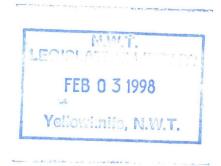
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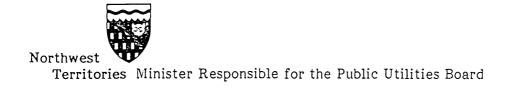




PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES 1997 ANNUAL REPORT

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The Honourable Helen Maksagak Commissioner of the Northwest Territories

I take pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board for the calendar year ending December 31, 1997.

John Todd

Attachment



January 26, 1998

The Honourable John Todd Minister Responsible for the Public Utilities Board of the Northwest Territories

Sir:

I have the honour to present the report of the activities of the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board for the calendar year ending December 31, 1997.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Hill

Chairperson

Public Utilities Board

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

The Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board is an independent regulatory agency operating under and administering the Public Utilities Act ("the Act"). The Board has a full-time Chairperson and four part-time members, as well, the Act provides for the appointment of not more than six temporary members. Temporary members have never been appointed. The Chairperson is the Chief Executive Officer of the Board.

As at December 31, 1997, the Board members were:

Chairperson

John Hill, Hay River, NT

Vice-Chairperson

Ray Mercer, Rankin Inlet, NT

Member

Gene Nikiforuk, Inuvik, NT

Member

Peter Allen, Yellowknife, NT

Member

Tony Whitford, Yellowknife, NT

The Board was assisted by:

Board Secretary/Analyst

Jamie Cameron

Asst. Board Secretary

Louise Larocque

Legal Counsel

Craig Bell, Department of Justice

Consultants

Marshall Energy & Regulatory Consulting

Energy Management & Regulatory Consulting Ltd.

REGULATORY JURISDICTION

The following utilities are subject to the Board's jurisdiction:

Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited

Head Office: Yellowknife, NT

Northland Utilities (NWT) Limited

Head Office: Hay River, NT

Northwest Territories Power Corporation

Head Office: Hay River, NT

Stittco Utilities NWT Limited Head Office: Hay River, NT

The Town of Norman Wells Head Office: Norman Wells, NT

Aadrii Ltd.

Head Office: Yellowknife, NT

Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited and Northland Utilities (NWT) Limited are investor-owned utilities fully regulated by the Board.

The Northwest Territories Power Corporation ("NWTPC") is a territorial crown corporation. On October 1, 1989, the Board assumed limited regulatory jurisdiction over NWTPC and was given full jurisdiction effective April 1, 1992, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Utilities Act and the Northwest Territories Power Corporation Act.

Stittco Utilities NWT Limited ("Stittco") is an investor-owned utility. In 1990, the utility was exempted from certain provisions in the Public Utilities Act until August 1993. The utility's affairs were reviewed in 1994, and it was determined that a level of 'eased regulation' should be continued.

The Town of Norman Wells became owner and operator of the natural gas distribution system within the Town as of April 1, 1995, pursuant to the provisions of the Norman Wells Gas Distribution Act, which also stipulated that the natural gas

distribution system be subject to regulation by the Board.

Aadrii Ltd. is a joint venture between the Gwich'in Development Corporation and NWTPC, which jointly owns and operates a district heating system in Fort McPherson, NT. In response to an application under Section 18 of the Act, the Board declared that the provisions of the Act do not apply to Aadrii, with some exceptions.

UTILITY REGULATION

Energy utilities, as defined in the Act, are subject to Board regulation. The Board's principal responsibility is to ensure that each utility provides safe, adequate service at rates which are just, and reasonable. When setting rates the Board must balance the competing interests of consumers, and the utilities. Rates are set through a public hearing process. The Board's objective through the hearing process is to quarantee that the public interest is served, and protected.

Public involvement is an essential component of the regulatory process. The Board ensures the opportunity for public participation by directing the applicant to publish a notice, approved by the Board, advising that a hearing is to be held to consider the application. The notice may be published in newspapers throughout the utility's service area, or through notice to each customer in monthly billings, or such other notice to the public that the Board considers appropriate.

The Board has the authority to award costs at the conclusion of a hearing. Intervenors before the Board may receive up to 100% of their reasonably incurred costs provided that, in the Board's opinion, the intervention contributed in a meaningful way to the Board's understanding of the application.

Intervenors are interested parties who register with the Board and receive copies of the application and all written questions and answers.

Intervenors may take an active role in the hearing process. They may submit written questions, give evidence, call expert witnesses, and cross-examine the applicant. The applicant as well as other intervenors are provided the opportunity to cross-examine the intervenor and the intervenor's expert witnesses.

