

CR 82-75

1-AC-49

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) ss.
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION)

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TO ALL WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

I, Joan Wentworth, Acting Secretary of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, and custodian of the official records of said commission, do hereby certify that the annexed order adopting Wis. Adm. Code section PSC 113.132(2)(e) and 134.062(2)(h) was duly approved and adopted by this commission on July 6, 1982.

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 6th day of August, 1982.

Joan Wentworth

Joan Wentworth
Acting Secretary of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

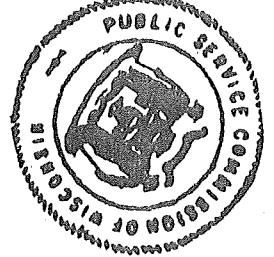
DATE MAILED
JUL 9 1982

COMPARED WITH AND CERTIFIED BY ME
TO BE A FULL, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY
OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN MY OFFICE
JUL 6 1982
Jacqueline K. Reynolds
Secretary to the Commission
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Rules Permitting Gas and Electric)
Utilities to Disconnect the Service)
of Customers Who Do Not Allow Meter) 1-AC-49
Reading)

ORDER OF THE PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN ADOPTING RULES



Relating to adoption of secs. PSC 113.132(2)(e) and
134.062(2)(h), Wis. Adm. Code permitting electric and gas
utilities to disconnect the service of customers who do not allow
meter reading.

ANALYSIS PREPARED BY THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

A number of gas and electric utilities have requested a
rule to allow them to disconnect a customer's service if the
customer refuses to permit meter reading at least once every six
months. The utilities rightfully point out that secs. PSC 113.15
and 134.12 require a utility to read a meter once every six
months, but secs. PSC 113.132(6)(h) and 134.062(5)(h) prohibit
disconnection for failure to pay estimated bills. The proposed
rules would solve this conflict by allowing a gas or electric
utility to disconnect service when the customer refuses to allow
his or her meter to be read at least once every six months.

Concern has been expressed, however, that utilities take reasonable steps to read the meters of customers who may not be available for meter reading during normal business hours.

Many utilities' tariffs do provide for such meter reading. To insure that all utilities make such efforts, however, secs. PSC 113.15 and 134.12 are being amended to require that utilities cooperate with such customers. Utilities should also remember that disconnection for refusal to allow meter reading, like disconnection for other reasons, must comply with secs. PSC 113.132 and 134.062, Wis. Adm. Code.

PROPOSED RULES AND
STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Pursuant to authority vested in the Public Service Commission by secs. 196.02, 196.16, 196.37(2) and 227.014, Stats., the commission adopts rules as follows:

SECTION 1: Sec. PSC 113.15, Wis. Adm. Code is amended to read:

PSC 113.15, Meter readings and billing periods. Readings of all meters used for determining charges to customers shall be scheduled monthly, bimonthly, quarterly, or semiannually. An effort shall be made to read meters on corresponding days of each meter-reading period. The meter-reading date may be advanced or postponed not more than five days without adjustment of the billing for the period. Bills for service shall be rendered within 40 days from the reading of the meter except as may be otherwise specifically authorized by the commission. The utility may permit the customer to supply the meter readings on a form supplied by the utility, provided a utility representative reads the meter at least once each six months and when there is a change of customer. The utility shall make reasonable efforts to read the meters of

customers who cannot be available during normal business hours.

SECTION 2: Sec. PSC 134.12, Wis. Adm. Code is amended to read:

PSC 134.12 Meter readings and billing periods. Reading of all meters used for determining charges to customers shall be scheduled monthly, bimonthly, quarterly, or semi-annually. An effort shall be made to read meters on corresponding days of each meter-reading period. The meter-reading date may be advanced or postponed not more than five days without adjustment of the billing for the period. Bills for service shall be rendered within 40 days from the reading of the meter except as may be otherwise specifically authorized by the commission. The utility may permit the customer to supply the meter readings on a form supplied by the utility, provided a utility representative reads the meter at least once each six months and when there is a change of customer. The utility shall make reasonable efforts to read the meters of customers who cannot be available during normal business hours.

SECTION 3: Sec. PSC 113.132(2)(e), Wis. Adm. Code is created to read:

Refusal or failure to permit authorized utility personnel to read the meter at least once every six months in order to determine actual usage. The six-month period begins with the date of the last meter reading.

SECTION 4: Sec. PSC 134.062(2)(h), Wis. Adm. Code, is created to read:

Refusal or failure to permit authorized utility personnel to read the meter at least once every six months in order to determine actual usage. The six-month period begins with the date of the last meter reading.

There will be no fiscal impact of the proposed rules on the state or municipalities.

The proposed rules have been sent to the legislature for review, pursuant to sec. 227.018, Stats. They will take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register, as provided in sec. 227.026, Stats.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, July 6, 1982
By the Commission.

Stanley York, Chairman
~~Jacqueline K. Reynolds~~
~~Secretary to the Commission~~



State of Wisconsin \ PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 6, 1982

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Bureau

Mr. Gary Poulson
Assistant Revisor of Statutes
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File No.

I-AC-49

Re: Rules Permitting Gas and Electric
Utilities to Disconnect the Service
of Customers Who Do Not Allow Meter Reading

Dear Mr. Poulson:

Enclosed please find two copies (one certified) of an order of the Public Service Commission adopting rules in the above-entitled matter.

The rules have been seen by legislative committees (sent May 11, 1982). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Steven Levine
Assistant Chief Counsel

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Enc.