

Service Date: October 16, 1981

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

IN THE MATTER of the Application)
of the Belle Creek Gas Cooperative) UTILITY DIVISION
Association For an Order Authorizing) DOCKET No. 81.10.89
An Increase In Rates for Natural) INTERIM ORDER No. 4846
Gas Service.)

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On October 2, 1981, the BELLE CREEK GAS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION (Applicant) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission for an order to authorize an increase in rates for natural gas service to defray the increased cost of purchased gas. Along with that application was a request for an interim rate increase.

2. Belle Creek Gas Cooperative Association purchases 100% of its natural gas from Gary Energy Corporation.

3. On September 12, 1981, Gary Energy Corporation notified applicant that effective July 1, 1981, the price of natural gas would be \$3.57883 per Mcf.

4. The increase will generate approximately \$30,000.00 additional annual revenues.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission may, in its discretion, temporarily approve increases pending a hearing on final action. If the final action is to disapprove the increase, the Commission shall

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order a rebate to all consumers for the amount collected retro-active to the date of the temporary approval. 69-3-304, MCA.

2. The application will be noticed for hearing at a later date.

ORDER

1. Belle Creek Gas Cooperative Association is authorized to increase its rates to recover increased gas costs from Gary Energy Corporation.

2. The increase granted herein is subject to rebate should the final order in this docket determine that a lesser increase than authorized by this order is required.

3. In the event a rebate is directed by a supplemental order in this Docket, provision shall be made in that order to cause all uncollected rebates to be escheated to the State of Montana, in the manner provided by law.

4. The following rates are authorized:

\$4.50 per Mcf
Minimum charge \$15.00 per unit per month

5. The filed tariffs shall be effective for services rendered on and after October 14, 1981.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION by a 5-0 vote at a meeting of the Public Service Commission held in Helena, Montana on October 14, 1981.

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BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.



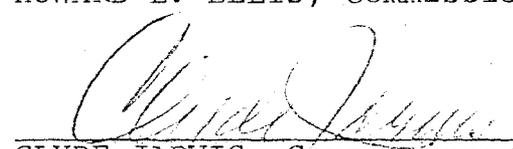
GORDON E. BOLLINGER, Chairman



JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner



HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

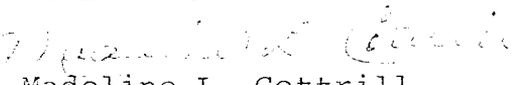


CLYDE JARVIS, Commissioner



THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Madeline L. Cottrill
Commission 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.