COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE TARIFF FILING OF COLUMBIA GAS OF KENTUCKY, INC. TO IMPLEMENT A SMALL VOLUME GAS TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, TO CONTINUE ITS GAS COST INCENTIVE MECHANISMS, AND TO CONTINUE ITS CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

CASE NO. 99-165

<u>order</u>

On April 22, 1999, Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc. (Columbia) filed an application with the Commission to implement a small volume transportation service, and to continue its gas cost incentive mechanisms and customer assistance program.

The Commission finds that Columbia's application raises certain issues. For example, the application's lack of a definition of a competitive marketplace which was addressed in the Commission's final Order in Administrative Case No. 367,¹ and the question of the cost justification for the proposed transportation service, are two issues that should be thoroughly explored within the context of an informal conference. The Commission further finds that other issues raised in the application may also be subjects for discussion at an informal conference, but in a more general manner.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that an informal conference shall be held on Thursday, June 3, 1999, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Daylight Time, in Hearing Room 2 of the Commission s offices at 677 Comanche Trail, Frankfort, Kentucky. Columbia shall

¹ Administrative Case No. 367, The Establishment of a Collaborative Forum to Discuss the Issues Related to Natural Gas Unbundling and the Introduction of Competition to the Residential Natural Gas Market.

ensure that the appropriate personnel are present to discuss generally the full scope of the application, and specifically the two issues identified earlier in this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 28th day of May, 1999.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

Executive Director