Alternatively, the intervenor may choose to not actively participate in the hearing, but simply receive all available information.

After hearing and reviewing the evidence, the Board issues its decision outlining the Board's determination of the application. The Board may turn down the rate change, modify it, or approve the entire request. The Board's decision and its reasons are then filed in the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories.

The Board also approves major capital projects, the issuance of long-term debt and franchise agreements.

1997 IN REVIEW

Negotiated Settlement Process

In 1996 and continuing through 1997, the Board supported negotiated settlement processes as a way of resolving rate applications, and other issues more efficiently. After consultation with interested parties the Board implemented its policy with respect to Negotiated Settlement Proceedings in October.

While the Board is required to hold a public hearing when dealing with rate applications, it recognized the merit of the negotiated settlement process, which enables prior agreement to be reached on identified issues that would normally be examined, often in an adversarial manner, through the public hearing process. Any agreement between the parties is submitted to the Board for review at the public hearing. The settlement of the identified issues can reduce hearing time, and the related costs.

Northwest Territories Power Corporation

In December 1995, NWTPC submitted to the Board, Phase 1 of a General Rate Application ("GRA") for the test period consisting of NWTPC's fiscal years ending March 31, 1996 and March 31, 1997 ("Test Years"). In July 1996, NWTPC amended its application to incorporate a 1997/98 Test Year and also proposed that it enter into negotiations with the intervenors with a view to reaching a negotiated settlement regarding any or all elements of the application.

On November 13, 1996, NWTPC advised the Board that a negotiated settlement had been reached with the interested parties and filed a copy of the negotiated settlement agreement.

A hearing was held in the Town of Hay River on December 3, 1996. The Board issued Decision 1-97 on January 14, 1997.

NWTPC filed the second phase of its GRA for the 1995/97 test period, on August 2, 1996. Subsequently, on October 18, 1996, NWTPC filed updated information, including cost of service information for the 1997/98 Test Year.

The Phase II Application requested an Order or Orders from the Board:

- a) approving NWTPC's proposed diesel rate zone structure;
- b) approving NWTPC's proposed rate design for the 1997/98 Test Year;
- c) approving a rate rider to recover the 1995/96 and 1996/97 shortfalls; and
- d) approving such other matters as were included in NWTPC's Phase II Application.

By letter to the Board dated January 15, 1997, NWTPC advised that certain parties participating in the Phase II GRA believed that it would be useful to meet in advance of the hearing in an attempt to reach a negotiated settlement in respect of the Phase II GRA. The meeting was scheduled for January 20, 1997 in Yellowknife.

On January 24, 1997, NWTPC advised the Board that it had met with representatives for the City of Yellowknife ("the City"), Miramar Con Mine Ltd. ("Miramar"), Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited and Northland Utilities (NWT) Limited ("Northland"), Royal Oak Mines Inc.("Royal Oak") and the Diesel Community Intervenors and that a settlement agreement was being drafted.

The Diesel Community Intervenors ("Hamlet Intervenors") consisted of the following communities:

Hamlet of Cape Dorset
Hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet
Hamlet of Coral Harbour
Hamlet of Fort Liard
Community of Jean Marie River
Hamlet of Pangnirtung
Hamlet of Repulse Bay
Hamlet of Aklavik
Village of Fort Simpson.

In its letter, of January 24, 1997, NWTPC also indicated that Royal Oak had made a request for a load retention rate. As a result, the NWTPC requested that the public hearing, originally scheduled for February 11, 1997, be postponed to a date in March 1997.

The Board rescheduled the hearing for March 5, 1997, in Yellowknife.

On February 5, 1997, NWTPC advised the Board that a partial negotiated settlement had been reached with the interested parties and provided details of the Settlement

Agreement ("the Agreement"), and letters of endorsement from all participants to the negotiated settlement conference. All of the Phase II issues raised by the Intervenors were agreed to, with the exception of three items, namely:

- 1. Applicability of 15% premium with respect to the 1995/96 additional diesel fuel expense to provide Miramar with electricity;
- 2. Royal Oak request for a load retention rate; and
- 3. Zone proposal for diesel communities.

With the exception of Miramar and Royal Oak, all parties to the proposed Agreement were in attendance at the March 5, 1997 public hearing during which no party raised any objections to the terms of the Agreement.

Throughout the hearing and in argument, the Hamlet Intervenors challenged NWTPC's claims with respect to its rate zone proposals.

