

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

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IN THE MATTER of the Application)	UTILITY DIVISION
of the Town of Columbus for)	DOCKET NO. 81.9.83
Authority to Adopt Increased)	DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4859
Sewer Rates.)	

On September 9, 1981, the Town of Columbus (Applicant) filed an application with the Montana Public Service Commission for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its sewer rates to provide revenues to defray increased costs of operation, to maintain and repair existing systems and meet increased capital expenditures.

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 to be held, if requested, was published in the October 11, 1981, edition of the Billings Gazette and the October 15, 1981, edition of the Stillwater County Citizen. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by November 9, 1981, an appropriate order may be issued based upon evidence submitted with the application.
2. No protests or requests for public hearing were received and no hearing was scheduled.
3. On July 6, 1981, the entire Town Council of the Town

DOCKET NO. 81.9.83, DEFAULT ORDER NO.

of Columbus passed a resolution setting sewer rates at the proposed level.

4. The Town alleges it needs additional revenue to provide for increased costs of operation, to maintain and repair the existing system and meet increased capital expenditures.

5. The Town anticipates that the proposed rates will increase annual revenues by approximately \$3,650.

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 following rates are authorized:

Rate: \$1.25 on the first 3,000 gallons of water, and 20¢ on each succeeding 1,000 gallons or fraction thereof.

2. These rates shall be effective for all sewer services rendered on and after November 13, 1981.

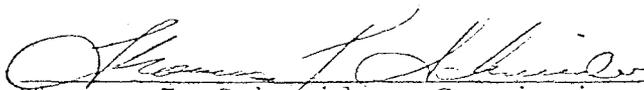
DONE IN OPEN SESSION in Helena, Montana, on November 13, 1981, by a 4 - 0 vote.

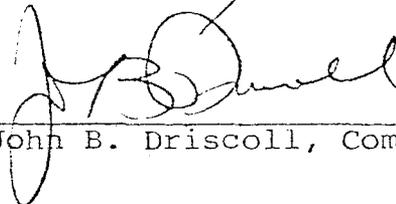
DOCKET NO. 81.9.83, DEFAULT ORDER NO.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.


Gordon E. Bollinger, Chairman


Howard L. Ellis, Commissioner


Thomas J. Schneider, Commissioner


John B. Driscoll, 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 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 Act, esp. Sec. 2-4-702, MCA; and Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, esp. 38.2.4806, ARM.