PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Thirteenth Annual Report of the

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Pursuant to the
" PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT "

For the Year Ended December 31st

1951

VICTORIA, B.C.
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1952

VICTORIA, B.C., February 29th, 1952.

To His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in Council
of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

SIR,—We have the honour to transmit herewith the Thirteenth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission under the " Public Utilities Act " for the year ended December 31st, 1951

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.

P. E. GEORGE, *Chairman.*

D. K. PENFOLD, *Commissioner.*

RUSSELL E. POTTER, *Commissioner.*

CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	7
Changes in Membership of Commission	7
Amendments to " Public Utilities Act "	7
Operations of Public Utility Systems—	
New Construction, New Operations, and Expansions	7
New Supplies of Electric Power for the Lower Mainland Area	8
New Supply of Electric Power for Creston Area	8
Discontinuance and Suspension of Service	8
Complaints as to Service of Public Utilities	8
Rates—	
Rate Changes Consented to Pursuant to Sections 17 and 19 of the " Public Utilities Act "	8
Electric Rates—B.C. Electric System	9
Electric Rates—Other than B.C. Electric System	10
Hearing on Rate of Return—B.C. Electric System	10
Rate Complaints	11
Security Issues, Mortgages, and Sales—	
Security Issues and Mortgages	11
Sales of Assets of Public Utility Systems	11
Miscellaneous	11
Tables—	
No. 1.—Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity	12
No. 2.—Extensions Permitted under Section 13 of the " Public Utilities Act "	13
No. 3.—Applications to Require Public Utilities to Extend Systems	14
No. 4.—Applications to Discontinue or Suspend Service	15
No. 5.—Complaints as to Service of Public Utilities	16
No. 6.—Rate Changes Consented to Pursuant to Sections 17 and 19 of the " Public Utilities Act "	18
No. 7.—Rate Complaints	22
No. 8.—Security Issues and Mortgages	24
No. 9.—Sales of Assets of Public Utility Systems	24

Thirteenth Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission under the "Public Utilities Act" for the Calendar Year Ended December 31st, 1951

INTRODUCTION

This Report covers the work of the Public Utilities Commission under the " Public Utilities Act " for the year ended December 31st, 1951. It does not deal with matters under the " Motor Carrier Act," a separate report of which will be made pursuant to section 36 of that Act.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION

Russell E. Potter was appointed a member of the Commission as from April 9th, 1951, filling a vacancy that had been in existence for some time prior to that date. Dr. W. A. Carrothers, who had been Chairman of the Commission since the original appointments in 1939, died on August 29th, 1951. The vacancy thus caused was not filled during the year under review, but it may be mentioned here that on January 23rd, 1952, Percy E. George was appointed Chairman of the Commission, thus filling the vacancy.

AMENDMENTS TO " PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT "

Certain amendments were made to the " Public Utilities Act " during the year, but they concerned the Milk Board and did not affect those parts of the Act with which the Public Utilities Commission is concerned.

REGULATIONS

Early in the year an amendment was made to paragraph 6.3 of the Regulations Respecting Transportation (" Public Utilities Act "), the effect of which was to require the maximum carrying capacity to be marked on the outside of each passenger bus near the entrance door, instead of on a paper certificate posted up inside the bus. This change ensures greater permanence and prominence of the notice. No other changes in regulations under the " Public Utilities Act " were made during the year.

OPERATIONS OF PUBLIC UTILITY SYSTEMS

New Construction, New Operations, and Expansions

New construction or operation, or expansion of a public utility system requires the approval or consent of the Commission under section 12 or 13 of the " Public Utilities Act." A summary of applications for certificates of public convenience and necessity received or decided during the year is set out in Table 1. Each of the certificates granted by the Commission and referred to in the table was subsequently approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

The improvements of the water system at White Rock, noted in Table 1, are related to new financing and increased rates. The Commission deferred any action on the rates proposed pending completion of the improvements, and the matter is still in abeyance.

Preliminary proceedings were taken during the year regarding authorizations under the " Public Utilities Act " for an arrangement whereby a subsidiary of Puget Sound Navigation Company (Black Ball Line) would take over the passenger-ferry of Sea Bus Lines Limited across Howe Sound and expand the operation into an

automobile-ferry service across Howe Sound, and ultimately across Jervis Inlet as well. These proceedings lapsed, as the arrangement was later authorized by a Private Act of the Legislature.

In certain cases, pursuant to the powers set out in section 13 of the " Public Utilities Act," the Commission relieves public utilities from the requirement of obtaining a certificate of public convenience and necessity. Table 2 sets out the cases where the Commission acted under section 13 during 1951.

Routine extensions of electric distribution-lines of British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited in the Mainland area are now governed by definite detailed provisions in the tariff of the company, coupled with a general order under section 13 made in 1949. Similar arrangements for the Vancouver Island area are being worked out.

A number of letters were received by the Commission from persons desiring extensions of public utility systems in order to obtain service. Many of these were merely requests for information, which was provided. Those which were more in the nature of complaints are summarized in Table 3.

New Supplies of Electric Power for the Lower Mainland Area

The reconstruction of the Lake Buntzen No. 1 hydro-electric power generating plant of the B.C. Electric system, which was authorized by a certificate of public convenience and necessity dated July 13th, 1950, was completed. One unit of 50,000 kw. capacity replaced seven small machines of a combined capacity of 21,000 kw. It was placed in service on November 9th, 1951.

The 60,000-k.w. Wahleach Lake hydro-electric development of the B.C. Electric system near Chilliwack, which was authorized by a certificate of public convenience and necessity dated December 19th, 1950, was pushed forward. It is scheduled for completion in the autumn of 1952.

