

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY

IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION )  
ON THE COMMISSION'S OWN MOTION OF )  
THE DESIRABILITY OF PROMULGATING A )  
UNIFORM RULE WITH RESPECT TO POWER )  
FACTOR CORRECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR )  
FLUORESCENT LIGHTING AND LIGHTING )  
EQUIPMENT WITH SIMILAR LOAD CHARACTER- )  
ISTICS. )

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. 29.

In the early part of 1939 one of the major electric utilities filed with the Commission a rule which provides, among other things, a requirement that any installations of fluorescent lighting would be required to install power factor corrective equipment before it could be connected to the company's lines. Shortly thereafter two other of the major electric utilities in the State filed similar rules with the Commission. After considerable discussion with representatives of the first Utility filing a rule, the Commission accepted this rule for filing but suspended the rules of the other two Utilities pending investigation and hearing.

Following an extensive investigation and many conferences, the Commission set the matter down for hearing on September 27, 1939. The Commission gave particular consideration to the problem which would confront existing users of Neon signs and signs with similar power factor characteristics.

After due consideration the Commission is of the opinion and finds that:

1) Fluorescent lighting as a means of illumination is in its infancy.

2) There is considerable likelihood that fluorescent lighting will become an important means of illumination.

3) To continue to permit fluorescent lighting to be connected to the lines of utilities in the State, without power factor corrective equipment, would result in discrimination.

4) To continue to permit Neon and other similar types of signs to be connected to the lines of utilities in Kentucky without power factor corrective equipment and to require power factor corrective equipment on fluorescent lighting installations, would constitute discrimination.

5) To permit Neon and signs of similar power factor characteristics to be taken down and moved to new locations, without, in the process of such moving, being converted to the proper power factor requirement, would result in discrimination.

THEREFORE, the Commission being fully advised in the premises,

IT IS ORDERED, That

1) Subsequent to December 31, 1939, no electric utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission of Kentucky shall permit connection to its lines of any fluorescent lighting, Neon signs, or other lighting or display facility having similar load characteristics, unless such fluorescent, Neon, or other lighting equipment with similar load characteristics shall have installed, by the customer, in connection therewith auxiliaries or other means designed to correct the power factor of such equipment to not less than ninety (90) per cent lagging.

2) Within thirty days from the date hereof each electric utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission of Kentucky shall file with the Commission a rule to accomplish the purposes set forth in No. (1) hereof.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 10th day of November, 1939.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY

(signed)

Chas. J. White  
Secretary