

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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| In the Matter of the Empire District Gas |) | |
| Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment |) | Case No. GR-2009-0397 |
| Tariff Filing. |) | |

STAFF STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and for its status report, states as follows:

1. On March 16, 2011, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Filing* (Order) directing the Staff to file either a status report or its recommendation no later than March 25, 2011.

2. The Staff informs the Commission that it has held discussions with The Empire District Gas Company (Empire) as Staff said it would do in its February 10, 2011 reply to Empire's response to Staff's recommendation in this case.

3. As a result of those discussions, the Staff submits its Memorandum, attached hereto as "Appendix A", incorporated herein for all purposes, and reports that the parties have resolved the issue of cashouts. The only remaining issue in dispute, as more thoroughly discussed in Staff's Memorandum, is the property tax issue.

WHEREFORE, the Staff prays the Commission accept its status report.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Robert S. Berlin

Robert S. Berlin

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 25th day of March 2011.

/s/ Robert S. Berlin