

LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GENERAL ORDER

In re: Emergency Powers of the Executive Secretary

(Decided at Business and Executive Session held October 19, 2005)

During times of crisis, the ability of the Louisiana Public Service Commission to make immediate decisions is often required in order to avoid possible negative results for the public. For example, during Hurricane Katrina, the ability of the Secretary of the Commission to act on behalf of the Commission ensured the continuous provision of critical fuel needed to operate New Orleans pumping stations.

However, in other situations during the recent states of emergency, the Secretary has not had the necessary authority to act on behalf of the Commission and this has resulted in needless holdup and hardship. For instance, on three separate occasions during the extended and overlapping Hurricanes Katrina and Rita states of emergency, it has been necessary for the full Commission to vote to alter its Do Not Call Order, thereby causing unnecessary delay.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

As a result of these lessons learned during the recent crisis, it is hereby ordered that the Commission delegates to the Secretary of the Commission limited authority to make temporary exceptions to Commission rules and/or orders during a state of emergency in Louisiana declared by the Governor of the State of Louisiana and/or President of the United States and after approval of the requested action by the Chairman of the Commission, or Vice Chairman of the Commission if the Chairman is unavailable. All commissioners shall be notified of any exception and the Commission shall ratify or reject the exception, in whole or in part, at its next scheduled Business and Executive Session or at a Special Session.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

November 3, 2005

/S/ C. DALE SITTIG

DISTRICT IV

CHAIRMAN C. DALE SITTIG

/S/ JAMES M. FIELD

DISTRICT II

VICE CHAIRMAN JAMES M. FIELD

/S/ JACK "JAY" A. BLOSSMAN

DISTRICT I

COMMISSIONER JACK "JAY" A. BLOSSMAN

/S/ FOSTER L. CAMPBELL

DISTRICT V

COMMISSIONER FOSTER L. CAMPBELL

LAWRENCE C. ST. BLANC
SECRETARY

/S/ LAMBERT C. BOISSIERE, III

DISTRICT III

COMMISSIONER LAMBERT C. BOISSIERE, II