At the conclusion of the hearing, NWTPC requested an early decision with respect to the Norman Wells, Snare/Yellowknife and Taltson zones.

On March 25, 1997, the Board issued Decision 4-97 in which it addressed those matters pertaining to rate revenues and rate structures for the Norman Wells, Snare/Yellowknife and Taltson zones. In addition, the Board specified that all matters with respect to the proposed diesel zones and other matters relative to the Norman Wells, Snare/Yellowknife and Taltson zones would be dealt within a subsequent Decision.

The Royal Oak request for a load retention rate was not pursued and no decision was required to be made by the Board.

The Board, with respect to the Miramar 15% premium, was of the view that the most equitable solution was for Miramar to pay the 15% premium to NWTPC as provided for in its contract.

As the City and Northland had participated in the Phase I agreement and given the fact that no customers were required to pay more than 100% of their share of the actual additional diesel fuel expense, the Board was not prepared to revise its determination of the revenue requirement, and Miramar was directed to pay to NWTPC the 15% premium on Miramar's portion of the 1995/96 actual additional diesel fuel expense. NWTPC was directed to not pass the benefits of this payment to the other customers in the Snare/Yellowknife Zone.

After reviewing the evidence, the Board concluded that it was unable to approve the rate zone proposal submitted by NWTPC. The rates which would have resulted from the proposal did not divide costs fairly among customers nor promote the optimum use of electrical service in the diesel communities. Consequently, as requested by NWTPC in its Application, the Board approved the establishment of community-based rate zones for the diesel communities.

On October 1, 1996, NWTPC filed an application with the Board for approval to sell excess power from the Taltson system on an interruptible basis for use in a district heating system to be located in Fort Smith. The forecast annual load requirements for the district heating system for the first five years are approximately 20,000 MW.h per year and the system is expected to service 38 commercial customers initially. NWTPC now requests approval of a rate of 0.05¢/kW.h (1/20¢/kW.h) for the first year, with an annual increase of 0.05¢/kW.h every year up to year ten.

The public hearing was held February 11, 1997, in Yellowknife to deal with the application, and also to hear submissions with respect to interim rates approved in Decision 3-96 with regard to hydrogen demonstration projects in Fort Smith.

In its decision the Board made final the interim rate approved in Decision 3-96, for the hydrogen demonstration projects. As well, the Board approved the ten-year rate for the Fort Smith District Heating NWT Ltd. system of .05 cents/kW.h in year one, increasing by .05 cents/kW.h every year up to year ten.

The terms and conditions of service set out in the Electric Power Supply Agreement between NWTPC and Fort Smith District Heating NWT Ltd., were approved by the Board on June 20, 1997.

By letter dated November 18, 1997, NWTPC submitted to the Board, a Rate Application for the Municipality of Sanikiluaq ("Sanikiluaq") for the test period consisting of the NWTPC's fiscal years ending March 31, 1998 and March 31, 1999 ("Test Years").

Prior to March 31, 1997, the Sanikiluaq plant was owned by the Government of the Northwest Territories ("GNWT") and customer rates were set by the GNWT. The plant was purchased by NWTPC effective March 31, 1997.

In its Application, NWTPC requested that the Board:

1. determine a rate base for Sanikiluaq that is used or required to be used

in provision of energy and related services to the public in Sanikiluaq, including the appropriate allowance for working capital for the NWTPC's Test Years;

- 2. determine Sanikiluaq's revenue requirements for the Test Years for the provision of energy to the public in Sanikiluaq;
- 3. fix and approve just and reasonable rates to be charged by the NWTPC for energy to be supplied by the NWTPC to Sanikiluaq customers;
- 4. approving rebalanced rates effective December 1, 1997 and approving new rates effective April 1, 1998; and
- 5. approving the inclusion of Sanikiluaq as a community in the previously approved Fuel Stabilization Fund approved for all diesel communities in Decision 1-97.

NWTPC, by letter dated November 21, 1997, amended its Application such that section d) of the Application asking for approval of "rebalanced rates effective December 1, 1997" was amended to read "approving interim rates effective December 1, 1997 pending the Public Utilities Board review through a hearing process."

The Board, pursuant to sections 28 (1) and 44 of the <u>Public Utilities Act</u>, directed in Decision 18-97, dated December 4, 1997, that the rates applied for by NWTPC, effective December 1, 1997 with respect to Sanikiluaq, be approved on an interim, refundable basis until such time as the rates can be examined by the Board in a public hearing and the Board issues a Decision to fix the rates charged by NWTPC for energy supplied to its customers in Sanikiluaq.

