Service Date: February 25, 1981

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

* * * * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application of the CITY OF BELT For Authority to Adopt Increased Water Rates.)	UTILITY DIVISION DOCKET NO. 80.12.109 DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4747

On December 29, 1980 the City of Belt (Applicant) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission for an order authorizing the applicant to increase its water rates to provide additional revenue to defray increased costs of operation to maintain, repair, and improve the water utility facilities and to meet increased capital expenditures.

Having considered the application and the documentation furnished by Applicant in support of its application and deeming itself fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. A Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing was published in the January 10, 1981 edition of the Great Falls Tribune and the January 15, 1981 edition of the Belt Valley Times. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by February 6, 1981 an appropriate order would be issued based upon evidence submitted with the application.

2. No requests for a hearing were received and no hearing was scheduled.

3. On August 27, 1980 the City Council of the City of Belt passed Resolution No. 519 setting water rates at the proposed level.

4. The City alleges it needs additional revenue to defray increased costs of operation to maintain, repair, and improve the water utility facilities and to meet capital expenditures.

5. The City anticipates that the proposed rates will increase annual revenues by approximately $16,000.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over parties and proceedings in this matter.

2. Interested persons were given proper notice and an opportunity to request a public hearing on this matter.

3. The resulting rate levels are reasonable and just.

ORDER

1. The rates as set forth in Appendix "A" attached and by this reference incorporated herein are authorized.

2. These rates shall be effective for all water services rendered on and after February 17, 1981.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION in Helena, Montana on February 17, 1981 by a 5 - 0 vote.

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BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

Gordon E. Bollinger, Chairman

Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

Howard L. Ellis, Commissioner

John B. Driscoll, Commissioner

Clyde Jarvis, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cottrill
Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: You may be 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. Sec 2-4-702, MCA, and Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38-2.4806, ARM.

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APPENDIX "A"

Single Household	$ 8.50
Apartment Houses	$ 8.50 per unit
Business Listed As Single Unit (Class 1): Bank, Post Office, Antique Shop, Grocery Body Shops, Churches, Insurance Office, Liquor Store, General Mills, Locker Plant, V.F.W.	$ 8.50
Burlington Northern Depot	$ 8.50
Business, Other - Rates According To Estimated Number of Bathrooms (Class 11): Gas Station, Bars, Bowling Alley, Car Repair, Cafe, School	$10.60
(Class 111): Beauty Shops, Farmers Union, Department Store	$11.60
Single Households Persons Residing Out of Town	$17.00