

# Utility Newsletter

## July 2008



**CARBON TAX - Effective July 1, 2008**, the Province of British Columbia's carbon tax applies to fuels, such as gasoline, diesel, natural gas, heating fuel, propane and coal, and to peat and tires when used to produce energy or heat. As a retail supplier of propane to the resort community of Sun Peaks, Sun Peaks Utilities is required to charge its customers a Carbon Tax payable on the final sale of propane and submit the funds to the provincial government. This tax will be charged starting on your August 2008 invoice which covers propane fuel supplied to you beginning July 1, 2008. There will be a new line detailing the Carbon Tax charges on the August invoice along with other taxes such as the provincial sales tax and federal goods and services tax.

Due to the programming needed to implement this tax to your invoice, SPUCL will be running a test on the July 2008 invoices. The amount due for the Carbon Tax will be \$0.00 for this month only. Starting on your August 2008 invoice the charge will be \$0.6018 per Gigajoule of commodity delivered to you. If you would like more information on this BC Government policy, please visit their web site at [www.gov.bc.ca/carbon/index.html](http://www.gov.bc.ca/carbon/index.html) or call the Province of BC's Public Affairs Bureau at 250 387-5013.

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**RATE CHANGES** – as a regulated utility, Sun Peaks Utilities is required to evaluate its costs of providing services to its customers from time to time. Sun Peaks Utilities is currently undergoing this process. We expect to have a draft of the changes that may be required in the next few months and will be advising all our customers via the newsletter included in your monthly utility invoice as well at Sun Peaks Utilities' located web site at [www.sunpeaksutilities.com](http://www.sunpeaksutilities.com). We hope to ensure that the process of any changes is both transparent to our customers and the regulators. Once we have some initial feed back, we will be following the formal process set out by our regulators. More information on the regulatory process can be found at [www.bcuc.com](http://www.bcuc.com) (for gas) and [www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wsd/) (for water).

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**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 can be a very significant 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.

- Leave the building or area immediately. Open doors & windows on your way out. Don't backtrack!
- Don't smoke, operate electrical switches or create any other source of ignition or "spark".
- Turn off your gas meter located at the side of your house, if possible.

**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 smell. It smells bad for a reason! In case of a leak, we want you to be able to detect and identify it.

*If you do detect a gas odor (similar to rotten eggs) or need the ice removed, please call our emergency number at 250-319-0629. If you are not able reach Utilities' technician, PLEASE DIAL 911.*

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## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT



**SUN PEAKS HEALTH CLINIC** – The Clinic's rate of growth is dependent on your response to medical services offered. The Clinic's current summer hours of operation are 4:00 – 6:00pm, Mondays & Thursdays. As the physicians do travel from Kamloops and respond to emergency situations with their patients, there is the occasional physician cancellation.

*Please check the Clinic's web site [www.sunpeakshealth.com](http://www.sunpeakshealth.com) for a current schedule or call 578-2014 between 4:00 and 6:00 pm to confirm the Clinic is open.* Magnets with this information are available at the Utility's offices or the Medical Clinic.

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**Sun Peaks Utilities Co., Ltd.**

1280 Alpine Road, Sun Peaks, British Columbia, V0E 5N0 Tel: 250-578-5490 Fax: 250-578-7223

[www.sunpeaksutilities.com](http://www.sunpeaksutilities.com) – e-mail: [utilities@sunpeaksresort.com](mailto:utilities@sunpeaksresort.com)