It was the opinion of the Board that the time period required for the Board to properly examine Sanikiluaq's rates for the Test Year ending March 31, 1998 was sufficiently long that an interim, refundable increase was warranted.

A written hearing is scheduled for early 1998.

In response to the Order contained in Decision 18-97, NWTPC filed a rate schedule for Sanikiluaq, which the Board approved in Decision 20-97.

An additional four Franchise Agreements between municipalities and NWTPC for the supply and distribution of electrical power were approved by the Board during 1997.

Northland Utilities (NWT) Limited

Northland Utilities (NWT) Limited applied March 12, 1997, in anticipation of the Board approving NWTPC's rate schedules, for approval of a rate rider to reflect the reduced cost of purchased power throughout the Hay River service area, and also to revise Northland's revised Rider A.

The application was approved.

Northland, in a letter dated December 2, 1997, applied for approval to issue a Debenture in the principal amount of \$625,000 with a nominal interest rate of 5.56% to Alberta Power Limited.

In response to Board enquiries, Northland provided a copy of the Debenture, and confirmed that the Debenture does not compromise the franchise agreement between Northland and the Town of Hay River or in any way restrict the Town's position as provided for in the Franchise Agreement.

The application was approved.

Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited

By letter dated March 12, 1997, Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited, anticipating Board approval of NWTPC's rate schedules, filed a proposed rider to recover its increased purchased power costs, effective April 1, 1997.

In Decision 4-97, the Board approved the recovery of NWTPC's 1995/96 and 1996/97 revenue shortfall, by way of a 12-month rate rider. Northland's application, of March 12, 1997, included a request for a rider to flow through NWTPC's shortfall rider, while at the same time providing for a refund of an overcollection by Northland, resulting from the unexpected termination of NWTPC's low water rider.

The application was approved.

Northland, in a letter dated December 2, 1997, applied for approval to issue a Debenture in the principal amount of \$3,300,000 with a nominal interest rate of 5.56% to Alberta Power Limited.

In response to Board enquiries, Northland provided a copy of the Debenture, and confirmed that the Debenture does not compromise the franchise agreement

between Northland and the City of Yellowknife or in any way restrict the City's position as provided for in the Franchise Agreement.

The application was approved.

Town of Norman Wells

The Town of Norman Wells filed an application December 5, 1996, requesting Board approval of natural gas sales rates. Subsequent to a written hearing the Board issued its decision approving the rates as applied for.

The Town filed an application, dated December 5, 1997, for approval of increased natural gas rates for 1998, as a consequence of the increased cost of the natural gas supply. The application was amended December 10, 1997 to include a "Purchase Gas Adjustment Rider."

The Board has directed the Town to provide notice of the application and a written hearing in its monthly billing for December 1997. The hearing will take place early in 1998.

Aadrii Ltd.

In response to an application dated March 7, 1997, the Board declared, pursuant to Section 18 of the Act, that with a few exceptions, the provisions of the Act do not apply to Aadrii.

Town of Inuvik

In a letter dated December 5, 1997, the Town of Inuvik filed an application with the Board for approval of a Gas Franchise Agreement between the Town and Inuvik Gas. The Board will review the franchise agreement and issue its Decision in 1998.

Applications for Cost Awards

Section 26 of the Act provides the Board with the authority to award costs, at its discretion, to intervenors.

The Board, when it awards costs to an intervenor, does so by directing the utility to pay the approved costs to the intervenor. The utility generally recovers these costs by passing them onto the ratepayers through Board approved rates.

During 1997 the Board approved four cost awards:

The City of Yellowknife for costs pertaining to its intervention in NWTPC's Phase I and Phase II GRA;

The City of Yellowknife for costs pertaining to its intervention in Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited's GRA;

The Hamlet Intervenors for costs pertaining to their intervention in NWTPC's Phase II GRA; and

Miramar Con Mine Ltd. applied for and received a partial award of costs pertaining to its intervention in NWTPC's GRA.

SUMMARY OF 1997 BOARD DECISIONS

DECISION 1-97 - January 14, 1997

Application - NWTPC filed a Phase I GRA for the Test Years 1995/96 and 1996/97 on December 20, 1995. The submission seeks an order or orders of the Board determining a rate base and revenue requirement for each of the Test Years. As well, the application includes proposals with regard to, a deferral account in respect compensation that may be payable in accordance with the NWT Water Board Licence respecting the Taltson Rive Basin; a Rate Stabilization Fund to mitigate fuel price changes and variations in hydro conditions; and capitalization of a Power Acquisition Agreement between the Dogrib Power Corporation and NWTPC.