New Supply of Electric Power for Creston Area

The provision of adequate electric power for the Creston area, noted in Table 1, calls for special comment. The hydro-electric plant of West Kootenay Power & Light Company Limited near Creston has proved inadequate to meet the needs of the area and has been supplemented in recent years by a diesel system. West Kootenay Power & Light Company Limited has now undertaken the construction of a 60-k.v. transmission-line from Kootenay Bay to Creston, whereby ample supplies of power, generated on the Kootenay River and transmitted over the lines of Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, Limited, to Kootenay Bay, will be made available to the Creston area.

Discontinuance and Suspension of Service

No application was made during the year to discontinue or suspend public utility service, and Table 4, governing this, is accordingly a *nil* report.

Complaints as to Service of Public Utilities

Particulars of complaints regarding service provided by public utilities are set forth in Table 5.

RATES

Rate Changes Consented to Pursuant to Sections 17 and 19 of the " Public Utilities Act "

A statement of all rate changes authorized during 1951 appears in Table 6. There were no general increases or decreases in transportation or telephone rates during the year.

A moderate increase was made by British Columbia Electric Company Limited in its Mainland gas rates. There were a number of increases in water rates affecting small systems. The objections commonly protested poor service rather than high rates and brought to light the problems of providing adequate service from such systems. There were a number of important general revisions of electric rates which, because of the revenue and number of users involved, call for special comment.

Electric Rates—B.C. Electric System

During the year, applications were received from British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited which provided for substantial general increases in its electrical rates. There were three principal applications and a number of ancillary applications. All except the latest application, which was not acted on until 1952, are noted in Table 6. The first of the three principal applications was made February 27th, 1951, and it provided for substantial increases in residential and certain industrial rates. The application was based on increased costs and on the need for adequate revenues to support the necessary financing of future capital developments. The over-all increase in electrical revenues effected by the rate increases was estimated at 10.2 per cent. The Commission consented to the filing of the rate increases on March 12th, 1951, after a staff investigation, but provided at the same time for a review later at a public hearing when fuller information would be available.

The second principal rates application of British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited was made July 23rd, 1951. It was designed to recover increased costs which had developed since the March rate increase, of which the principal ones were an increase in office employees' wages and a new 20 per cent surcharge on corporate income tax. This application provided for increases in certain rates which had been left untouched in the March application, being the commercial rates and certain industrial rates. The Commission consented to the filing of the rate increases August 1st, 1951, but provided that the public hearing already provided for would include a review of these rates.

The public hearings on electric rates of British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited were held by the Commission at Victoria on September 17th, 1951, and at Vancouver on September 24th and 25th, 1951, following public notice. The company submitted the latest available information to support the rate increases made by it on and since March 12th, 1951, and the other interested parties were given an opportunity to cross-examine and to make representations of their own. After a review of all this information, the Commission made its findings on October 5th, 1951, the essence being contained in the following paragraphs:—

" The companies have a right to earn a fair and reasonable return on the value of their property after paying all other proper expenses. A complete investigation was made by the Commission some years ago as a result of which an ' appraised value ' for rate-making purposes was determined, and methods were established to determine from this whether earnings do or do not provide a fair and reasonable return. This information is brought up to date from year to year under the close scrutiny of the engineers and accountants employed by the Commission. Summaries of the relevant information were presented at the hearings by the companies, and examination by the staff has disclosed no errors of any important effect. They show clearly that the companies, under the rates now in effect, including the increased electric rates, will not obtain over-all earnings in excess of the earnings allowable under the ' Public Utilities Act.'

" There remains the question whether the particular rate increases made are the proper ones to make. This is a field for the exercise of good judgment, and the opinions and arguments of informed people appearing at the hearings can be of great help to the Commission in arriving at reasonable conclusions. In the first instance, the company proposed various rate increases in certain services as the best way of obtaining an increase in

over-all revenues. If there is undue discrimination or preference as between different classes of users, the Commission may require the company to make any necessary rate adjustments. Of course, if a justifiable increase in over-all revenue cannot be obtained from one source it will have to be obtained from another. We think it reasonable that when anyone asks the Commission to order the cancellation of any particular rate increase he should be prepared to suggest where else the revenue ought to be obtained.

" After hearing all the arguments and suggestions, the Commission has to decide whether in any case the companies have established a rate schedule which is unfair to certain users as a class, as compared to other users. There are a multitude of different rates that might be proposed for any class of service and no one can determine that any one of them is the only correct one. It is possible, however, to determine that any one of them does or does not lie within reasonable limits of fairness, as compared with rates for other classes of service. We find that the particular rate increases made are within reasonable limits of fairness as between each class of user and the remaining classes, and are not unduly preferential or discriminatory."

On December 27th, 1951, British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited made a further application for a general increase in electric rates. The increase was confined to the second block in the residential-rate schedules, which block had previously been left untouched, and it was designed partially to cover increased costs on the electrical service of the company incurred since the date of the last electrical-rate increase, comprising certain increased wage rates and taxes. It was dealt with on this basis by the Commission and was granted on January 18th, 1952. As it was not dealt with in 1951, it is not noted in Table 6.

Electric Rates—Other than B.C. Electric System

In addition to the applications of British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited, certain other applications call for special mention. Princeton Light & Power Company Limited filed a general reduction in its rates. This was made possible by a reduction it had received the previous year from its supplier, West Kootenay Power & Light Company Limited.

Northern British Columbia Power Company Limited applied during 1951 for an increase in its electric rates at Prince Rupert. The application is strongly opposed by the City of Prince Rupert. It was heard at Prince Rupert at a public hearing on October 22nd and 23rd, 1951, since which time a thorough staff investigation of the property and operations of the company has been in progress. As no decision was arrived at in 1951, this application is not noted in Table 6.

