

Service Date: September 14, 1977

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

IN THE MATTER OF the APPLICATION) UTILITY DIVISION
by THE MONTANA POWER COMPANY for)
authority to increase rates for) DOCKET NO. 6454
electric and natural gas service) ORDER NO. 4350a
and requesting approval of)
certain changes in the)
regulations covering such)
service.)

Among the rate schedules approved pursuant to Order No. 4350 was Schedule IS 75. Subsequent to the approval of this Schedule by the Commission, Montana Power has expressed to the Commission staff the belief that certain of the Schedule IS 75 billing conditions have resulted in excessive charges to sixty-three irrigation customers using electric motors rated at less than three horsepower. Montana Power proposes to rectify this situation by modifying Schedule IS 75 in the manner approved below.

ORDER

1. Montana Power is ordered to recompute its bills to its sixty-three irrigation customers with electric motors rated at less than three horsepower in the following manner:

a.) Montana Power shall identify all active accounts which were billed under the IS 75 conditions during the 1977 irrigation season.

b.) The bills so rendered shall be recomputed by using the revised IS 75 billing conditions approved herein;

c.) Those customers who received bills in excess of the recomputed bills shall be offered their choice of a refund or a credit in the amount by which the original bill exceeded the recomputed bill.

2. Revised Schedule IS 75 is approved in the following form:

Schedule IS-75

IRRIGATION PUMPING AND SPRINKLING

AVAILABILITY: Under seasonal contract to any customer using this service exclusively for the operation of irrigation pumping and sprinkling equipment billed as three horsepower or more during the irrigation season, normally May through October, where service may be discontinued during the balance of the year and transformers removed at the discretion of the Company.

TYPE OF SERVICE: Sixty cycle, alternating current at such phase and voltage as Company may have available.

RATE PER SEASON OR FRACTION THEREOF:

KWH Per Horsepower Billed	Billed
1 to 500 kwh	- \$10.10 per horsepower connected
501 to 750 kwh	- All kilowatt-hours at 2.02 per kwh
751 to 1000 kwh	- All kilowatt-hours at 1.614 per kwh
1001 to 1250 kwh	- All kilowatt-hours at 1.49 per kwh
1251 to 1500 kwh	- All kilowatt-hours at 1.354 per kwh
1501 to 2000 kwh	- All kilowatt-hours at 1.224 per kwh
2001 to 2500 kwh	- All kilowatt-hours at 1.094 per kwh
Over 2500 kwh	- All kilowatt-hours at 1.014 per kwh

MINIMUM SEASONAL BILL: \$10.10 per horsepower billed.

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS: (1) No bill shall be rendered

wherein the customer will be charged more for his consumption at a higher rate level than he would pay for the minimum use at the next lower rate level.

(2) The minimum seasonal bill will be prorated over the period of connection, such period ending in any event in October in all years.

(3) The consumption will be determined monthly during the season and at the end of the season, on or about the 30-h of October. The total bill for such service shall be computed from the various determinations as follows:

(a) The total seasonal kwh used per horsepower billed times the rate prescribed in this schedule;

(b) The total of the consumption in each month during the season applied monthly to the rates established in the General Service schedule.

The lower of the total seasonal bills computed hereunder less the paid portion of the minimum seasonal bill prescribed by this schedule shall be the amount due and payable for the service; provided, however, that in no event shall the total bill for service be less than the minimum seasonal bill prescribed by this schedule.

(4) Each point of delivery will be separately contracted for and billed. at the rate and rate level applicable thereto.

(5) Any kilowatt-hours used after the October meter reading date will be billed at the average rate level consumed by and billed to the customer during the irrigation season.

(6) All service provided by the Company under this and all other schedules is governed by the rules and regulations approved by the Commission.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION on September 6, 1977, by a vote of 4-0.

GORDON E. BOLLINGER, Chairman

P.J.GILFEATHER, Commissioner

JAMES R. SHEA, Commissioner

GEORGE TURMAN, Commissioner

ATTEST

Gail E. Behan
Secretary

(SEAL)