

READING ROOM

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

\* \* \* \* \*

IN THE MATTER of the Application )  
of BLACK HILLS POWER AND LIGHT ) DOCKET NO. 6660  
COMPANY for authority to increase ) DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4507  
electric rates. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

BLACK HILLS POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY (BHPL) (Applicant) filed a petition with the Montana Public Service Commission pursuant to Sections 69-3-101 et seq., MCA (Section 70-101 et seq., RCM 1947) for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its electric rates in order to recover the increasing cost of fuel used in the generation of electricity. The fuel costs concerned are for the months of December, 1978 and January and February, 1979.

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 Proposed Hearing to be held, if requested, was sent to the Montana Consumer Counsel, and all of Applicant's Montana customers. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by April 27, 1979 an appropriate order would be issued based upon evidence submitted with the application.

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

2. \$.003030 per KWH is required in order that BHPL may recover the incremental fuel costs for the months of December, 1978 and January and February, 1979 of \$.00826 per KWH rather than the base cost allowed in Docket No. 6508 of \$.00523.

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

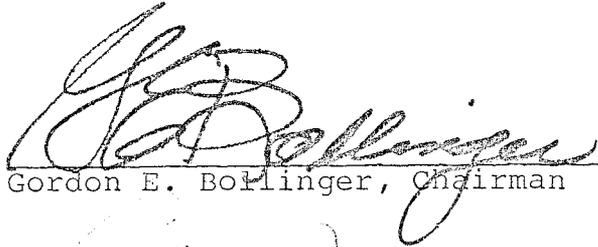
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider for the billing period of May, June and July is \$.00303 per KWH. This charge shall be in addition to the base cost approved in Docket No. 6508.

2. The approved rates shall be effective for electric service rendered on and after May 1, 1979.

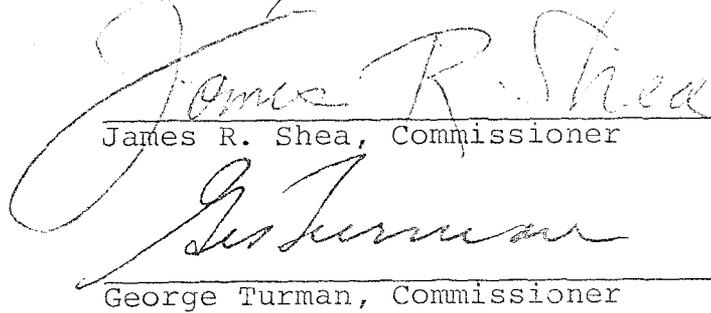
DONE IN OPEN SESSION in Helena, Montana 59601 on April 30, 1979 by a 5 - 0 vote.

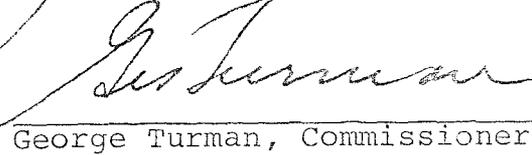
BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

  
Gordon E. Bollinger, Chairman

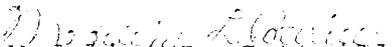
  
Clyde Jarvis, Commissioner

  
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. Sec. 2-4-702, MCA; and Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38-2.2 (64)-P2750, ARM.

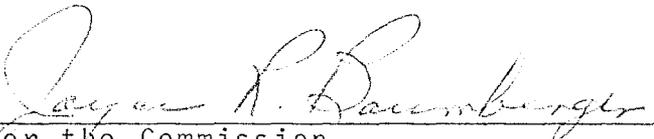
MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

\* \* \*

I hereby certify that a copy of DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4507, in DOCKET NO. 6660, in the matter of BLACK HILLS POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, dated April 30, 1979, has today been served on all parties listed below by mailing a copy thereof to each party by first class mail, postage prepaid.

Date: May 1, 1979.

  
Jayne R. Baumberger  
For the Commission

George T. Locke  
Senior Vice President  
and Secretary Treasurer  
Black Hills Power & Light  
P. O. Box 1400  
Rapid City, SD 57701

Geoffrey L. Brazier  
Montana Consumer Counsel  
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