

PSC 113

CERTIFICATE

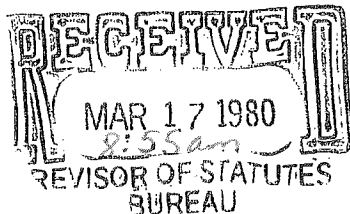
STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) ss.
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION)

TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

I, Lewis T. Mittness, Executive Secretary of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, and custodian of the official records of said commission, do hereby certify that the annexed order creating Wis. Adm. Code section PSC 113.315 was duly approved and adopted by this commission on November 20, 1979.

I further certify that said copy has been compared by me with the original on file in this commission and that the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand and affixed
the official seal of the commission
at the Hill Farms State Office
Building, in the City of Madison
this 14th day of March 1980.



Lewis T. Mittness

Lewis T. Mittness
Executive Secretary
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

DATE MAILED
NOV 21 1979

COMPARED WITH AND CERTIFIED BY ME
TO BE A FULL, TRUE, AND CORRECT COPY
OF THE ORIGINAL OF FILE IN MY OFFICE.
NOV 20 1979
Louis T. Mitchell
Executive Secretary
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

BEFORE THE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Administrative Rule-Making on the Commission's)
own motion Requiring Electric Utility Metering)
on all Residential and Commercial Units Constructed)
after March 1, 1980)

1-AG-26

ORDER OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
ADOPTING RULES

Relating to rules concerning individual electric
metering:

Analysis prepared by Public Service Commission:



The commission, in its May 18, 1978 order in docket 05-EI-1, directed the state's Class A investor-owned electric utilities to submit information relative to the prevalence of master metering in their respective utility service areas, an evaluation of added cost to the utility and building owners to install individual unit metering in new buildings, any load research information on the differing consumption patterns of master-metered and individually-metered units, and the feasibility and cost of retrofitting existing master-metered units with individual unit metering.

In its August 18, 1978 Notice of Hearing, the commission directed the Class A investor-owned electric utilities to provide additional information on the following questions:

1. Should the commission require individual-unit electric metering on all new construction--i.e., prohibit master metering and submetering for new construction?
2. To what extent should the commission require retrofit of existing electric master metered and submetered installations with individual-unit metering?

Hearings on the utilities' submission were held from September 11 through 26, 1978 at various locations in the state. The record of the hearings includes testimony, exhibits and cross examination relating to the utilities' submissions on electric spaceheating and extension rules, in addition to

the master-metering questions.

In its open meeting of May 3, 1979, the commission directed staff to draft an administrative rule to require individual electric utility metering for all residential and commercial units for which construction has begun after March 1, 1980.

Pursuant to due notice a hearing was held at Madison on August 14, 1979, before Examiner Ann Pfeifer.

Appearances:

As interest may appear

Wisconsin Electric Power Company by
Robert H. Diaz Jr., Attorney
Quarles and Brady
780 North Walker
Milwaukee, WI 53202

and by

Robert M. Krubsack
Supervisor of Customer Applications Divisions
231 West Michigan
Milwaukee, WI 53201

Wisconsin Power and Light Company by
John E. Davies
Government Affairs Assistant
4429 Rolla Lane
Madison, WI 53711

and by

Jack Pointer, Consultant
222 West Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 192
Madison, WI 53701

Madison Gas and Electric Company by
R. M. Kokette,
Superintendent of Energy Utilization
P.O. Box 1231
Madison, WI 53701

Northern States Power Company by
Dennis C. Holt, Staff Assistant
100 North Barstow
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Wisconsin Public Service Corporation by
William A. Swan, Load Management Engineer
1452 Bruce Lane
Green Bay, WI 54303

National Electrical Contractors Association
(Milwaukee and Wisconsin Chapters) by
Robert J. Kay, Attorney
433 West Washington Avenue, Suite 500
Madison, WI 53703

Of the commission staff:

Barbara James,
Assistant Chief Counsel

Terry B. Nicolai
Eswara B. Raju
Utility Rates Division

Habib Merchant
Engineering Division

Findings of Fact

THE COMMISSION FINDS:

The commission, after reviewing the record in the 05-EI-1 proceeding, directed staff in its May 3, 1979 open meeting to draft an administrative rule to require individual electric utility metering for all residential and commercial units for which construction has begun after March 1, 1980. The commission on July 12, 1979 issued a notice of hearing and proposed rule to create s. PSC 113.315, Wis. Adm. Code, to read as follows:

PSC 113.315 Individual electric meters required for nontransient multi-dwelling unit residential buildings, mobile home parks and for commercial establishments.

(1) Each dwelling and commercial unit in a multi-dwelling unit residential building, mobile home park and commercial building constructed after March 1, 1980 shall have installed a separate electric meter for each such dwelling or commercial unit. Dwelling unit means a structure or that part of a structure which is used or intended to be used as a home, residence or sleeping place by one or more persons maintaining a common household, to the exclusion of all others, and shall exclude transient multi-dwelling buildings and mobile home parks: for example, hotels, motels, campgrounds, hospitals, nursing homes, convalescent homes, college dormitories, fraternities, and sororities.

(2) For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, electricity used for central heating and ventilating systems need not be metered by individual dwelling or commercial unit. In addition, electric backup systems, such as storage heatings systems that are used in connection with central heating and ventilating systems that use alternative renewable energy sources, shall be exempted from subsection (1).