Hearing on Rate of Return—B.C. Electric System

The Commission held a public hearing in Vancouver commencing November 22nd, 1951, and lasting twelve days, for the purpose of hearing representations on behalf of British Columbia Electric Company Limited and subsidiaries and representations of others on the question of the fair rate of return allowable by the Commission to the companies in regulating them under the " Public Utilities Act." In 1943, following a very exhaustive inquiry into the property and operations of the companies, the Commission found that a rate of 5.8 per cent on a depreciated rate base would be fair. The company contended that this rate, as a ceiling for earnings, should now be increased to 7.5 per cent, and produced a mass of evidence designed to support this contention. The Cities of Vancouver, Victoria, and New Westminster, the Fraser Valley Municipal Association, and the Civic Reform Association opposed the contention of the companies. The City of Vancouver, in particular, took a very full and helpful part in the proceedings. The question dealt with concerns one of two fundamentals of systematic rate regulation and must be regarded as

one of the most important matters ever to come before the Commission. The decision has not yet been made.

Rate Complaints

The rate complaints dealt with during the year are summarized in Table 7.

SECURITY ISSUES, MORTGAGES, AND SALES

Security Issues and Mortgages

Applications made during 1951 under section 22 of the " Public Utilities Act " are summarized in Table 8. The financing of the B.C. Electric system calls for special mention. In January approval was given for the issuance of $6,000,000 of 4¾ per cent preferred shares of British Columbia Electric Company Limited to provide part of the $30,000,000 then estimated to be required for the 1951 capital development programme of the company and its subsidiaries. In November approval was given for the issue by the company of $20,000,000 of 3¾ per cent first-mortgage bonds. The issue was made payable in American funds, as the company was unable to obtain funds in Canada on satisfactory terms. The issue was sold to underwriters for $94.57 per $100 bond, for resale at $96.07, which appeared to be reasonable in relation to market conditions.

In addition to the new financing of the B.C. Electric system explained above, certain refinancing took place which calls for special mention. Up to 1951 British Columbia Electric Company Limited (the electric company) owned, and still owns, all the bonds and shares of British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited (the railway company), except certain sterling securities, comprising £1,440,000 of 5 per cent cumulative perpetual preference stock and £2,788,170 of 4½ per cent perpetual consolidated debenture stock. During the year a plan approved by the Commission was carried out whereby the electric company acquired £2,153,140 of the latter and £1,076,679 of the former, for which it issued in exchange $3,745,800 of its own 4 per cent first-mortgage bonds and $6,413,400 of its own 4¾ per cent preferred shares and also paid $14,730 in cash to settle fractions. The transaction is part of a plan to wind up the railway company, which will lead to a simpler financial structure for the B.C. Electric system.

Sales of Assets of Public Utility Systems

Transfers of property dealt with in 1951 under section 24 of the " Public Utilities Act " are summarized in Table 9. Two of the items show internal transactions where subsidiaries transferred their property to their respective parent companies. The remaining two items show transfers to municipal control of small waterworks systems.

MISCELLANEOUS

Revisions of routes and time schedules, the setting of carrying capacities of vehicles, and the filing of statistics were attended to from time to time in respect of transportation systems, in accordance with the Regulations Respecting Transportation (" Public Utilities Act "). Periodic inspections of motor-vehicles and trolley-coaches of British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited were made by the inspection staff of the Motor Carrier Branch, to ensure compliance with the regulations.

During the year there occurred a preliminary exchange of correspondence between the Boards and Commissions regulating public utilities in the various Provinces, with a view to forming an association for consideration of common problems. While there was not sufficiently widespread interest to lead to action during the year, it is hoped that such an association may be formed at some future time. A similar organization in the United States has been most helpful to its member Boards, and indeed to the non-member Boards and Commissions in Canada as well.

TABLES

TABLE 1.—APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY RECEIVED OR DECIDED IN 1951

Class of Service	Applicant	Date of Application	Particulars	Result
Gas	British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	June 27, 1951	Extension to gas plant at Vancouver	Granted; July 26, 1951.
	Northland Utilities (B.C.) Ltd.	July 30, 1951	Amendment to interim certificate of public convenience and necessity granted Dec. 12, 1950, to allow a further eight months for conclusion of a satisfactory arrangement as to continued supply of gas on reasonable terms	Granted; July 30, 1951.
Telephone	Okanagan Telephone Co.	May 22, 1951	Operation of telephone system at and near Revelstoke upon its acquisition from Solar Telephones Ltd.	Granted; May 28, 1951.
Electric Power	British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	June 21, 1951	Operation of electric-power plant and system at and near Hope, upon its acquisition from the B.C. Power Commission	Granted; June 21, 1951.
		June 21, 1951	Operation of electric-power plant and system at and near Lillooet, upon its acquisition from the B.C. Power Commission	Granted; June 21, 1951.
	British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd. and British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd.	Mar. 27, 1951	Amendment of certificate of public convenience and necessity granted Mar. 10, 1950, for an electric-power plant and system at North Bend and Boston Bar, to allow an increase in generating capacity from 500 horse-power to 600 horse-power	Granted; Apr. 9, 1951.
	Canadian Utilities Ltd.	Dec. 6, 1950	Amendment of certificate of public convenience and necessity granted Oct. 8, 1942, for an electric-power plant and system at Fort St. John, to allow an increase in generating capacity from 100 horse-power to 500 horse-power	Granted; Apr. 4, 1951.
	Nelson, City of	Nov. 19, 1951	Construction and operation of an addition, described as No. 4 Unit, to the city's power generating plant on the Kootenay River	Granted; Dec. 27, 1951.
	Northern British Columbia Power Co. Ltd.	July 10, 1951	Construction and operation of an electric transmission system in and about the City of Prince Rupert, including Port Edward	Granted; Oct. 30, 1951.
	West Kootenay Power & Light Co. Ltd.	Mar. 10, 1951	Construction and operation of a 60-kv. electric-power transmission-line between Kootenay Bay and Creston, paralleling the highway on the east side of Kootenay Lake	Granted; May 2, 1951.
Water	British Pacific Properties Ltd. and Park Royal Shopping Centre Ltd.	July 3, 1950	Construction and operation of a waterworks system in those parts of the District of West Vancouver known as British Properties and Park Royal Shopping Centre	Granted; May 16, 1951.
	Caillet, A. D.; Beevor-Potts, C. H.; and Beevor-Potts, L.	Dec. 6, 1949	Construction and operation of a waterworks system at Lantzville	Granted; Nov. 7, 1951.
	Durkin, P. J.; and King, J. P.	Sept. 10, 1951	Amendment of certificate of public convenience and necessity granted May 19, 1948, for a waterworks system near Trail, to enlarge the area to be served	Granted; Oct. 17, 1951.
	Forest Grove Development Co. Ltd.	Dec. 3, 1951	Construction and operation of waterworks system at Forest Grove	In abeyance pending receipt of particulars from applicant.

