

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY)	
OF BARBOURVILLE TO DEVIATE FROM COMMISSION)	CASE NO.
REGULATION 807 KAR 5:022, SECTION 9,)	94-293
SUBSECTION 17(A) (1))	

O R D E R

On October 12, 1993, the Housing Authority of Barbourville ("Barbourville HA"), Barbourville, Kentucky, filed a letter with the Commission requesting that it not be required to install curb stop valves on 141 service lines within the Barbourville HA complex. The Barbourville HA's letter is attached as Appendix A. The Commission will treat this letter as an application requesting authority to deviate from the provisions of Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:022, Section 9(17)(a)(1).

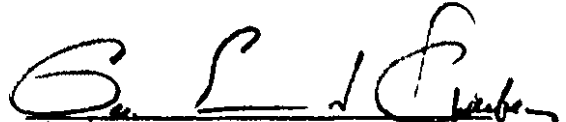
Commission Staff inspected the gas piping system of the Barbourville HA, specifically its claim that any curb stop valves it would be required to install to be in compliance with 807 KAR 5:022, Section 9(17)(a)(1), would be in such close proximity to the existing cut-off valves (approximately 8-10 feet) that they would not afford an appreciable amount of added safety. There are presently available cut-off valves in the main line for isolating various areas of the housing project as well as a cut-off valve at the master meter. A staff report dated September 13, 1993 reflecting these findings is attached as Appendix B.


Having reviewed the evidence of record and being otherwise sufficiently advised, the Commission finds that the existing cut-off valves located at the meters in close proximity to the mains provide a means for shutting off the flow of natural gas in the event of a fire or explosion.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Barbourville HA is granted a deviation from Commission Regulation 807 KAR 5:022, Section 9(17)(a)(1), requiring the installation of curb stop valves on the service lines in the Barbourville HA complex.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 10th day of August, 1994.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director

Housing Authority of Barbourville

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BARBOURVILLE, KENTUCKY 40906

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October 12, 1993

E. Scott Smith, Manager
Gas Pipeline Safety Branch
Public Service Commission
730 Schenkel Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Re: 807 KAR 5:022 Sec. 9(17) (A) (1)

Dear Mr. Smith:

In reference to above mentioned regulation regarding the installation of curb stop valves and in response to Mr. Alderman's partial inspection of September 2, 1993, please consider the following:

The Barbourville Housing Complex consisting of several apartment units in various locations in and around the Barbourville area, Paul Buchannan Courts constructed in 1961 has 28 apartment units, Second St. Courts, constructed in 1961, has 4 units, Henson St. Court constructed in 1961, has 4 units, Mackey Village, constructed in 1965 has 30 apartment units and Churchill Courts constructed in 1971 has 75 apartment units for a total of 141 low income family units.

The gas piping system is primarily at the rear of the buildings and is fairly close to the exterior walls. In most cases 5 to 10 feet.

There are cut-off valves at the meters of each apartment so if curb stops are installed, the cut-off valves would be in very close proximity of each other. If a fire or other disaster would occur, it appears that possibly neither valve would be of any value or accessible for cut-off.

We are very cognizant of the need for maximum safety for our residents and feel that with 24 hour, 7 day per week access to the apartments, cut-off valves in the main line to isolate different areas of the project, that we are as safe as possible. We also maintain a live in maintenance mechanic on-site at all times.

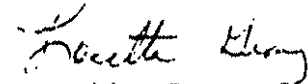
We do not believe that the addition of the curb stop valves would provide any additional safety advantages to our residents.

Our main lines are coated, welded steel with depths of 3 to 5 feet. The cost of installing the 141 curb stops would be an extreme financial burden on the housing authority.

We are respectfully requesting a variance from installing the curb stop valves for reasons stated. If the commission would grant this variance, Delta Natural Gas has agreed to further discuss and consider acquiring our gas system.

Your considerations and expeditious handling of this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Loretta Gray
Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

PARTIAL INSPECTION REPORT

Housing Authority of Barbourville
Barbourville, Kentucky

September 13, 1993

BRIEF

On September 2, 1993, a partial inspection of the Housing Authority of Barbourville (Barbourville HA) was conducted.

INSPECTION

The purpose of this inspection was to determine if the Barbourville HA had curb stop valves on the system; to determine the distance from the mains to the meter risers; and to confirm the existence of cut-off valves in the main lines for the purpose of isolating areas of the project. No curb valves were found. The distance from mains to risers is approximately 8-10 feet, and cut-off valves are located in the mains.

FINDING

The following deficiency was found:

1. No positive shut-off for each service line as required by 807 KAR 5:022, Section 9(17)(a)(1).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Barbourville HA:

1. Install curb stop valves for each service line in the housing complex or seek a deviation from this Commission for requirement thereof.

It is further recommended that a copy of this report be sent to the Barbourville HA directing that it respond by October 8, 1993

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with a schedule of compliance to the deficiencies cited for
Commission approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl H. Alderman, Jr.

Earl H. Alderman, Jr.
Utility Investigator

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