

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

GENERAL ADJUSTMENT OF ELECTRIC RATES ) CASE NO. 8177  
OF KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY )

O R D E R

On July 14, 1981 the Commission received a letter from counsel for Kentucky Utilities Company (Company) requesting an informal conference with the Commission Staff and Intervenors to review the issues, to obtain the views of the Staff with respect to the issues, to respond to questions which the Staff may have concerning the proof and issues and to provide an opportunity to settle issues prior to the commencement of hearings on July 21, 1981. The Company alternatively requests that the Commission direct the Staff, upon completion of the hearings, to prepare and file of record its recommendations on all material issues and provide the parties an opportunity, by further hearing or otherwise, to meet and rebut the position of the Staff before the record is closed. The Company also requests that the letter be considered a Motion to be ruled on by appropriate Commission Order.

The Commission having considered the Motion and being advised, is of the opinion and finds that:

(1) In view of the time constraints imposed by KRS 278.190 there is not sufficient time to schedule with notice a settlement conference prior to the hearings scheduled July 21, 1981, or to require the Commission Staff to prepare and file its recommendations

on all material issues and schedule a further proceeding for the purpose of providing the parties an opportunity to meet or rebut the recommendations;

(2) A delay in the evidentiary hearings would unduly shorten the time for analysis and decision by the Commission;

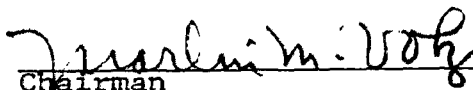
(3) Oral argument should be scheduled subsequent to the hearings to provide an opportunity for all parties to address the issues as well as concerns of the Commission Staff as indicated by cross-examination during the evidentiary hearings.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED That the Motion of Kentucky Utilities Company be and it hereby is overruled.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That oral argument be and it hereby is scheduled on August 10, 1981 at 1:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in the Commission's offices at Frankfort, Kentucky.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 16th day of July, 1981.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Chairman

  
Vice Chairman

  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Secretary