

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

THE REQUEST OF LOUISVILLE GAS)	
AND ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR AN)	CASE NO. 7582
EXTENSION FROM 807 KAR 50:015)	
(BUDGET BILLING PLAN))	

O R D E R

On September 10, 1979, the Commission notified Louisville Gas and Electric Company ("Company") that it must comply with 807 KAR 50:015 (11) by implementing a budget billing plan before the end of calendar year 1979.

By letter dated September 13, 1979, the Company informed the Commission that it was developing a plan, but it requested an extension of time with respect to the implementation thereof.

The Commission decided to treat this letter as an application to deviate from the provisions of Commission Regulation 807 KAR 50:015 (11); therefore, the matter was set for hearing on the 2nd day of October in the Commission's office in Frankfort, Kentucky. The hearing was held as scheduled with one intervenor, the Attorney General's Division of Consumer Protection, being present.

On October 22, 1979, after the closing of the record in the above-styled case, the Attorney General's Division of Consumer Protection filed its Motion seeking permission to file a brief in this matter. The Commission, by Order dated November 2, 1979, sustained the Motion and ordered the brief to be submitted on or before November 15, 1979. The brief was filed on November 15, 1979, and 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 record, is of the opinion and FINDS that:

(1) The Applicant serves some 290,000 electric customers and some 240,000 gas customers (most of whom take both types of service) who would be eligible for any budget billing plan instituted by Applicant.

(2) Manual accounting for the possible volume of customers to apply for budget billing would be an undue burden upon the Applicant.

(3) To program the Applicant's computer to handle the accounting of budget billing would require extensive and time-consuming programming and testing.

(4) The Company is continuing efforts to offer individually fashioned partial payment plans to customers experiencing hardships.

(5) The Company has, on January 2, 1980, filed its proposed plan which it has committed to implement by April 1, 1980.

(6) The proposed plan is in the best interest of all concerned and should be approved.

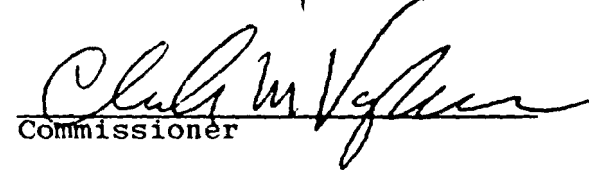
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that Louisville Gas and Electric Company and it hereby is granted an extension until April 1, 1980, at which time it shall place its proposed plan in full operation.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this the 6th day of February, 1980.

ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:

Acting Secretary