

Service Date: February 3, 1997

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

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IN THE MATTER OF WEST YELLOWSTONE) UTILITY DIVISION
GAS COMPANY, Application for Authority to) DOCKET NO. D96.11.187
Increase Rates for Natural Gas Service.) ORDER NO. 5966

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DEFAULT ORDER GRANTING INCREASE IN NO INTEREST LOAN CHARGES

BACKGROUND

1. On , November 14, 1996, West Yellowstone Gas Co. (Applicant or WYG) filed an Application with the Montana Public Service Commission (Commission or PSC) for approval of an increase to rates for to extend to its customers an increase to the No Interest Loan (NIP) surcharge approved by the PSC in Great Falls Gas Company Order No. 5933a. This increase, for equivalent heat value, equals the amount of \$0.00644 per ccf (hundred cubic feet).

2. On December 24, 1996 the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. A provision in that notice stated, "Any interested person who is directly affected by WYG's request now before the PSC may request a hearing by writing directed to the PSC, no later than January 16, 1997." No requests for hearing have been received.

3. 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 PSC makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

4. No request for hearing has been received.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Montana Public Service Commission is responsible for the supervision, regulation, and control of public utilities pursuant to the provisions of Title 69. Section 69-3-102, MCA.

2. West Yellowstone Gas Company is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Section 69-3-101, MCA.

3. The natural gas service offered to the Town of West Yellowstone is subject to the regulatory authority of the Commission.

4. The resulting rates are just and reasonable.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The approved rates shall be effective for service rendered on and after January 28, 1997.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana this 28th day of January, 1997 by a 5-0 vote.

BY THE ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DAVE FISHER, Chairman

NANCY McCaffree, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Kathlene M. Anderson
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

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