COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

## BEFORE THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF )
KENTUCKY, INC. FOR ISSUANCE OF )
A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVEN- )
IENCE AND NECESSITY TO BID ON A ) CASE NO. 7656
GAS DISTRIBUTION FRANCHISE IN )
THE TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF THE )
CITY OF SOUTH SHORE, KENTUCKY )

## ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO APPLY FOR FRANCHISE

On the 8th day of November, 1979, Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. filed with the Commission its Application seeking a certificate of convenience and necessity to qualify it to bid on a gas franchise in the Territorial Limits of the City of South Shore, Kentucky. Under the provisions of KRS 278.020(3), no utility may apply for a franchise from any governmental agency until it has obtained a certificate of convenience and necessity from this Commission based on our finding that there is a need and demand for the service sought to be rendered.

Upon examination of the materials filed by the Applicant, and with reference to Applicant's annual reports which are required to be on file with this Commission, the Commission FINDS that Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. is presently providing gas service to approximately 1,228 customers in the South Shore area.

The Commission FURTHER FINDS that there is a need and demand for gas service in the Territorial Limits of the City of South Shore, Kentucky. Since the Commission's authority in such matters is limited by statute to finding only whether there is a need and demand for the service sought to be rendered, no finding or determination is made as to the validity of any of the provisions of the franchise offered by the Territorial Limits of the City of South Shore, Kentucky or the manner in which any franchise fee is to be treated for rate purposes.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED That Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. be and it hereby is granted a certificate of convenience and necessity which authorizes it to bid on a gas franchise in the Territorial Limits of the City of South Shore, Kentucky.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc., if it becomes the successful bidder, file with this Commission a copy of the said franchise.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That this Order shall not be construed as granting a certificate of convenience and necessity to construct utility facilities in said Territorial Limits of the City of South Shore, Kentucky.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 25th day of January, 1980.

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Secretary