COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DELTA NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC.)
COMPLAINANT)
v.) CASE NO. 2000-418
COLUMBIA NATURAL RESOURCES, INC.)
DEFENDANT)

<u>ORDER</u>

On October 12, 2000, the Commission on its own motion directed Delta Natural Gas Company ("Delta") to address certain questions regarding the Commission's jurisdiction over the issues presented in Delta's complaint. Having reviewed Delta's response to this Order and the other pleadings in this matter, the Commission finds that the record is not sufficiently developed to address these questions, that the parties should be afforded the opportunity to conduct discovery and present evidence on these and other issues, and that a procedural schedule should be established in this matter.

The Commission places Delta on notice that it must demonstrate Columbia Natural Resources, Inc.'s status as a utility subject to Commission jurisdiction and that the holding in our Order of May 27, 1987 in Administrative Case No. 297¹ regarding the need for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the construction of a

¹ Administrative Case No. 297, An Investigation Into the Impact of Federal Policy on Natural Gas to Kentucky Customers and Suppliers (May 27, 1987) at 63-64.

private natural gas pipeline serving only the party which constructs the pipeline remains valid in light of subsequent holdings of this Commission and the Courts.²

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. A formal hearing in this matter shall be held on March 20, 2001 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, at the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort, Kentucky, and shall continue until completed.
- 2. Each party may, on or before January 5, 2001, serve upon any other party an initial request for production of documents and written interrogatories to be answered by the party served within 10 days of service.
- 3. Each party may, on or before January 25, 2001, serve upon any other party a supplemental request for production of documents and written interrogatories to be answered by the party served within 10 days of service.
- 4. Each party may, on or before February 15, 2001, take the testimony of any person by deposition upon oral examination pursuant to notice or by agreement.
- 5. On or before March 1, 2001, each party shall file with the Commission in verified form the direct testimony of each witness that it expects to call at the formal hearing.
- 6. On or before March 15, 2001, each party shall file with the Commission in verified form the testimony of each rebuttal witness that it expects to call at the formal hearing.

² <u>See, e.g.,</u> Case No. 99-058, Petition of Calvert City Power I, L.L.C. For A Declaratory Order (July 6, 1999); Case No. 2000-075, Petition of Kentucky Pioneer Energy L.L.C. For A Declaratory Order (July 13, 2000); <u>Cumberland Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Corp. v. Pub. Serv. Com'n</u>, Ky., 433 S.W.2d 103, 104 (1968).

- 7. Direct examination of witnesses shall be limited to the authentication and adoption of that written testimony. No summarization of written testimony by the witness shall be permitted.
- 8. Witnesses who have filed written direct and rebuttal testimony shall present that testimony at the same sitting. Opposing parties may cross-examine such witnesses on both direct and rebuttal testimonies.
 - 9. No opening statements shall be made at the hearing in this matter.
- 10. Any party may, within 15 days of the filing of the hearing transcript with the Commission, submit a written brief. Briefs shall not exceed 25 pages in length.
- 11. Copies of all documents served upon any party shall be served on all other parties and filed with the Commission.
- 12. Motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.
- 13. To be timely filed with the Commission, a document must be received by the Secretary of the Commission within the specified time for filing except that any document shall be deemed timely filed if it has been transmitted by United States express mail, or by other recognized mail carriers, with the date the transmitting agency received said document from the sender noted by the transmitting agency on the outside of the container used for transmitting, within the time allowed for filing.
- 14. Service of any document or pleading shall be made in accordance with Administrative Regulation 807 KAR 5:001, Section 3(7), and Kentucky Civil Rule 5.02.

15. As the Complainant bears the burden of proof in this matter, its failure to appear at the formal hearing and to present proof in support of its complaint may result in the dismissal of its complaint with prejudice.

16. The failure of Defendant to appear at the formal hearing may result in the entry of an Order granting the Complainant's requested relief.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 15th of December, 2000.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director