

G-011/M-88-258 APPROVING INCREASE IN CIP EXPENDITURES

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Barbara Beerhalter	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Robert J. O'Keefe	Commissioner
Darrel L. Peterson	Commissioner

In the Matter of the Implementation of an Energy Conservation Program for Peoples Natural Gas Company, a Division of UtiliCorp United, Inc.

ISSUE DATE: May 3, 1989

DOCKET NO. G-011/M-88-258

ORDER APPROVING INCREASE IN CIP EXPENDITURES

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On September 28, 1988 the Commission issued its ORDER APPROVING CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, REQUIRING ADDITIONAL FILINGS, AND REQUIRING ADDITIONAL PROJECT in the above-captioned matter. On March 28, 1989 Peoples Natural Gas Company (the Company) filed a request to increase budgeted expenditures for two Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) projects approved in that Order, the La Crescent Project and the Lakefield Home Energy Awareness Training Project.

The Department of Public Service examined the filing and recommended approval. The matter came before the Commission on April 25, 1989.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The La Crescent Project

The Company proposes to increase funding for its La Crescent Project from \$13,000 to \$28,000. The project is administered by the La Crescent Community Energy Council and offers free home energy audits and weatherization kits to all residential customers in La Crescent. Senior citizens, low income customers, and disabled customers receive \$100 worth of weatherization materials in addition to those in the kit.

Originally, the Company estimated participation at 75 customers. As of the March 28 filing, 150 customers had asked to participate. The Company proposes revising its original participation goal to 200 customers.

The Commission finds that the project has conservation potential and that the interest demonstrated by the community should be encouraged. The proposed budget increase will be approved.

The Lakefield Home Energy Awareness Training Project

This project is administered by the Lakefield Energy Council and offers free Home Energy Check-ups and weatherization materials to all residential customers in Lakefield. The Company had originally budgeted \$6,000 for the project and had anticipated 100 participants. As of the March 28 filing, 265 customers had signed up. The Company proposes revising its participation goal to 300 customers and increasing its budget to \$18,000.

This project, too, has potential both for achieving conservation and for increasing public awareness of conservation issues. The budget increase will be approved.

ORDER

1. Peoples Natural Gas Company is authorized to increase its 1988-89 CIP budget for the La Crescent Project from \$13,000 to \$28,000.
2. Peoples Natural Gas Company is authorized to increase its 1988-89 CIP budget for the Lakefield Home Energy Awareness Training Project from \$6,000 to \$18,000.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Mary Ellen Hennen
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)