By letter dated July 16, 1996, NWTPC amended its application to incorporate a 1997/98 Test Year and also proposed that it enter into negotiations with the intervenors.

Order - After reviewing the application, the Board approved the proposed phase-in and rider as described in the Settlement Agreement and directed NWTPC to provide the Board and interested parties with a reconciliation of the deferral account on an annual basis.

The Board directs NWTPC to provide particulars of any further measures taken to improve fuel efficiency, at the next GRA.

DECISION 2-97 - February 4, 1997

Application - NWTPC applied for approval of a proposed Franchise Agreement for the supply and distribution of electrical power to users within the Hamlet of Lac La Martre.

Order - The Board approved the Electric Franchise Agreement.

DECISION 3-97 - March 6, 1997

Application - NWTPC filed an application for approval of rates for the sale of excess power from the Taltson system.

Order - After reviewing the application, the Board approved a ten-year rate for Fort Smith District Heating NWT Ltd.

NWTPC is to file annually a comparison of O&M costs on the Taltson system.

Interim rates approved in Decision 3-96 were made final.

NWTPC was directed to provide copies of Fort Smith District Heating System NWT Ltd.'s financial statements to the Board.

DECISION 4-97 - March 25, 1997

Application - On August 2, 1996, NWTPC filed the second phase of the GRA, for the Test Years 1995/96 and 1996/97. Subsequently, on October 18, 1996, NWTPC filed updated information, including cost of service information for the 1997/98 Test Year.

The Phase II Application requested an Order or Orders from the Board:

- a) approving NWTPC's proposed diesel rate zone structure;
- b) approving NWTPC's proposed rate design for the 1997/98 Test Year;
- c) approving a rate rider to recover the 1995/97 and 1996/97 shortfall; and
- d) approving other matters included in NWTPC's GRA.

Order - The Board, after reviewing the information provided, ordered NWTPC to file, within seven days of the filing of the Decision, a schedule of just and reasonable rates for the Test Year ending March 31, 1998.

The Low Water Surcharge Riders approved in Decisions 13-94, 14-95, 17-95 and 7-96, on an interim refundable basis, were made final.

NWTPC was directed to provide a final reconciliation of the amounts collected under the Low Water Surcharge Riders.

DECISION 5-97 - April 8, 1997

Application - On March 7, 1997, Aadrii Ltd. submitted an application requesting an order pursuant to Section 18 of the Public Utilities Act declaring that the provisions of the Act do not apply to it.

Order - The Board reviewed the evidence and declared, pursuant to Section 18 of the Act, that the provisions of the Act do not apply to Aadrii with some exceptions.

DECISION 6-97 - April 10, 1997

Application - On March 27, 1997, NWTPC submitted rate schedules reflecting the directions contained in Decision 4-97.

Order - The Board approved the rate schedules as filed.

DECISION 7-97 - April 10, 1997

Application - By letter dated March 12, 1997, Northland Utilities (NWT) Limited, anticipating Board approval of NWTPC's rate schedules, filed a proposed rider to reflect the reduced cost of purchased power to its customers throughout the Hay River service area. Northland also requested approval to revise its Rider A.

Order - The Board approved the proposed riders, effective on all bills issued on or after April 1, 1997.

DECISION 8-97 - April 10, 1997

Application - By letter dated March Northland 12. 1997. (Yellowknife) Limited, anticipating Board approval of NWTPC's rate schedules, filed a proposed rider (Rider P) to recover its increased cost of purchased power. Northland also filed a request for a rider (Rider S) to flow through NWTPC's shortfall rider, while at the same time providing for a refund of an over collection by Northland, resulting from unexpected termination of NWTPC's low water rider.

Order - The Board approved the proposed riders, effective on all bills issued on or after April 1, 1997

DECISION 9-97 - May 7, 1997

Application - The City of Yellowknife applied for Intervenor costs pertaining to NWTPC's Phase I and Phase II General Rate Application.

Order - The Board reviewed and approved the intervenor costs as submitted.

DECISION 10-97 - May 7, 1997

Application - By letter dated February 19, 1997, the City of Yellowknife applied for Intervenor costs pertaining to Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited's General Rate Application hearing dated September 4, 1996.

Order - The Board reviewed and approved the intervenor costs as submitted with an adjusted amount for the GST.

