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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 8th
day of March, 1995.

In the matter of the application of the City of)
Montgomery, Missouri, for a permanent waiver from) Case No. GO-95-225
certain of the provisions of 4 CSR 240-40.030.)
)

ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

On February 3, 1995, the City of Montgomery, Missouri (City) filed
an application for a waiver from 4 CSR 240-0.030(4)(GG)2.B. of the Commission's
gas pipeline safety regulations. 4 CSR 240-40.030(4)(GG)2.B. corresponds with
49 C.F.R. 192.203(b)(2). These regulations require instrument, control and
sampling pipe and components to meet the following two conditions:

- (1) A shutoff valve must be installed in each takeoff line as near
as practicable to the point of takeoff; and
- (2) Blowdown valves must be installed where necessary.

In support of its application, the City states that its regulator
stations include line valves immediately upstream of the regulator and immediate-
ly downstream of the control line connection. This construction allows for any
function that would otherwise be performed by the control line valve, which is
normally required by the regulations. The City states further that the installa-
tion of these valves in the City's regulator stations as required by the
regulations would not enhance the mechanical operation or safety of the stations.
In fact, the City continues, installation of the control line valves could
increase the likelihood of unsafe conditions. The City states that granting the
waiver is in the public interest and it will allow the City to continue to

provide safe, efficient, and economical service to its customers and is not inconsistent with gas pipeline safety.

On February 24, 1995, the Staff filed a memorandum to the official case file. Staff indicates there are two reasons for installing a shutoff valve in regulator control lines: (1) the shutoff valve can facilitate regulator testing, and; (2) should the control line be ruptured, the shutoff valve can be used to stop the flow of blowing gas.

Staff states that the City's regulator stations were designed with two regulators located in both the parallel piping runs, with a common downstream relief device. The piping run that supplements the distribution system could be shut off without affecting any customers, while the piping run that supplies the high school is installed with a bypass line that would enable gas to continue to flow with the piping run shut off. Thus the gas flow through each piping run could be shut off for the purpose of testing the regulators. If a control line is severed, then the blowing gas could be stopped by using the inlet and outlet valves for that piping run. The monitor regulators and the downstream relief device will protect the distribution system and the piping system to the high school regardless of the piping run used.

Staff recommends that the Commission grant the City a partial waiver from 4 CSR 240-40.030(4)(GG)2.B. Specifically, the Staff recommends a waiver from the requirement of placing a shutoff valve in regulator control lines for the regulator stations identified in the application. Staff states that such a waiver "is not inconsistent with gas pipeline safety" in accordance with 49 U.S.C. §60118(d).

Staff notes that 49 U.S.C. §60118(d) provides that the Secretary of Transportation must receive written notice at least 60 days prior to the effective date of any waiver. Staff further points out that said notice should be addressed to: Mr. George W. Tenley, Jr., Associate Administrator for Pipeline

Safety, Office of Pipeline Safety, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Room 2335, Washington, D.C. 20890. The Staff recommends an effective date of the order 75 days after the issuance date to afford adequate processing and mail time, as well as allow 60-day review by the Department of Transportation. The Staff recommends that the written notice required by 49 U.S.C. §60118(d), a copy of the application and Staff Memorandum filed herein, and a copy of this order be mailed to the aforementioned address by certified mail, return receipt requested and that the receipt date be noted in this official case file.

The Commission has reviewed the City's application, Staff's memorandum and applicable Commission regulations. The Commission finds that the purposes of a shutoff valve in regulator control lines with respect to the regulator control stations referenced in the City's application are met by the current design of such regulator stations, and that a waiver as recommended by Staff would not compromise public safety. Thus, the Commission determines that the City should be granted a partial waiver from 4 CSR 240-40.030(4)(GG)2.B. as recommended by Staff.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the City of Montgomery, Missouri is hereby granted a partial waiver of the requirement to install a shutoff valve in the regulator control lines for the regulator stations described in the City's application for waiver.
2. That the waiver granted in Ordered Paragraph 1 shall become effective on June 5, 1995.
3. That the Executive Secretary of the Commission shall send notice of the waiver granted in Ordered Paragraph 1, and a copy of the contents of the official case file in this case, to the Secretary of Transportation as described in this order within ten (10) days of the issuance of this order.

4. That this order shall become effective on the 20th day of
March, 1995.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David L. Rauch".

David L. Rauch
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Mueller, Chm., McClure, Perkins,
Kincheloe and Crumpton, CC., concur.