

August 2003 Newsletter



Update on Winter Gas Supplies

For the past six years, Sun Peaks Utilities worked with a large propane purchasing group comprised of the communities of Whistler, Panorama, Revelstoke and Furry Creek. As a consortium we would use our combined purchasing power to negotiate the best possible prices and we would also pre-purchase our winter gas supply in the summer when prices were at their lowest. This combined tactic of timing and size of order has normally protected our customers from the high winter prices others might experience.

Unfortunately, for the first time in 6 years, summer prices have not fallen significantly. Our supplier, MP Energy, is monitoring the market closely in the hopes of securing our winter gas supply at prices close to last year's rates. However, if current energy trends and prices prevail we may be unable to meet those supply cost expectations.

We are working closely with our partners and supplier and making every attempt to secure the very best possible price. Our current fuel contract expires on August 31st and we will keep you advised as more details become available. Should a change in the price of fuel become necessary, Sun Peaks Utilities must first apply to the British Columbia Utilities Commission. This process will involve public notification and include an opportunity for you to provide your comments and suggestions to both the Commission and Sun Peaks Utilities. There can be no change in the gas component price of your bill until the entire process has been thoroughly reviewed by the Commission and a ruling to accept or reject the application has been made.

For more information on the BC Utilities Commission, please visit their web site at WWW.BCUC.COM or call Sun Peaks Utilities' office at 250-578-5490.

Gas Safety Tips

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG at 250-578-5490 or 250-319-0629 for the location of all Sun Peaks Utility' services prior to starting any project that requires digging on your property (for landscaping, construction projects, etc.) There is no charge to locate your Utility services, but there is a charge to repair broken services.



WHAT DO I DO IF I SMELL GAS? – If you smell gas or hear the flow of escaping gas, follow these steps immediately.

1. **Leave the building immediately, open doors and Windows as you leave the building.**
2. **Don't smoke, operate electrical switches or create any other source of ignition or "spark."**
3. **Turn off your gas meter located at the side of your house**
4. **If you detect a gas odour, please call the office at 250-578-5490 immediately. After hours, call 250-319-0629.**

DO YOU KNOW WHAT GAS SMELLS LIKE? - Because gas is odourless, we add trace amounts of a chemical called mercaptan, which has a distinctive rotten egg or sulphur-like odour. It smells bad for a good reason! In case of a leak, we want you to be able to detect and identify it. If you do smell gas, even if you are not sure, please contact Sun Peaks Utilities at 250-578-5490 or 250-319-0629 immediately.

If you have any questions on these subjects or any other utility matter, please contact the office at 250-578-5490 or via e-mail at utilities@sunpeaksresort.com.

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK WWW.SUNPEAKSRESORT.COM FOR UPDATES ON WHAT IS HAPPENING AT SUN PEAKS THIS SUMMER!

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