Service Date: December 7, 1984

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

* * *

IN THE MATTER Of The Application Of SHELBY GAS ASSOCIATION To Increase Natural Gas Rates And Charges.	UTILITY DIVISION DOCKET NO. 84.7.37 DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5099

On July 5, 1984, the Shelby Gas Association (SGA or Applicant) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its natural gas rates to provide additional revenue to defray increasing costs of operation, increasing uncollectible accounts, and decreasing sales. SGA proposed to increase revenues annually by $53,271 based on the following tariff rates:

First Mcf or less per month	$7.13
Excess Mcf at	$5.13

On October 12, 1984, the Applicant filed an amendment to its original application by submitting a revised rate schedule. The proposed new rates would generate $54,513 of additional annual revenue. The proposed rates as revised are as follows:

Monthly Service Charge	$5.00
All Mcf at	$4.90

The following are the Applicant's rates presently in effect:

First Mcf or less per month	$6.79
Excess Mcf at	$4.79

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 November 1, 1984 edition of the Shelby Promoter and the October 31, 1984 edition of the Great Falls Tribune. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by November 16, 1984, an appropriate order would be issued based upon evidence submitted with the original and revised application.

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

3. SGA alleges it needs additional revenue to defray increasing costs of operation, increasing uncollectible accounts, and decreasing sales.

4. The Applicant anticipates that the proposed increase in rates will increase annual revenues by $54,513.

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 following rates are authorized:

Monthly Service Charge	$5.00
All Mcf at	$4.90

2. These rates shall be effective for all natural gas services rendered on and after December 3, 1984.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana on December 3, 1984, by a vote of 5 to 0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Chairman

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

CLYDE JARVIS, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Laura Bird, Acting Secretary

Madeline L. Cottrill
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See ARM 38.2.4806.