

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Request by)
THE CITY OF ENUMCLAW for a Waiver) DOCKET UG-960732
to Establish Maximum Allowable)
Operating Pressures for pipelines) ORDER GRANTING
installed prior to 1978.) WAIVER
[CFR 49 Part 192 Section 619(a)])
.)

On July 30, 1996, The City of Enumclaw, a Washington Municipality, filed a request for a waiver of 49 CFR Part 192 Section 619(a), Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) requirements. The City of Enumclaw does not have documentation of pressure testing or records of the highest operating pressure for pipelines installed prior to 1978. It is impossible for The City of Enumclaw to produce records that have been lost. The waiver is to allow the City of Enumclaw to operate the gas systems at current operating pressures and set the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure for the City's high pressure distribution main at 250 psig and 40 psig for the city's intermediate pressure distribution systems.

FINDING OF FACT

1. The City of Enumclaw has successfully operated its high pressure distribution main at 250 psig and its intermediate pressure system at 40 psig since before October of 1977 with no adverse affects to public safety.
2. The latest leak survey on the 14 mile high pressure distribution main, conducted in June, 1996, showed no leaks.
3. All pipe installed and/or replaced since 1978 has documentation of established MAOPs.
4. Establishing MAOPs via pressure testing as required by the safety code would require the shutdown of the entire City of Enumclaw.
5. Uprating the systems would put an undue burden on the City and unnecessary expense; records of leak surveys for the past three years have been provided at the current operating pressures.

O R D E R

1. WHEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the request by The City of Enumclaw for a waiver of the requirements of CFR 49 Part 192 Section 619(a) be granted to allow the City of Enumclaw to operate their gas systems at current operating pressures and set the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressures at 250 psig for the City's high pressure distribution main and at 40 psig for the City's intermediate pressure systems.

2. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that this waiver for MAOP requirements applies only to those portions of the high pressure distribution main and the intermediate pressure systems installed prior to 1978

3. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That jurisdiction over this Docket is retained to effectuate the provisions of this order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, this 13th day of November, 1996, and effective January 27, 1997.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



STEVE MCLELLAN, Secretary