DISCUSSION

The commission staff presented testimony on the existing utility practices relative to individual and master-metering. Staff's testimony included information on various states' legislative rules, customer consumption characteristics, installation costs, and installation trends and costs concerning master and individual metering of electric utility customers. Staff cited a number of studies showing differences in energy consumption due to changes in metering methods. In one study, individually-metered residential customers consumed 30 to 35% less energy than did comparable master-metered residential customers. These studies clearly demonstrated that the individual metering of new residential customers is cost-effective.

However, studies concerning reduction in energy consumption by individually-metered commercial customers yielded inconclusive results. One study estimated a 10% reduction in energy consumption for individually metered commercial customers.

Staff testified on the extent of PSC responsibility in complying with Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) with respect to master-metering standards. Advocating the proposed administrative rule, staff stressed that the commission, by adopting this rule, not only fulfills one of its responsibilities under PURPA but also promotes the three purposes of this act, which are:

- 1) Conservation of energy supplied by electric utilities;
- 2) Optimization of the efficiency of the use of facilities and resources by electric utilities; and
- 3) Equitable rates for electric customers.

All the utilities who testified at the hearing accepted the proposed administrative rule in part. They favored individual metering for new residential establishments, but only favored in part individual metering for new commercial establishments.

Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO) proposed changes to subsection (2) of the proposed rule. Subsection (2) of the rule contained exemption provisions from subsection (1). WEPCO proposed that electricity used for central air conditioning systems and for central air conditioning back-up systems using alternative renewable energy sources be exempted from subsection (1). The utility also stated that mandatory individual metering is not justified for new rental office buildings with central comfort systems and a very small lighting load.

Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS) also proposed changes to subsection (2). WPS indicated that, if space requirements in commercial establishments are subject to change with tenant turnover, these establishments should be exempted from subsection (1). The utility stated that the high cost of rewiring required each time tenants change is the main reason for its proposed amendment.

Northern States Power Company opposed the individual metering requirement for new commercial establishments. The utility stated that the same percentage of energy conservation improvement attributable to individual metering of commercial establishments can be achieved through other means. The utility did not specify these other methods.

Wisconsin Power & Light Company also opposed the individual metering requirement for new commercial establishments. The utility stated that in order to equip the new commercial establishments with individual metering, expensive

wiring installations would be needed. The utility indicated that it did not believe these wiring installations are cost-justified.

Environmental Screening

This action to adopt an administrative rule on individual electric metering is classified as a category 4 action under PSC 2.90(4), Wis. Adm. Code. It consequently is presumed to require neither an environmental impact statement under s. 1.11 Wis. Stats., nor an environmental screening under the Revised Guidelines for the Implementation of the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act issued by Executive Order No. 26, February, 1976. No special circumstances have been brought to the commission's attention which would disturb this presumption.

Ultimate Findings of Fact

THE COMMISSION FINDS:

1. That the master metering of residential units is not prevalent in Wisconsin.
2. That the majority of multi-family buildings are presently being equipped with individual electric utility metering at the time of construction.
3. That the majority of the mobile home parks are equipped or are being equipped with individual unit electric metering.
4. That the individual electric utility metering of each unit in new multi-family buildings and in mobile home parks is cost-justified and will promote the three purposes of PURPA.
5. That a requirement for individual electric metering for new commercial establishments is cost-justified in most instances and will result in conservation of electric energy.

6. That the present high costs of wiring required to provide individual metering in commercial establishments with frequent tenant change or turnover are significant.

7. That the commission by making a determination on whether or not to implement this rule on master metering can fulfill one of its responsibilities under Title 1 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act of 1978.

8. That the proposed rule will have no fiscal impact on local or state units of government. (s. 227.019 Wis. Stats.)

Conclusion of Law

Pursuant to authority vested in the Public Service Commission by ss. 1.12, 196.02, 196.03, 196.16, 196.26, 196.37 and 227.014, Wis. Stats. the commission hereby adopts rules as follows:

Section PSC 113.315 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code is adopted to read:

PSC 113.315 Individual electric meters required for non-transient multi-dwelling unit residential buildings, mobile home parks, and for commercial establishments.

(1) Each dwelling and commercial unit in a multi-dwelling unit residential building, mobile home park and commercial building constructed after March 1, 1980 shall have installed a separate electric meter for each such dwelling or commercial unit. Dwelling unit means a structure or that part of a structure which is used to or intended to be used as a home, residence or a sleeping place by one or more persons maintaining a common household, and shall exclude transient multi-dwelling buildings and mobile home parks: for example, hotels, motels, campgrounds, hospitals, nursing homes, convalescent homes, college dormitories, fraternities, and sororities.

(2) For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of subsection (1), Individual unit metering will not be required:

(a) where commercial unit space requirements are subject to alteration with change in tenants as evidenced by temporary versus permanent type of wall construction separating the commercial unit spaces.

(b) for electricity used in central heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems.

(c) for electric back-up service to storage heating and cooling systems or when alternative renewable energy resources are utilized in connection with central heating ventilating and air conditioning systems.

The rule contained in this order shall take effect upon publication, as provided in s. 227.026, Wis. Stats.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin

Nov 20, 1979

By the Commission.

Lewis T. Mittness

Lewis T. Mittness
Executive Secretary