TABLE 1.—APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY RECEIVED OR DECIDED IN 1951—*Continued*

Class of Service	Applicant	Date of Application	Particulars	Result
Water	McBride, Village of	July 18, 1951	Extension of proposed waterworks system into unorganized areas within one-half mile from the village boundaries	Granted; Aug. 17, 1951.
	Sutherland & Stromme	Sept. 29, 1951	Operation of waterworks system near Nelson	In abeyance pending receipt of particulars from applicant.
	White Rock Water Works Co. Ltd.	Aug. 25, 1950	Extensions and improvements of the waterworks system at White Rock	Granted; May 2, 1951.

TABLE 2.—EXTENSIONS DEALT WITH UNDER SECTION 13 OF THE "PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT" DURING 1951

Class of Service	Public Utility	Number of Extensions
Electric Power	British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd. (new substation)	1
	Nelson, City of (improvements to transmission and other equipment)	1
Telephone	Okanagan Telephone Company (improvements at Sicamous and extension to Arrowhead)	2

TABLE 3.—APPLICATIONS TO COMMISSION TO REQUIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES TO EXTEND THEIR SYSTEMS, 1951

Public Utility	Applicant	Particulars of Application	Disposition
British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd.	Bronger, John	Complaint of delay and undue expense in obtaining extension of power-lines to new house at Whytecliffe Park	Investigation showed difficulties due to need for clarification of rights-of-way in vicinity, and clarification being obtained as rapidly as possible.
	Royal Vancouver Yacht Club	Request for company to assume responsibility for distribution system to floats on property of Yacht Club	Refusal of company found to be reasonable.
	Shirley Women's Institute	Applicants desired an extension of the electric distribution system in the Shirley district, situated on the Sooke–Jordan River Highway	Extension made in part.
	Whittaker, George	Applicant wanted electricity for his farm in Cobble Hill	Following investigations, the company came to a mutual agreement with the applicant for the extension.
Courtenay, City of	Newman, H. T.	Applicant wished to be connected to city water system although living outside city boundaries	Investigation showed that the city had insufficient water or pressure to supply additional customers in Mr. Newman's area.
Denver Light & Power Co. Ltd.	New Denver, Village of	Request for installation of increased electric-power capacity and stand-by equipment by Denver Light & Power Co. Ltd.	Applicants were informed that the requested capital expenditure could not be made without an increase in rates.
DuMont, Marc	Strange, A. E.	Applicant wished a line installed to his residence in Kinnaird	Matter not concluded in 1951.
Kimberley, City of	Summer's Subdivision Ratepayers' Assn.	Applicant wished the City of Kimberley to extend its water system to Summer's Subdivision	The Commission found that the extension was not economically practical at the present time.
Kinnaird Water Co. Ltd.	Gordon, M. A., and others	Applicant wished certain water-mains at Kinnaird to be increased	Inquiry indicated troubles largely in consumers' own lines.
North West Telephone Co.	Southcott, Mrs. R. H.	Applicant desired telephone service in Cranberry Lake area	Comprehensive report on development plans for area obtained from company, with copy to Mrs. Southcott.
Prince George, City of	Starkevich, B.	Applicant wanted to be connected up with city's electric-power system some 300 feet distant	Applicant connected.
Princeton Light & Power Co. Ltd.	Residents of East Princeton	Request for extension of electric-power lines to East Princeton	Applicants were informed after investigation that the extension would be too costly without a revenue or other guarantee from them.
Terrace, Village of	Munthe, Dr. J.	Request that the village serve applicant with water from a water-line to Provincial Infirmary	By mutual agreement of Provincial authorities, application was granted by village.
Union Steamships Ltd.	Scott, W. G.	Applicant desired an extension of the company's water-mains to serve him at Wilson Creek	Not concluded in 1951.
West Kootenay Power & Light Co. Ltd.	Jaud, A.	Applicant wanted extension of power system near Kelowna to his property	Extension was made to satisfaction of applicant.
	Randall, J. F.	Request for information as to subsidization of power-line to serve applicant	Applicant was informed that the Commission had no power to give such a subsidy.

