COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

WESTERN KENTUCKY GAS

) CASE NO. 97-289

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF 807 KAR 5:022

ORDER

On July 11, 1997, Western Kentucky Gas ("Western") moved for an extension of time of 45 days in which to file its response to the Commission's Order of June 26, 1997. Western also moved for an informal conference with Commission Staff, pending the filing of a response, for the purpose of considering simplification of the issues, proposed actions to address the issues raised in the Order, and other matters pertinent to the Commission's investigation of the incident involved herein.

Regarding Western's motion for an extension of time, the Commission finds the requested 45 days to be excessive and the request therefore should be denied. Western will be given until July 23, 1997, in which to file its response to the Commission's Order of June 26, 1997.

While the Commission is not opposed to Western having an informal conference with Commission Staff for the purposes proposed in Western's motion, the appropriate time for such a conference is after Western files its response to the Commission's Order of June 26, 1997. Western's motion for an informal conference therefore should be denied at the present time. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Western's motion for a 45-day extension of time is denied. Western shall file its response to the Commission's June 26, 1997 Order on or before July 23, 1997.

2. Western's motion for an informal conference is denied at this time. If Western desires an informal conference after it files its response to the Commission's June 26, 1997 Order, it may act accordingly.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 15th day of July, 1997.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

K Breathutt

For the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director