

Service Date: July 31, 1985

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

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER Of The Application) UTILITY DIVISION
Of BLACK HILLS POWER AND LIGHT) DOCKET NO. 85.7.31
COMPANY For Authority To Increase) DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5151
Their Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider.)

On July 5, 1985, 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 March, April and May 1985.

On July 18, 1985, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing. a provision in that notice stated "If, however, no hearing is requested by July 26, 1985, the Commission will consider the matter and a default order may be issued."

Having considered the application and the documentation furnished by the 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 March, April and May 1985, are to be recovered, a charge of \$.00885 must

be added to the base fuel cost of \$.01240 approved in Docket No. 83.4.25 which results in a total fuel charge of \$.01625 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.

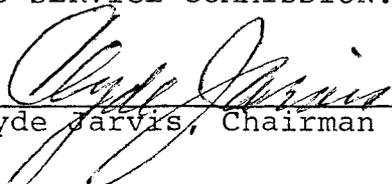
ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

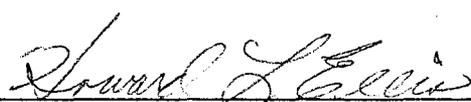
1. The Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider for the billing period of August, September and October 1985 is \$.00385 per KWH. This charge shall be added to the base fuel cost approved in Docket No. 83.4.25.
2. The approved rates shall be effective for electric service rendered on and after August 1, 1985.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana on July 29, 1985,
by a vote of 4-0.

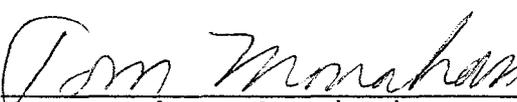
BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.



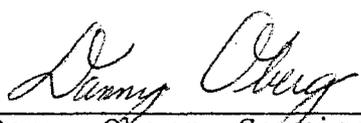
Clyde Jarvis, Chairman



Howard L. Ellis, Commissioner

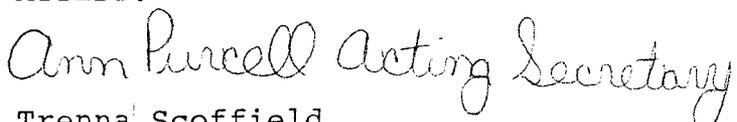


Tom Monahan, Commissioner



Danny Oberg, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Trenna Scoffield
Commission Secretary

Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 28.2.4806, ARM.