TABLE 4.—APPLICATIONS TO DISCONTINUE OR SUSPEND SERVICE, 1951

Nil

TABLE 5.—COMPLAINTS AS TO SERVICE OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, 1951

Public Utility	Complainant	Date of Complaint	Particulars	Disposition
British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd. and (or) British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	View Royal Community Assn.	Jan. 24, 1951	Request to have the B.C. Electric bus leaving Victoria at 4.10 p.m. proceed to Helmcken Road instead of stopping at Craigflower Bridge	British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd. agreed to discontinue the Gorge route to Helmcken Road and in its place introduce improved service by extending the Victoria West–Forshaw Road bus to Helmcken Road.
	Ross, Mrs. Dora	May 12, 1951	Complainant wished to have the B.C. Electric Gorge bus cross the Craigflower Bridge with the terminus at Admirals Road, as Craigflower Bridge was alleged to be dangerous for pedestrians	Route change not considered warranted by conditions complained of.
	Rogerson, E.	May 31, 1951	Complainant objected to waiting five to ten minutes for a bus and then having to stand during rush hours on the Forty–first Avenue and Granville Street bus in Vancouver	Report of company sent to complainant pointing out the service available and reasons.
	Lasser, Robert	July 28, 1951	Complainant alleged that the British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd. was negligent when lightning struck a transformer and damage resulted on his premises	The company denied responsibility, but agreed to pay 25 per cent of the loss, *ex gratia*.
	Farmers in Chilliwack district, represented by Mrs. Iva A. Conboy	Sep. 5, 1951	Objections to the route to be taken by the B.C. Electric Wahleach–Kennedy transmission line right-of-way	Investigation made; complainants informed of their rights; matter then left to parties for negotiation and settlement.
	Queensborough Ratepayers' Assn.	Oct. 6, 1951	Alleged overcrowding of buses and insufficient service	Complainants were advised to discuss matter first with the City of New Westminster.
	Reynolds, Helen M. G., and Seal, Olivia	Oct. 23, 1951	Complainants objected to the discontinuance of Woodward's free bus service in West Vancouver without adequate B.C. Electric service	Complainants were informed that Woodward's free bus service was not under the Commission's jurisdiction and that the proposals of British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd. were in the hands of the City and District of North Vancouver and the District of West Vancouver.
Kamloops, City of	Powers Addition Water Users' Assn. *et al.*	June 11, 1951	Complainants protested inadequate service to Powers Addition subdivision	Negotiations being carried on with City of Kamloops; matter not concluded in 1951.
Kimberley, City of	Chapman Camp, Village of	Apr. 28, 1951	Complainants charged inadequate pressure in water system	Negotiations started for the Village of Chapman Camp to purchase the water system within the village from the City of Kimberley.
Kuryluk, N.	Various water-users at Kinnaird	June, 1951	Protest against poor quality of water service	Order dated July 16, 1951, prohibited Mr. Kuryluk from making any additional connections to his waterworks system until he has enlarged his pipes to the satisfaction of the Commission.
Liechti, Paul	Sammartino, M.	Apr. 17, 1951	Complainant protested inadequate water service and a threatened increase in rates	No increase in rates applied for; service shown to be adequate.
Princeton Light & Power Co. Ltd.	Burr Motors Ltd.	Apr. 2, 1951	Complainant protested action of company in cutting off service while replacing power-lines; it was alleged that a by-pass should have been built to provide continuous service	Report obtained from company showing that it would have been too costly to build a by-pass.

Roberts, W.	Clarkson, L. T.	June 28, 1951	Complainant protested the turning-off of water from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily	Steps were taken to curtail excess consumption during the dry spell, and consideration was given to curtailing the addition of new consumers on the water-lines; the turning-off of the water from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. was discontinued.
	Chittenden, H. L., and others	Sept. 1951	Protest against inadequacy of service	Not concluded in 1951; matter in abeyance pending obtaining of information from field investigation of various water systems at Abbotsford.
White Rock Water Works Co. Ltd.	Barteau, E. B.	June 29, 1951	Complainant protested curtailment of water service to one hour a day	Explanation obtained from company that dry weather had made demands for water excessive and curtailment of sprinkling necessary.
	Power, R. H.	Aug. 20, 1951	Complainant protested poor service	Temporary improvements made to service pending permanent improvements to be made in accordance with the programme of the company.

TABLE 6.—RATE CHANGES CONSENTED TO DURING 1951 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 17 AND 19 OF THE "PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT"

(a) *Transportation Systems*

Name of Public Utility	Route Affected	Effect of Change	Date Filed	Date Effective
British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd.	Bradner and Lombard (interurban line)	Rail Freight Tariff B.C.E. 1998 — special service for flowers (temporary)	Jan. 3, 1951	Jan. 1, 1951
	Interurban line	Supplement No. 8 to Rail Freight Tariff B.C.E.R. No. 1873, effecting minor changes to make rates conform to those of national railroads	Feb. 12, 1951	Feb. 15, 1951
	Interurban line	Minor revision of Rail Freight Tariff	July 24, 1951	July 18, 1951
	Interurban line	Supplement No. 7 to Rail Freight Tariff B.C.E.R. 1877, effecting minor adjustments	Nov. 1, 1951	Nov. 15, 1951
	Urban transportation, New Westminster and Vancouver	Inauguration of special charter rates for children	June 12, 1951	June 12, 1951
	Greater Vancouver area	Fares established for special transit service to race-track during racing season	June 15, 1951	June 15, 1951
North Vancouver, City of	Vancouver–North Vancouver	Inauguration of new commutation tickets for automobiles on North Vancouver ferry	Feb. 20, 1951	Mar. 15, 1951

(b) *Telephone and Telegraph Systems*

Name of Public Utility	Area Affected	Effect of Change	Date Filed	Date Effective
Chliliwack Telephones Ltd.	Yarrow	Tariff provision to provide for new control office at Yarrow	Dec. 6, 1951	Dec. 6, 1951
North West Telephone Co.	Pacific Coast	Revisions to tariff affecting urban mobile, fixed radio, and vessel service	Jan. 23, 1951	Jan. 23, 1951
Okanagan Telephone Co.	All areas served	Introducing urban mobile and multi-line key cabinet service	Mar. 16, 1951	Mar. 16, 1951
		Tariff P.U.C. No. 3 filed in multigraph form, replacing same tariff in typed form	Mar. 22, 1951	Mar. 22, 1951

(c) *Electric-power Systems*

British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd. and (or) British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	Area adjacent to Squamish	Cancellation of special temporary provision for street-lighting	Jan. 13, 1951	Jan. 13, 1951
	Saanich	Revised street-lighting rate	Jan. 31, 1951	Jan. 31, 1951
	Central Saanich	New municipal street-light rate	Feb. 6, 1951	Feb. 6, 1951
	Lower Mainland	Correction of error in the definition of "power factor"	Feb. 26, 1951	Feb. 26, 1951
	Vancouver Island South	Introduction of section on "curtailment of service" similar to corresponding section in Lower Mainland Tariff	Feb. 27, 1951	Feb. 27, 1951
	Vancouver Island South and Lower Mainland	Upward revision of domestic and certain industrial rates	Mar. 12, 1951[1]	Mar. 12, 1951
	New Westminster	Increase of electrical rates to City of New Westminster corresponding to general rate increases elsewhere made on Mar. 12, 1951	Mar. 30, 1951[1]	Mar. 30, 1951

[1] On interim basis, confirmed October 5th, 1951.