DECISION 11-97 - May 23, 1997

Application - By letter dated December 5, 1996, the Town of Norman Wells submitted its application for approval of natural gas rates.

Order - The Board approved the application as applied for.

DECISION 12-97 - June 16, 1997

Application - On August 2, 1996, NWTPC filed the second phase of the GRA, for the Test Years 1995/96 and 1996/97. Subsequently, on October 18, 1996, NWTPC filed updated information, including cost of service information for the 1997/98 Test Year.

The Phase II Application requested an Order or Orders from the Board:

- a) approving NWTPC's proposed diesel rate zone structure;
- b) approving NWTPC's proposed rate design for the 1997/98 Test Year:
- c) approving a rate rider to recover the 1995/97 and 1996/97 shortfall; and
- d) approving other matters included in NWTPC's GRA.

Order - In its Decision, the Board addressed all outstanding matters arising from NWTPC's Phase II Application. After reviewing the information provided, the Board ordered NWTPC to file, within 14 days a schedule of just and reasonable rates for the Test Year ending March 31, 1998 in accordance with this Decision as well as riders to collect the combined deficiency from the 1995/96 and 1996/97 Test Years.

NWTPC was directed to prepare and file information required to comply with the directions contained in the Decision.

DECISION 13-97 - June 20, 1997

Application - By a letter dated May 26, 1997, NWTPC requested that the Board approve the terms and conditions of service set out in the executed Electric Power Supply Agreement filed with the Board on February 28, 1997, pursuant to section 63 of the Public Utilities Act.

Order - The Board approved the terms and conditions of service as set out in the Agreement between NWTPC and Fort Smith District Heating NWT Ltd.

DECISION 14-97 - July 2, 1997

Application - By letter dated June 27, 1997, NWTPC filed rate schedules as directed by the Board in Decision 12-97.

Order - The Board approved NWTPC's rate schedules as submitted.

<u>DECISION 15-97</u> - August 14, 1997

Application - Miramar Con Mine Ltd. applied for Intervenor costs pertaining to NWTPC's General Rate Application hearing(s) dated December 3, 1996 and March 5, 1997.

Order - The Board reviewed and approved the intervenor costs as follows:

25% of the legal costs, 20% of the costs of Power engineers, inc., 50% of the costs of Emerald Regulatory Services Inc., and all the costs of W.R. Waters.

DECISION 16-97 - August 14, 1997

Application - The Counsel for the Diesel Communities applied for Intervenor costs pertaining to NWTPC's Phase II General Rate Application hearing dated March 5, 1997

Order - The Board reviewed and approved the intervenor costs as submitted.

DECISION 17-97 - November 6, 1997

Application - NWTPC applied for approval of a proposed Franchise Agreement for the supply and distribution of electrical power to users within the Hamlet of Cambridge Bay.

Order - The Board approved the Electric Franchise Agreements.

<u>DECISION 18-97</u> - December 4, 1997

Application - By letter dated November 18, 1997, NWTPC submitted a rate application for the Municipality of Sanikiluaq. NWTPC, by letter dated November 21, 1997, amended its application requesting the Board to approve interim rates effective December 1, 1997.

Order - The Board approved, on an interim, refundable basis, rates effective December 1, 1997 as applied for.

The Board ordered NWTPC to file within 14 days of this Decision, a schedule showing all rates with respect to Sanikiluaq in accordance with this Decision.

DECISION 19-97 - December 4, 1997

Application - NWTPC applied for approval of a proposed Franchise Agreement for the supply and distribution of electrical power to users within the Town of Inuvik and Hamlet of Repulse Bay.

Order - The Board approved the Electric Franchise Agreements.

<u>DECISION 20-97</u> - December 15, 1997

Application - By letter dated December 11, 1997, NWTPC filed a rate schedule as directed by the Board in Decision 18-97.

Order - The Board approved NWTPC's rate schedule as submitted.

DECISION 21-97 - December 18, 1997

Application - By letter dated December 2, 1997, Northland Utilities (Yellowknife) Limited applied for approval to issue a Debenture in the principal amount of \$3,300,000 with a nominal interest rate of 5.56% to Albert Power Limited.

Order - The Board approved Northland's Debenture issue as applied for.

<u>DECISION 22-97</u> - December 18, 1997

Application - By letter dated December 2, 1997, Northland Utilities (NWT) Limited applied for approval to issue a Debenture in the principal amount of \$625,000 with a nominal interest rate of 5.56% to Albert Power Limited.

Order - The Board approved Northland's Debenture issue as applied for.