

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

HARLIS MONTGOMERY)	
COMPLAINANT)	
)	
VS.)	CASE NO. 9576
)	
LICKING VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC)	
COOPERATIVE CORPORATION)	
)	
DEFENDANT)	

O R D E R

The Commission, on its own Motion, HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. A hearing be and it hereby is scheduled on August 21, 1986, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in the Commission's offices, Frankfort, Kentucky.


2. Licking Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation ("Licking Valley") and Harlis Montgomery shall appear with witnesses and pertinent documents to present evidence on the formal complaint filed with the Commission on May 8, 1986.

3. The Meter Test and Inspection Report for Harlis Montgomery vs. Licking Valley attached hereto as Appendix A, shall be included as a part of the record in this proceeding.

4. Harlis Montgomery and Licking Valley shall file written comments, if any, concerning the contents of Appendix A by August 7, 1986.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 21st day of July, 1986.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



For the Commission

ATTEST:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

APPENDIX "A"

R E P O R T

TO: Claude G. Rhorer, Jr., Director *CR*
Division of Engineering and Services

THRU: M. J. Fisher, Chief *mf*
Electric Section

FROM: Jeffery L. Gilpin *JLG*
Utility Investigator, Sr.
Electric Section

SUBJECT: Meter Test and Inspection
Case No. 9576

DATE: June 23, 1986

On June 13, 1986, I went to Licking Valley RECC to examine and observe a test of meter #14351 in reference to Case No. 9576. Present at Licking Valley's meter shop were Howard Montgomery, complainant, Stephen Sanders, complainant's attorney, Sally Nickell, office manager for Licking Valley RECC, and Garland Cottle, Certified Meter Tester for Licking Valley.

This complaint arose after Licking Valley removed Mr. Montgomery's meter from account #2205900600 on March 21, 1986, for a periodic test. While testing the meter Mr. Cottle noticed the meter blades exhibited, what he thought to be, excess wear considering the meter had been installed at this account only. Mr. Cottle attributed this wear to the meter being removed and inserted upside down repeatedly to cause the meter to run backward and in turn subtract the number of kilowatt hours shown. Mr. Cottle notified the billing department after which initiated a usage study which showed a steady decline in kilowatt hours used

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as shown in the attached April 4, 1986, letter mailed to Mr. Montgomery.

While I was at Licking Valley Mr. Cottle tested the meter again according to procedures in 807 KAR 5:041, Section 17, and found it to have an average percent registration of 100.28 which is within the requirements of 807 KAR 5:006, Section 9(2). When I inspected the meter, the blades did appear to show an unusual amount of wear to have been installed only once. No inspection of the meter base was made to see if it had excess wear or if there was damage in the base that could have caused the wear on the meter blades when the meter was installed and removed. Also, Mrs. Nickell stated that the serviceman who removed the meter did not note whether the meter retaining ring seal was intact when the meter was removed. The meter retaining ring seal is used to determine if the retaining ring has been opened, which is necessary before the meter can be removed.

JLG:jsb

Attachment



LICKING VALLEY RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
 MAIN STREET
 P.O. DRAWER 605
 WEST LIBERTY, KY 41472



BILL DUNCAN
 General Manager
 April 4, 1986

Howard Montgomery
 Fritz, Kentucky 41431

RE: Periodic Meter Change - Account No. 2205900600

Dear Mr. Montgomery:

On March 21, 1986, our service man changed your meter for a periodic test as required by the Kentucky Public Service Commission. During the course of such change, it was discovered that the meter spades exhibited considerable wear. According to 807 KAR 5:006 Section 9:9 your bill has been recomputed.

Your historic kilowatt consumption is as follows:

1979	31,402 KWH
1980	29,847 KWH
1981	21,201 KWH
1982	14,058 KWH
1983	14,377 KWH
1984	11,215 KWH
1985	9,958 KWH

As you can see, your kilowatt consumption dropped drastically starting with 1982. We computed an annual kilowatt consumption average as follows:

1979	31,402	
1980	29,847	
1981	<u>21,201</u>	
Total	82,450	$82,450 \div 3 = 27,483$ KWH per year

We then figured the annual discrepancy as follows:

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
KWH Per Year Average	27,483	27,483	27,483	27,483	6,870
KWH Billed	<u>14,058</u>	<u>14,377</u>	<u>11,215</u>	<u>9,958</u>	<u>2,931</u>
Underbilled	13,425	13,106	16,268	17,525	3,939

If you add the five underbilled totals together, you come up with a sum of 64,263 kilowatts that you were not billed for.

The total additional billing due immediately on this account is \$3,794.27 plus



\$38.50 for the meter for a total due of \$3,832.77. This includes your March 1986 bill, which you will receive on April 20, 1986.

We need for you to come to our West Liberty Office within ten (10) days from the date of this letter to make arrangements for payment of this \$3,832.77. Otherwise your electric service will be disconnected as stated in 807 KAR 5:006 Section 11:3b.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



Sallie Jo Nickell,
Manager of Office Services