TABLE 6.—RATE CHANGES CONSENTED TO DURING 1951 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 17 AND 19 OF THE "PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT"—*Continued*

(*c*) *Electric-power Systems*—Continued

Name of Public Utility	Area Affected	Effect of Change	Date Filed	Date Effective
British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd. and (or) British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	Victoria	Correction of error by restoring filing of Original Sheet 30-B of Electric Tariff P.U.C. No. 2D, which had been cancelled on general revision of Mar. 12, 1951	Apr. 4, 1951	Mar. 12, 1951
	Britannia	Amendment of special conditions attached to rate for Britannia Mining & Smelting Co. Ltd.	Apr. 24, 1951	Apr. 24, 1951
	Lower Mainland	Revisions in overhead street-lighting schedules to take care of new types of lighting units	May 15, 1951	May 15, 1951
	Mountain area	Formal filing of Mountain Tariff	May 28, 1951	May 28, 1951
	Lower Mainland	Incidental changes due to the introduction of the Mountain Tariff	May 28, 1951	May 28, 1951
	Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island South	Upward revision of employees' rates corresponding to recent increases in other rates	May 28, 1951	May 28, 1951
	Vancouver Island South	Introduction of intermediate rate for medium-sized rooming-houses	May 28, 1951	May 28, 1951
	Hope	Fraser Valley rates made applicable to Hope	July 10, 1951	June 27, 1951
	Lillooet	Mountain area rates made applicable to Lillooet	July 10, 1951	June 27, 1951
	Vancouver Island South	Introduction of rate for air-raid warning service	July 25, 1951	July 25, 1951
	Mainland	Increase in commercial and certain industrial rates	Aug. 1, 1951[1]	Aug. 1, 1951
	Vancouver Island South	Increase in commercial and certain industrial rates	Aug. 1, 1951[1]	Aug. 1, 1951
	Mountain area	Increase in commercial and power rates	Aug. 1, 1951[1]	Aug. 1, 1951
	Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island South	Cancellation of 25 per cent increase in flat rates for office employees	Oct. 5, 1951	Oct. 5, 1951
	Vancouver Island South	Increase in rates for industrial installations of 200 horse-power and over	Oct. 17, 1951	Nov. 1, 1951
	United States	Provision made for continuance of rates for power exported to the United States	Oct. 29, 1951	Oct. 29, 1951
	Lillooet	Modification of rate charged to Pacific Great Eastern Railway Co.	Dec. 6, 1951	Dec. 6, 1951
East Kootenay Power Co. Ltd.	City of Kimberley	Cranbrook rate made available to City of Kimberley, by agreement	May 7, 1951	June 1, 1951
Fernie, City of	Areas adjacent to Fernie	New tariff providing for street-lighting in West Fernie and other matters	Dec. 21, 1951 (conditionally)	Jan. 15, 1952 (conditionally)
Galiano Light & Power Co. Ltd.	Southern part of Galiano Island	Minor amendments to regulations	Mar. 22, 1951	Mar. 22, 1951
Kelowna, City of	Areas adjacent to City of Kelowna	Electric Rates By-laws filed, replacing Kelowna Tariff P.U.C. No. 2 and providing for reduction	July 6, 1951	July 6, 1951
Kimberley, City of	Areas adjacent to City of Kimberley	Filing of By-law 186 as revised electric tariff, providing for a number of minor revisions	July 28, 1951	Sept. 12, 1951
Martin, Clarence	Massett	Increase in rates	Dec. 12, 1951	Dec. 1, 1951
Prince George, City of	Areas adjacent to City of Prince George	Decrease in rates	Mar. 28, 1951 (tentative)	([2])
Princeton Light & Power Co. Ltd.	Princeton	General reduction in rates	July 10, 1951	Aug. 1, 1951

[1] Confirmed October 5th, 1951.
[2] Not completed in 1951.

TABLE 6.—RATE CHANGES CONSENTED TO DURING 1951 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 17 AND 19 OF THE "PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT"—*Continued*

(*c*) *Electric-power Systems*—Continued

Name of Public Utility	Area Affected	Effect of Change	Date Filed	Date Effective
Van Anda Light & Power Co. (A. Waters)	Vananda	New tariff with increase in rate	Feb. 28, 1951	Feb. 28, 1951
	Vananda	Introduction of prompt-payment discounts, effecting no change in net bills but increases in overdue bills	Apr. 4, 1951	Apr. 4, 1951
West Kootenay Power & Light Co. Ltd.	Oliver	Cancellation of special rates	Apr. 30, 1951	Apr. 30, 1951
	All company areas	Decrease in employee rates	Aug. 27, 1951	July 1, 1951
	All company areas	Cancellation of certain rates not used	Oct. 29, 1951	Oct. 29, 1951
	Ymir, Salmo, and Sheep Creek	New rate for Canadian Exploration Ltd.	Nov. 21, 1951	Nov. 1, 1951

