

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF PUBLIC UTILITIES OF NEW BRUNSWICK

IN THE MATTER OF a Board Hearing to consider rules and regulations regarding the conduct of natural gas distributors and marketers in the Province of New Brunswick.

NOTICE

The Legislative Assembly passed the Gas Distribution Act 1999 in March of this year. This Act empowers this Board to regulate the local distribution of natural gas within the Province. It further requires the Board to issue certificates to anyone who wishes to market natural gas within the Province.

PLEASE NOTE this Board has not issued any certificates as of this date and, therefore, no person can legally sell natural gas in this Province.

The Board intends to hold a public hearing to discuss the issues associated with the marketing of natural gas, at which time all interested parties will have an opportunity to comment. Following the public hearing, the Board will release its decision and receive applications from individuals who wish to become gas marketers. Those persons who receive certificates will then be able to sell natural gas in New Brunswick.

At the hearing, the Board will discuss with the interested parties the following:

- The information to be filed by applicants who wish to become gas marketers in New Brunswick.
- The terms and conditions that should apply to persons receiving certificates.
- The rules (code of conduct) that should apply to gas marketers.
- The rules (code of conduct) that should apply to gas distributors governing their relationship to all gas marketers including affiliated companies.
- The information to be provided to the Board by gas marketers and gas distributors.
- The nature of the relationship between gas distributors, gas marketers and their customers.
- The rules regarding disconnection of service to a customer.
- Any other matter relating to gas distributors and/or gas marketers concerning which the Gas Distribution Act gives the Board regulatory jurisdiction.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board has ordered the following:

- a) That a prehearing conference shall be held in Ballroom A of the Delta Brunswick Hotel, Saint John, New Brunswick, on Wednesday the 18th day of August, 1999, commencing at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, when and where interested parties should attend and make representations as to the issues to be reviewed and to set dates for the hearing and the procedure to be followed prior to and at the Public Hearing and as to any other matters in respect thereto.
- b) Persons intending to participate must notify the Board in writing, at the address below, no later than Friday the 30th day of July, 1999.
- c) A copy of the Board's Order will be placed on file for examination by interested parties during normal business hours, in the offices of this Board. Copies of the Board's full Order may be obtained by calling (506) 658-2504 or writing to:

Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities
P.O. Box 5001
Saint John, NB
E2L 4Y9

Persons who register for the hearing will be provided with a package of background information prior to the prehearing conference.

Dated at the City of Saint John this ____ day of _____, 1999.

BY THE BOARD

L. R. LÉGÈRE, SECRETARY
NEW BRUNSWICK BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES