

Service Date: October 26, 1988

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

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application)	UTILITY DIVISION
Of GREAT FALLS GAS COMPANY For)	
Authority To Issue Unsecured Debt)	DOCKET NO. 88.10.35
In The Amount of \$5 Million)	ORDER NO. 5375
<hr/>)

* * * * *

ORDER FOR EXTENSION OF 30-DAY REVIEW PERIOD

* * * * *

On October 5, 1988, Great Falls Gas Company filed an application to issue a \$5,000,000 debenture which will bear interest at the estimated rate of 11.2 percent. This debenture will be used to finance the acquisition of Cody Gas Company.

Section 69-3-503, MCA, requires the Public Service Commission (Commission) to take an action on the petition of a utility company for authority to incur security obligations within 30 days from the date of the petition unless for good cause, it is necessary to continue consideration for a longer period.

The acquisition of Cody Gas Company constitutes an unusual activity for Great Falls Gas Company and may have short and

long-term consequences on the operation of the Great Falls Gas Company. Because of the significance of this purchase the Commission has directed staff to make data requests in order to determine what affect the issuance of the securities will have on the operations of Great Falls Gas Company.

Because of the time necessary to draft, answer and analyze the data requests, the Commission finds it necessary to extend the time period for review of the petition for application from 30 days to 60 days in order to meet its obligations under Sections 69-3-501 et seq., MCA

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission in Section 69-3-503, MCA, that the period for consideration of the petition by Great Falls Gas Company for authority to incur \$5 million in securities debt is extended to December 5, 1988.

DONE AND DATED this 26th day of October, 1988 by a vote of
5 - 0 .

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CLYDE JARVIS, Chairman

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

TOM MONAHAN, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Carol Frasier
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)