exceed 680,000m³ and who contracts for such service for a minimum of one year, or who received Interruptible Service continuously since December 31, 1996. Service under this rate shall be limited to the extent that the Company considers it has available natural gas supplies and/or capacity to provide delivery service.

4

5 **Rates:**

6

	Transportation to Centra	Distribution to Customers		Primary Gas Supply	Supplemental Gas Supply ¹
		Sales Service	T-Service		

7

8 **Basic Monthly Charge: (\$/month)**

9 Interruptible Service	N/A	\$861.06	\$861.06	N/A	N/A
10 Mainline Interruptible (with firm delivery)	N/A	\$1,360.87	\$1,360.87	N/A	N/A

11

12 **Monthly Demand Charge (\$/m³/month)**

13 Interruptible Service	\$0.1433	\$0.0646	\$0.0646	N/A	N/A
14 Mainline Interruptible (with firm delivery)	\$0.2040	\$0.1162	\$0.1162	N/A	N/A

15

16 **Commodity Volumetric Charge: (\$/m³)**

17 Interruptible Service	\$0.0060	\$0.0127	\$0.0066	\$0.2661	\$0.2767
18 Mainline Interruptible (with firm delivery)	\$0.0019	\$0.0093	\$0.0032	\$0.2661	\$0.2767

19

20 **Alternate Supply Service:**

21 Gas Supply (Interruptible Sales and Mainline Interruptible)	Negotiated				
22 Delivery Service - Interruptible Class	Cost of Gas				
23 Delivery Service - Mainline Interruptible Class	\$0.0087				
	\$0.0071				

24

25 ¹Supplemental Gas is mandatory for all Customers except T-Service.

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27 **Minimum Monthly Bill:** Equal to the Basic Monthly Charge as described above, plus Demand Charge as appropriate.

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