COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE PETITION OF GEORGE LUCAS, SR., D/B/A ADDISON WATER AND SEWAGE FACILITIES, FOR AUTHORIZATION TO CEASE OPERATION AS A PUBLIC UTILITY AND FOR DETERMINATION THAT ITS FACILITIES ARE NO LONGER USED TO PROVIDE SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC

CASE NO. 97-177

ORDER

On June 26, 1998, the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet ("Natural Resources") renewed its motion filed previously herein which requests the Commission to "appoint a Receiver pursuant to its authority in KRS 278.021 in the event the PSC grants the petition of abandonment filed by George Lucas, Sr., et al."¹ The heading on both motions states they are "motions for conditional appointment of receiver pursuant to KRS 278.021." The Petitioner has filed a response to both motions.

KRS 278.021 does not grant the Commission any authority to appoint a receiver. KRS 278.021, Section (1), states in part :

The Commission <u>may</u> petition the Franklin Circuit Court for an order. . . placing it under the sole control and responsibility of a receiver. (Emphasis added)

Motions of Natural Resources filed February 27, 1998 and June 26, 1998.

KRS 278.021, Section (2), states:

Any receiver <u>appointed by the court</u> shall file a bond unless <u>the court</u> finds it unnecessary. (Emphasis added)

It is clear from the statute that only after a determination of abandonment is made that the Commission may petition the Franklin Circuit Court for the appointment of a receiver. The Commission does not have the authority to appoint a receiver pursuant to KRS 278.021.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the motion to appoint a conditional receiver is denied.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 7th day of July, 1998.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Vice

ATTEST: Executive Directo