

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

READING FILE

* * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application)	
of the TOWN OF CHESTER For An Order)	UTILITY DIVISION
Authorizing An Increase In Sewer)	DOCKET NO. 6632
Rates.)	DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4481c
_____)	

On November 29, 1979, the Town of Chester (Applicant) filed a petition with the Commission to increase sewer rates under 80-4209, RCM 1947, pursuant to jurisdiction granted by 70-101, et seq., RCM 1947, and interpretation by the Montana Supreme Court of 11-1001(1), RCM 1947 in Cause No. 14145, and to the requirements of Article II, Sections 8 and 9 of the Montana Constitution for an order authorizing Applicant to increase its sewer rates for additional revenue to finance its share (\$25,000.00) of a proposed additional sewer treatment cell required by the Environmental Protection Agency and to offset the rising costs of operations.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On April 1, 1980, Default Order No. 4481b was issued in Docket No. 6632. This order granted the Applicant a residential unit charge of \$5.00 per month for a period of nine months. This represents a \$1.00 increase to residential customers. The metered commercial establishments were to reflect no change.

2. On December 16, 1980, the Town Attorney submitted a petition for continuation of the \$5.00 residential charge beyond the nine months allowed in Order No. 4481b.

3. The Applicant states the increase is necessary to generate \$7,500.00 to pay its portion of consultant fees incurred under the EPA grant covering Step II project costs.

4. The Commission finds that in order to generate approximately \$7,500.00 by increasing rates to residential users by \$1.00 per month the following calculation be made:

$$\frac{\text{Present request}}{\text{Residential users}} = \frac{\$7,500}{373} = 20 \text{ months}$$

Therefore, the \$1.00 per month increase requested in the motion shall be in effect for a period of twenty months.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

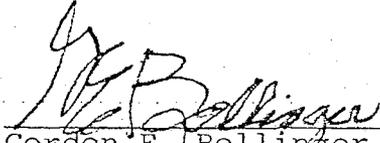
1. The Commission has jurisdiction over parties and proceedings in this matter.
2. The resulting rate levels are reasonable and just.

ORDER

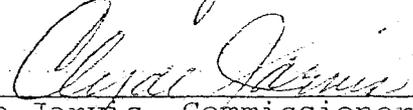
1. The Applicant shall file rate schedules reflecting a residential unit charge of \$5.00 per month. The metered commercial establishment shall reflect no change.
2. The rates shall be effective for all sewer services rendered on and after December 19, 1980, and continue in effect for twenty months.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION in Helena, Montana on December 19, 1980, by a 5 - 0 vote.

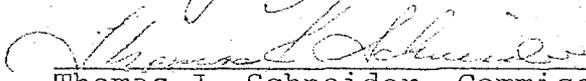
BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.



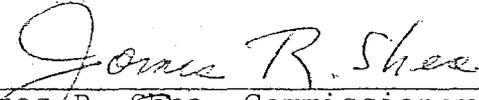
Gordon E. J. Bollinger, Chairman



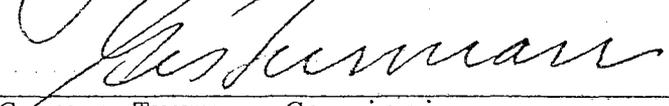
Clyde Jarvis, Commissioner



Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner

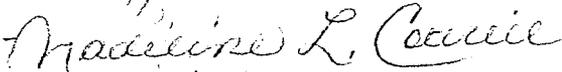


James R. Shea, Commissioner



George Turman, 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 purposes 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.