Service Date: May 30, 1979

READING FILE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application of BELLE CREEK GAS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION to increase rates for natural gas service.	DOCKET NO. 6674 ORDER NO. 4510a

On April 23, 1979, BELLE CREEK GAS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION (Applicant) filed a petition with the Montana Public Service Commission pursuant to jurisdiction granted by 69-1-103 through 107, MCA (70-101, et seq., RCM 1947) FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING APPLICANT TO INCREASE ITS RATES FOR NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO DEFRAY THE INCREASED COST OF PURCHASED GAS. APPLICANT REQUESTED AN INTERIM RATE INCREASE.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On May 3, 1979 a Notice of Proposed Public Hearing was sent to each consumer served by Applicant. Protests and/or requests were due by May 25, 1979.

2. On May 8, 1979, Interim Order No. 4510 was issued authorizing Applicant to charge the following rate:

Metered gas will be sold to consumers in Belle Creek Oil Field at the rate of	$1.99 per MCF
Minimum charge, per unit, per month	$7.50

3. No protests nor requests for hearing were received and no hearing was scheduled.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter in this proceeding.

2. The rates approved herein are reasonable, just and proper.

ORDER

NOW THEREFORE, at a session of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana, held in the offices at Helena, Montana, there regularly comes before the Commission the matters and things in Docket No. 6674 and the Commission being fully advised in the premises:

IT IS ORDERED that Belle Creek Gas Cooperative Association is authorized to increase its natural gas rates as follows:

Metered gas will be sold to consumers in Belle Creek Oil Field at the rate of	$ 1.99 per MCF
Minimum charge per unit, per month	$10.00

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that these rates shall be effective for natural gas service rendered on and after June 1, 1979.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Applicant is required to file a certification of compliance to the Federal Anti-Inflation Guidelines and Tax Modifications.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION in Helena, Montana 59601 on May 29, 1979 by a 5 - 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

Gordon E. Bollinger, Chairman

Clyde Jarvis, Commissioner

Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

James R. Shea, Commissioner

George Turman, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill
Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTICE: You are entitled to judicial review of the final decision in this matter. If no Motion for Reconsideration is filed, judicial review may be obtained by filing a petition for review within thirty (30) days from the service of this order. If a Motion For Reconsideration is filed, a Commission order is final for purpose of appeal upon the entry of a ruling on that motion, or upon the passage of ten (10) days following the filing of that motion. cf. The Montana Administrative Procedure Act, esp. Section 2-4-701 through 2-4-704, MCA (Sec. 82-4216, RCM 1947); and Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38-2.2(64)-P2750, ARM.