

STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 20th  
day of October, 1993.

In the matter of the application )  
of the City of Hermann, Missouri, )  
for a temporary Waiver from )  
certain of the provisions of )  
4 CSR 240-40.030. )

CASE NO. GO-94-120

ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

On October 12, 1993, the City of Hermann, Missouri (Hermann) filed an application for a waiver from the Commission's Gas Pipeline Safety Regulations, specifically 4 CSR 240-40.030 (14)(B)6. 4 CSR 240-40.030 (14)(B)6 requires that leakage tests or surveys be conducted on service lines whenever the operator conducts work on the customer's premises.

In support of its application, Hermann states that the feeder line serving the communities of Hermann, Berger, and New Haven was damaged by the recent flooding and shut down on August 12 and September 29, 1993. The Commission granted waivers that allowed Hermann to install a temporary polyethylene plastic pipeline aboveground to provide gas service while the permanent line was repaired.

Hermann states that a routine systematic leakage survey was conducted over the service lines in the three communities on May 19, 1993. Also, after the first outage, another leakage survey was conducted over the entire system on August 18, 19, and 20, 1993. Hermann maintains that another leakage survey in less than two months over facilities not affected by the flooding would impose further economic loss with no reasonable benefit to safety.

On October 14, 1993, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum recommending that the Commission grant the waiver requested by Hermann. Staff states that it recognizes the special circumstances in this case. Because leakage surveys were conducted in May 1993 and again on August 18, 19, and 20,

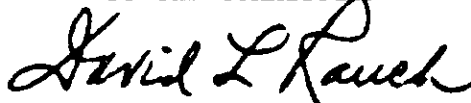
1993, Staff does not believe conducting another leakage survey outside of the flood-affected area would enhance safety. Nonetheless, Staff recommends that leakage surveys be conducted on service lines that were exposed to the most recent flooding and service lines serving buildings that were involved in the most recent flooding. Staff states that such a waiver, with leakage surveys conducted on flood-affected facilities, would not be inconsistent with pipeline safety.

Inasmuch as leakage surveys were conducted on the system four times between May 19, 1993 and August 20, 1993, the Commission finds that a waiver as requested by Hermann would not compromise public safety. However, the Commission is of the opinion that leakage surveys should continue to be conducted in those areas affected by the most recent flooding. Thus, the Commission determines that Hermann's application for a waiver should be granted but that leakage surveys should continue to be conducted in those areas affected by the most recent flooding.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the application of the City of Hermann, Missouri for a waiver from the provisions of 4 CSR 240-40.030 (14)(B)6 is hereby granted.
2. That the City of Hermann, Missouri shall continue to conduct leakage surveys on service lines that were exposed to the most recent flooding and service lines serving buildings that were involved in the most recent flooding.
3. That this Order shall become effective on November 2, 1993.

BY THE COMMISSION



David L. Rauch  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)  
Mueller, Chm., McClure, Perkins  
Crumpton, CC., Concur.  
Kincheloe, C., Absent.