

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)	UTILITY DIVISION
COMPANY For Authority To Increase)	DOCKET NO. 83.3.19
Their Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider.)	DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4970
)	

On March 24, 1983, Black Hills Power and Light Company (BHPL or Applicant) filed a petition with the Montana Public Service Commission pursuant to Sections 69-3-101 et. seq., MCA for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its electric rates in order to reflect the increased cost of fuel used in the generation of electricity. The fuel costs concerned are for the months of December 1982 and January and February, 1983.

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. If increased fuel costs for the months of December, 1982 and January and February, 1983 are to be recovered, a charge of \$.00112 must be added to the base fuel cost of \$.01078 approved in Docket No. 81.5.48 which results in a total fuel charge of \$.01190 per KWH.

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:

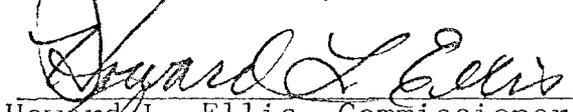
1. The Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider for the billing period of May, June, and July, 1983 is \$.00112 per KWH. This charge shall be added to the base cost approved in Docket No. 81.5.48.
2. The approved rates shall be effective for electric service rendered on and after May 1, 1983.

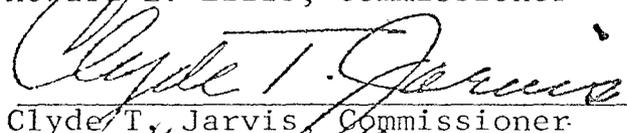
DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana on April 25, 1983,
by a 5 - 0 vote.

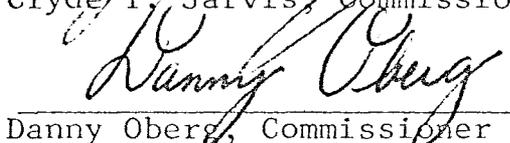
BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.


Thomas J. Schneider, Chairman


John B. Driscoll, Commissioner


Howard L. Ellis, Commissioner


Clyde T. Jarvis, Commissioner


Danny Oberg, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Madeline L. Cottrill
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.

MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

* *

I hereby certify that a copy of DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4970, in DOCKET NO. 83.3.19, in the matter of BLACK HILLS POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, dated April 25, 1983, has today been served on all of the parties listed below by mailing a copy thereof to each party by first class mail, postage prepaid.

Date: April 26, 1983.



For the Commission

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