(*d*) *Waterworks Systems*

Beevor-Potts, L., and others	Lantzville	Original filing of tariff	Nov. 16, 1951	Nov. 11, 1951
Braun, I. J.	Area near Abbotsford	Introduction of a sprinkling rate	Sept. 20, 1951	Sept. 20, 1951
British Pacific Properties Ltd.	Company subdivision in West Vancouver	Increase in rates	Dec. 21, 1951	Jan. 1, 1952
Campbell River, Village of	Areas adjacent to Campbell River	Increase in connection charges	Nov. 16, 1951 (conditionally)	(1)
Columbia Valley Irrigated Fruit Lands Ltd.	Invermere	General increase in rates	Apr. 2, 1951	Apr. 1, 1951
Cranbrook, City of	Areas adjacent to City of Cranbrook	Increase in connection charges	May 21, 1951 (conditionally)	May , 1951
Cumberland, City of	Areas adjacent to City of Cumberland	Increase in rates	Dec. 27, 1951	Jan. 1, 1952
Dawson Creek, Village of	Users between source of supply and purification plant	Special rate for water for farm purposes	May 28, 1951[2]	(3)
DuMont, Marc	Kinnaird	General increase in water rates	Aug. 8, 1951	Sept. 1, 1951
General Utility Co. Ltd.	Princeton	Change in regulations	Aug. 10, 1951	Aug. 1, 1951
		Special non-tariff rates for water for ice rink	Dec. 28, 1951	Dec. 28, 1951
Gold, W. H.	Youbou	Change in regulations	July 13, 1951	July 13, 1951
Kelowna, City of	Areas adjacent to Kelowna	Filing of By-law 1542 as water tariff	Aug. 20, 1951	Sept. 1, 1951
Kimberley, City of	Kimberley and Chapman Camp	General revision, providing for minor increases	Sept. 20, 1951	Sept. 12, 1951
Kinnaird Water Co. Ltd.	Kinnaird	General increase in rates	Apr. 27, 1951	May 1, 1951
Kuryluk, Nick	Kinnaird	General increase in rates	July 16, 1951	July 1, 1951
Matsqui Water Co. Ltd.	Matsqui	Increase in rates	May 25, 1951	May 1, 1951
Mission City, Village of	Areas adjacent to Mission City	By-law 194-1950, dealing with lateral mains in District of Mission	Jan. 29, 1951	Jan. 29, 1951
Nanaimo, City of	Areas adjacent to Nanaimo	Reduction in meter rates; increase in connection charges	May 30, 1951	June 29, 1951
Nelson, City of	Areas adjacent to Nelson	By-laws 933, 949, and 1012 filed as tariff	June 18, 1951	June 18, 1951
Roberts, T. W.	Areas near Abbotsford	Increase in water rates	July 30, 1951	Aug. 1, 1951
Victoria, City of	Esquimalt and unorganized areas served by City of Victoria	Filing of by-laws superseding previous tariff	July 10, 1951	July 10, 1951
		Incorporation of cost of paving replacements in connection charges	July 10, 1951	July 10, 1951
		Filing of agreement between the city and the Government of Canada regarding Elk Lake water	July 23, 1951	July 23, 1951
White Rock Waterworks Co. Ltd.	White Rock	Increase in connection charges	May 31, 1951	May 31, 1951

[1] On completion of by-law authorizing increase.
[2] Approved in principle.
[3] Not completed in 1951.

TABLE 6.—RATE CHANGES CONSENTED TO DURING 1951 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 17 AND 19 OF THE " PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT "—*Continued*

(*e*) *Gas Systems*

Name of Public Utility	Area Affected	Effect of Change	Date Filed	Date Effective
British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	Mainland	Billing code numbers changed for employees	Mar. 31, 1951	Mar. 31, 1951
	Mainland and Vancouver Island	Regulations made setting out steps to be taken when a curtailment of service becomes necessary	Apr. 16, 1951	Apr. 16, 1951
	Mainland	Increase in gas rates	Sept. 28, 1951	Oct. 1, 1951

TABLE 7.—RATE COMPLAINTS, 1951

Public Utility	Complainant	Date of Complaint	Particulars	Disposition
Braun, I. J. (Abbotsford)	Appleby, S.	Aug. 28, 1951	Protest against sprinkling charge in addition to regular water charge	It was decided that a sprinkling charge was justified but that it could not be charged until it was properly filed.
British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd.	Carr, J.	Oct. 27, 1951	Complainant protested to 40 per cent increase in his bill	He was shown that the increase was not 40 per cent but a very much smaller percentage.
	Harvey, H.	Nov. 15, 1951	Complaint as to the increase in rates and that the rate schedules were not on the back of the bill	Complainant was informed of the details in the rate schedule and told where he could obtain information about B.C. Electric rates at any time in the future.
	MacKinnon, Malcolm	Feb. 14, 1951	Passenger on Fraser Mills bus was required to pay extra fare when leaving New Westminster and entering Fraser Mills Fare Zone	Fares and transfer system was explained to complainant.
	Schretlen, John	Nov. 3, 1951	Complainant protested 50 per cent increase in his bill	Complainant was shown that the increase was not 50 per cent but a very much smaller percentage.
	Wayside House	May 31, 1951	Complainant, which is a nursing home, objected to being put on a commercial rate	It was found that the complainant was properly billed.
Crescent Beach Water Works Co. Ltd.	Marshall, R. F.	Mar. 22, 1951	Complained that water rates were too high and no low seasonal rates were allowed	Complainant was informed that his facts as stated were not fully correct and that the rates had been set after a full investigation.
Crow's Nest Pass Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.	Natal Board of Trade	Jan. 29, 1951	Complainant submitted that the electric rates at Natal were too high	The company reduced the rates to the mutual satisfaction of themselves and the complainant.
General Utility Co. Ltd.	Kassa, G.	Sept. 28, 1951	Protest concerning certain charges at Princeton for an extension of water-mains	Complainant was informed that there had been a change in extension policy, which gave him a larger refund than he otherwise would have received.
	Littlewood, N.	Nov. 26, 1951	Complained about the manner and number of times the water has been turned off at Princeton	Commission obtained explanations from the company and asked the complainant for more specific details; none were received.
Northland Utilities (B.C.) Ltd.	Hill, H. G.	Nov. 1, 1951	Protested gas connection charges contrary to franchise conditions	Company was instructed to discontinue making connection charges until properly authorized.
Okanagan Telephone Co.	Bartley, S. C.	Aug. 18, 1951	Protest against proposed extension charges for telephone-line to complainant's premises at Westbank	Inquiry showed insufficient customers at the present time to enable the company to reduce the proposed costs.
	Darling, P. E.	Aug. 18, 1951	Protest against extension charges for telephone-line extended to complaint's residence at Naramata	Commission found that the company's charges were reasonable under the circumstances.
	Winfield and Okanagan Centre Irrigation District, and Vernon Board of Trade	January, 1951	Protest against long-distance tolls that would go into effect on coming into operation of new exchange at Winfield and Okanagan Centre	Company showed that there were a number of compensating reductions offsetting the small long-distance charges.
Thomas, K. G.	Consumers at Canal Flats	Jan. 9, 1951	Complained about the high rates for the low quality of electric service	Steps taken to regularize operation of system.
Van Anda Light & Power Co. (A. Waters)	The Canadian Legion, Texada Island Branch No. 232	Mar. 10, 1951	Alleged charging of two minimum charges for electricity—one for hall and one for caretaker.	Charges found to be in accordance with the utility's filed tariff and complainant was so informed.

