

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

In the matter of the application of Southern Union)
Company, d/b/a Missouri Gas Energy, for)
a certificate of public convenience and necessity)
authorizing it to construct, install, own, operate,)
control, manage and maintain a natural gas)
distribution system to provide gas service in)
Newton County, Missouri, as an expansion of its)
existing certified area.)

File No. GA-2013-0483

**RECOMMENDATION TO GRANT
CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

COMES NOW the Staff (“Staff”) of the Missouri Public Service Commission, (“Commission”) by and through counsel, and for its *Recommendation to Grant Certificate of Convenience and Necessity* states as follows:

1. On April 30, 2013, Missouri Gas Energy (MGE), a division of Southern Union Company, filed its *Application* with the Commission. In its *Application*, MGE requests that the Commission grant MGE a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CCN) authorizing it to construct, install, own, operate, control, manage and maintain a natural gas distribution system to provide gas service in Newton County, Missouri as an expansion of its existing certificated area.

2. Staff has reviewed MGE’s *Application*. For reasons more fully explained in the Staff Memorandum, attached as Appendix A and incorporated herein by reference, Staff has concluded that it is in the public interest to grant MGE’s *Application* pursuant to § 393.170 RSMo, 4 CSR 240-2.060 and 4 CSR 240-3.205 in that:

- a. MGE is willing and able to provide the requested service under existing tariff provisions;

- b. Extending gas service would not jeopardize natural gas service to the Company's currently existing customers;
 - c. No interveners have objected to this certificate request;
 - d. MGE anticipates using the customary state highway, railroad, and county rights of way;
 - e. The requested service area is expected to develop a new customer; and
 - f. No new franchises are required.
3. Staff recommends that the Commission approve MGE's requested CCN.
4. Staff also recommends MGE file revised tariff sheets reflecting this CCN in this case within thirty (30) days of any Commission order approving granting this CCN.
5. The Staff has verified that MGE has filed its annual report and is not delinquent on any assessment. Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests the Commission issue an order (1) granting Missouri Gas Energy a certificate of convenience and necessity to construct, install, own, operate, control, manage and maintain a system for the provision of natural gas service to the public pursuant to its approved rates, rules and regulations in Section 13 and 24, Township 24 North, Range 32 West, and (2) directing MGE to file revised tariff sheets including the CCN service area granted by the order within thirty (30) days of the order approving the *Application*.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sarah Kliethermes

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 7th day of June, 2013.

/s/ Sarah Kliethermes