## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

THE REQUEST OF LYDA GAS COMPANY ) OF ELKHORN CITY, KENTUCKY FOR AN ) EXEMPTION FROM 807 KAR 50:015 ) BUDGET BILLING PLAN) )

## ORDER

On September 10, 1979, the Commission notified Lyda Gas Company that it must comply with Commission Regulation 807 KAR 50:015 (11) by implementing a budget billing plan before the end of calendar year 1979. Thereafter, by letter dated January 23, 1980, the Company requested an exemption from the requirement of implementing a budget billing plan.

The Commission decided to treat this letter as an application to deviate from the provisions of 807 KAR 50:015 (11); therefore, the matter was set for hearing on the 12th day of March, 1980, in the Commission's office in Frankfort, Kentucky. The hearing was held as scheduled with one intervenor, the Attorney General's Division of Consumer Intervention, being present. At said hearing, the Commission instructed the Applicant to conduct a survey of its customers to determine their interest in a budget billing plan and upon completion of the survey to provide the result to the Commission.

The result of the survey was filed on April 2, 1980, and was made a part of the record herein. The case was then submitted to the Commission for final determination.

The Commission, after consideration of the application and all evidence of record and being advised, is of the opinion and FINDS:

(1) The Applicant serves approximately 22 customers who would be eligible for any budget plan instituted by the Applicant.

(2) The result of the survey conducted by the Applicant indicated no interest in a budget billing plan.

(3) The Applicant has made and is continuing efforts to offer individually fashioned partial payment plans to customers experiencing hardships.



ATTEST:

Secretary

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(4) The implementation of a budget billing plan would require the Applicant to incur additional expenses which would materially impair its operations.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that Lyda Gas Company is hereby granted a one (1) year exemption from the date of the hearing or JUNF 19 (19) until March 12, 1981, to implement a budget billing plan.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this the *May* of June, 1980.

ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION Chairman . ACK Vice Chairn Commissioner M