

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

NOTICE OF ADJUSTMENT OF RATES)
OF COLUMBIA GAS OF) CASE NO. 9554
KENTUCKY, INC.)

O R D E R

On July 22, 1986, Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. ("Columbia") filed a Motion requesting the Commission amend its June 30 Order of Procedure to reduce the end of the suspension period for the proposed rates to November 16, 1986, from December 7, 1986. Columbia stated that the Commission misunderstood its original Application made on May 27, 1986, because it failed to include a specific proposed rate schedule. Due to the complexity of its Application, Columbia believed that specific rates could have resulted from settlement conferences, and therefore no rates were proposed. However, Columbia, on June 16, 1986, filed an amended Application proposing specific rates. The Commission used the amended filing date to suspend the proposed rates pursuant to KRS 278.190 (2).

On July 28, 1986, the Attorney General filed a Response to Columbia's Motion requesting that it be denied. The Commission, after review of the record and being advised, hereby FINDS the following:

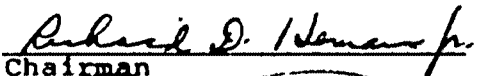
1. That it did not misinterpret Columbia's original Application. The Application did not include a proposed rate design and therefore did not comply with KRS 278.180 (1). Columbia, as a matter of law, could not give proper notice to the Commission without proposing specific rates. In a June 6, 1986, Order the Commission notified Columbia that since no specific rates were proposed in that application, an effective suspension period could not be determined.

2. The Commission agrees that a suspension of less than 5 months is within its discretion. Further, Columbia has given no compelling reason that this discretion has been abused. The Motion should therefore be denied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Columbia's July 22 Motion to shorten the suspension period be and it hereby is denied.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 7th day of August, 1986.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR