

M A N I T O B A) Order No. 4/11
)
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT) January 05, 2011

BEFORE: Graham Lane, CA, Chairman
 Monica Girouard, CGA, Member
 Susan Proven, P.H.Ec., Member

GRAND PINES DEVELOPMENT CORPORTATION
WATER UTILITY
DISCONNECTION AND RECONNECTION FEE

WHEREAS by Order 151/09 the Public Utilities Board (PUB or Board) approved initial rates for Grand Pines Development Corporation's (GPDC) water utility;

AND, WHEREAS on November 8, 2010 GPDC filed with the Board a request to establish a delinquency policy, seeking the approval of the Board;

AND, WHEREAS the proposed policy (as amended by the Board) is as follows:

- a) *Where residents are delinquent in paying their water bills, where all required attempts by the Water Utility (including required notice and a right to appeal the utility's actions to the Public Utilities Board as per the PUB's Conditions Precedent) have been made to no avail, and where in these circumstances the Water Utility has disconnected the service to the respective delinquent resident, that following the disconnection and providing the delinquent resident has paid in full to the Water Utility all outstanding amounts, the Water Utility may charge to the respective residents all costs of disconnection and reconnection.
(The curb stop connection to each property is located eight feet below the ground surface. Costs to disconnect are estimated to be about \$500. Cost to reconnect will be approximately the same).*
- b) *Upon reconnection of a delinquent resident's system, as noted above, the Water Utility may require a security deposit of up to one year's estimated fees.*

AND, WHEREAS the Board has reviewed the proposal by way of an *ex parte* process (neither prior public notice nor a public hearing took place), the Board notes that the proposed policy is similar to those of other water utilities;

AND, WHEREAS the Board will require further minor changes of the GPDC disconnection of service for non-payment of account policy (to be consistent with the PUB's Conditions Precedent Order 39/09, as may be amended from time to time);

AND, WHEREAS the Board will also require GPDC to investigate and consider installing, if a disconnection of service for non-payment of account does occur, a curb stop located at or above ground level (so as to potentially reduce future disconnect/reconnect costs); and

AND WHEREAS Board decisions may be appealed (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, available on the Board's website www.pub.gov.mb.ca).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The Public Utilities Board does HEREBY VARY AND APPROVE a disconnection of service for non-payment of account policy for Grand Pines Development Corporation water utility as set out and to be amended as stated above.

Fees payable to the Public Utilities Board - \$150.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"GRAHAM LANE, CA"
Chairman

"KRISTINE SHIELDS"
Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No.
4/11 issued by The Public
Utilities Board

Acting Secretary