TABLE 7.—RATE COMPLAINTS, 1951—*Continued*

Public Utility	Complainant	Date of Complaint	Particulars	Disposition
West Kootenay Power & Light Co. Ltd.	Fairview Heights Irrigation District, Cawston	Aug. 24, 1951	Protest concerning power rate for irrigation	Applicant informed that the rate was the general irrigation rate of the company for the Southern Interior of British Columbia, and if there were any special circumstances at Cawston, they should be shown.
White Rock Water Works Co. Ltd.	Barr, I. E.	July 26, 1951	Protest against the granting of new rates	While an application had been made for increased rates, no increased rates had been approved; matter still in abeyance.
	Power, R. H.	Aug. 20, 1951	Complainant opposes increase in rates	No increase in rates has been approved.
	White Rock Ratepayers' Assn.	July 27, 1951	Complainant wants no increase in rates until an investigation is made of the company	Due to investigation of the Commission the application for increased rates is not being actively pursued at the present time.

Table 8.—Applications by Public Utilities for Approval of Security Issues and Mortgages Received or Decided in 1951

Applicant	Nature and Amount of Issue	Purpose	Date of Application	Disposition
British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	60,000, $100 par value 4¾% cumulative redeemable preferred shares	To provide funds for capital development programme of the company	Jan. 18, 1951	Granted; Jan. 18, 1951.
	Such number of 4% first-mortgage bonds and 4¾% preferred shares as may be required to carry out a plan of exchanging them for sterling securities of British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd.	Acquisition by B.C. Electric Co. Ltd., by agreement, of as many as possible of the sterling securities of B.C. Electric Railway Co. Ltd. as part of a plan for eventual winding-up of the railway company	May 15, 1951	Granted; May 19, 1951.
	$20,000,000, 3¾% first-mortgage bonds, Series G, payable in U.S. funds	To provide funds for capital additions, extensions, and betterments	Nov. 8, 1951	Granted; Nov. 16, 1951.
British Columbia Electric Railway Co. Ltd.	$7,000,000, 3¾% general mortgage bonds	Inter-company transaction to provide part of security for bonds issued to public by parent company, British Columbia Electric Co. Ltd.	Nov. 26, 1951	Granted; Nov. 27, 1951.
Elk Creek Waterworks Co. Ltd.	$100,000, 4¾%, Series B, first-mortgage bonds, and 36,190 shares	To provide funds for capital improvements and additions	Mar. 14, 1951	Granted; Apr. 23, 1951.
	10,000 no-par-value shares to yield the company $1.50 net per share	To provide funds for capital improvements and additions	Sept. 27, 1951	Granted; Oct. 19, 1951.
Northland Utilities (B.C.) Ltd.	$162,500, 5% first-mortgage bonds	Inter-company issue of bonds to the parent company, Northland Utilities Ltd.	July 16, 1951	Granted; July 30, 1951.
Okanagan Telephone Co.	$150,000 promissory note to bank	Temporary financing	Feb. 9, 1951	Granted; Feb. 9, 1951.
	$650,000, 5% Series A, general mortgage sinking fund bonds	To take care of commitments for capital developments to end of 1951	May 21, 1951	Granted; June 11, 1951.
White Rock Water Works Co. Ltd.	2,500 preference shares of a par value of $50 each and 2,500 shares of no par value	To provide funds for capital improvements and additions	Mar. 9, 1951	Granted; Apr. 9, 1951.

Table 9.—Applications for Approval of Sales of Assets of Public Utility Systems Received or Decided in 1951

Applicant	Transferee	Property Sold or Transferred	Date of Application	Disposition
East Trail Water Co. Ltd.	City of Trail	Waterworks assets of the company at East Trail	Dec. 19, 1950	Granted; Sept. 18, 1951.
Mission Telephone Co. Ltd.	British Columbia Telephone Co.	All physical assets	Aug. 6, 1951	Granted; Oct. 15, 1951.
Silverton Water & Light Co. Ltd.	Village of Silverton	Waterworks plant and system	Aug. 17, 1951	Granted; Dec. 6, 1951.
Solar Telephones Ltd.	Okanagan Telephone Co.	All assets	May 22, 1951	Granted; May 28, 1951.

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