

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

The Office of the Public Counsel,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	<b><u>Case No. GC-2006-0180</u></b>
	)	
Southern Missouri Gas Company, L.P.,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**PUBLIC COUNSEL’S STATUS REPORT**

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel and for its Status Report states as follows:

1. On February 27, 2006, the Commission ordered Public Counsel to file a status report no later than March 6, 2006.

2. Public Counsel, Southern Missouri Natural Gas (f/k/a Southern Missouri Gas Company), and the Staff of the Commission continue to negotiate a settlement agreement. The settlement discussions have been productive and Public Counsel is hopeful that a settlement agreement will be reached within the next week. Public Counsel does not believe that a procedural schedule is necessary while settlement discussions continue. Public Counsel requests an additional week to finalize the settlement agreement.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel respectfully files this status report and requests additional time to allow the parties an opportunity to reach a settlement agreement.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

By: /s/ Marc D. Poston  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2006:

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**/s/ Marc Poston**

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