

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

KENTUCKY UTILITIES COMPANY)
FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH) CASE NO. 9688
SAFETY CLEARANCE STANDARDS)

SHOW CAUSE ORDER

On June 3, 1986, Mike Simmons, a self-employed contractor, suffered electrical burns due to contact with a 7200 volt single phase distribution line. Mr. Simmons was working on the roof of an apartment building under construction at 2750 Gribbon Lane, Lexington, Kentucky. He was attempting to move an electrical extension cord when the cord contacted a 7200 volt single phase distribution line close to the eaves of the building. Mr. Simmons suffered burns to his left hand. The line was relocated on June 4, 1986, by Kentucky Utilities Company ("KU") personnel.

A field investigation was conducted by Commission staff on June 6, 1986. The reports of that investigation are attached as Appendix A to this Order. It was determined during that investigation that the safety clearance between the apartment building and the 7200 volt line violated the Commission's regulation 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), specifically the acceptable clearance standards as identified in the 1981 National Electric Safety Code ("NESC") Table 234-1.

During the course of the investigation it was further discovered that KU had been asked by a representative of the

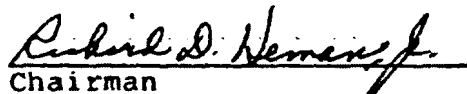
Jeffrey Ditty Construction Company to relocate the subject line before the accident. KU personnel visited the site approximately three weeks before the accident and drew-up a work order to relocate the line. However, the work order was apparently placed with other routine work orders to be done and was not completed until after the accident had occurred.

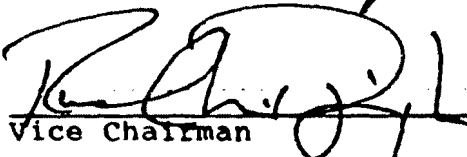
Due to the dangerous situation created by KU's failure to comply with 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), particularly when KU was apparently aware of the situation, the Commission finds that KU should explain the reasons for not complying with the subject requirement, its plan to rectify this problem, and to show cause, if any it can, why the Commission should not penalize it for the stated violation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that KU shall appear before the Commission on October 13, 1986, at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Hearing Room No. 1 of the Commission's offices at Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of presenting evidence related to KU's program to insure compliance with 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1), and to show cause, if any it can, why the Commission should not penalize it for the stated violation.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 11th day of September, 1986.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:

Executive Director

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 9688, DATED 9/11/86

____ PRELIMINARY
X FINAL

ELECTRICAL UTILITY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

DATE OF THIS REPORT 6/6/86 SUBMITTED BY Jeffery L. Gilpin

NAME OF UTILITY Kentucky Utilities

ACCIDENT REPORTED BY Herschel Taylor, Kentucky Utilities

DATE & TIME ACCIDENT REPORTED 6/3/86 2:30 P.M.

DATE AND TIME ACCIDENT OCCURRED 6/3/86 12:30 P.M.

DATE OF ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION 6/3/86

PERSONS ASSISTING IN THE INVESTIGATION Bill Ratliff, Brian Dickey,

Bill Smith, Lindsey Ingram and Herschel Taylor - Kentucky Utilities.

Gary Phillips - Jeffrey Ditty Construction

NAME OF VICTIM(S) 1. Mike Simmons SEX M AGE 37

FATAL No NAME OF EMPLOYER: Self employed contractor.

INJURIES Burns to left hand.

2. _____ SEX _____ AGE _____

FATAL _____ NAME OF EMPLOYER: _____

INJURIES _____

3. _____ SEX _____ AGE _____

FATAL _____ NAME OF EMPLOYER: _____

INJURIES _____

ELECTRICAL UTILITY ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION (Continued)

LOCATION OF ACCIDENT SITE 2750 Gribbon Lane, Lexington, Kentucky

DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT Mr. Simmons was working on the roof of an apartment building under construction and was attempting to move an electrical extension cord when the cord contacted a 7.2 KV single phase distribution line close to the eaves of the building.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION Gary Phillips - Jeffrey Ditty Construction
Brian Dickey, Bill Dickey, Bill Ratliff, and Bill Smith - KU.
On site investigation.

VIOLATIONS OF COMMISSION REGULATIONS 807 KAR 5:041, Section 3(1) -
Acceptable, Standards 1981 NESC Table 234-1 - Clearance

RECOMMENDATIONS Relocate line to meet 1981 NESC Table 234-1.

CORRECTIVE ACTION Line was relocated June 4, 1986, by Kentucky Utilities personnel.

Comments: Kentucky Utilities had been asked by Gary Phillips of Jeffrey Ditty Construction to relocate the line before the accident. K. U. personnel visited the site approximately three weeks before the accident and drew up a work order to relocate the line. However the work order was placed with other routine work orders to be done and had not been completed when the accident occurred.

LINE CLEARANCES

| | <u>As Measured</u> | <u>Minimum Allowed by NESC</u> |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. AT POINT OF ACCIDENT | | |
| Phase conductor to ground elevation: | <u>33' 6 1/2"</u> | <u>20'</u> |
| Neutral conductor to ground elevation: | <u>26' 7 1/4"</u> | <u>18'</u> |
| Communication conductor to ground elevation: | <u>18' 7 1/2"</u> | <u>18'</u> |
| Phase conductor to structure: | <u>2' 6"</u> | <u>5'</u> |
| Neutral conductor to structure: | <u>1' 7 1/2"</u> | <u>3'</u> |
| Communication conductor to structure: | <u>1' 7 1/2"</u> | <u>3'</u> |
| B. AT LOWEST POINT OF SPAN | | |
| Phase conductor to ground elevation: | <u>33' 6 1/2"</u> | <u>20'</u> |
| Neutral conductor to ground elevation: | <u>26' 7 1/4"</u> | <u>18'</u> |
| Communication conductor to ground elevation: | <u>18' 7 1/2"</u> | <u>18'</u> |

C. SPAN LENGTH 167'

Date the line or facilities were constructed: _____

Utility: Kentucky Utilities

Date: 6/3/86 Time 4:15 P.M.

Approximate temperature: 76 degrees

Measurements made by: Kentucky Utilities personnel witnessed by

Jeffery L. Gilpin

Submitted by: _____