# STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

In the Matter of Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc., Changes to Company's Purchase Gas Adjustment "PGA" Clause File No. GR-2022-0122 Tracking No. YG-2022-0160

# ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT AND ESTABLISHING ENDING ACA BALANCE

Issue Date: June 28, 2023 Effective Date: July 28, 2023

The Commission opened this case to receive the 2020-2021 Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) and Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) filings of Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc. (Summit). The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a recommendation regarding that ACA filing on December 14, 2022. Staff's recommendation and memorandum indicated Staff had completed an audit of billed revenues and actual gas costs for the period of September 1, 2020, through August 31, 2021, that were included in Summit's computation of its ACA balances.

Staff's recommendation and memorandum set out the ending balances contained in Summit's ACA filing, and recommended some monetary adjustments to those ending balances. Staff also offered some non-monetary recommendations regarding Summit's policies and practices. Summit responded to Staff's recommendations on January 18, 2023, accepting Staff's non-monetary recommendations and some of Staff's monetary recommendations, but disagreeing with others. Subsequently, Summit and Staff entered into ongoing discussions regarding Staff's proposed monetary ACA adjustments, eventually reaching a *Stipulation and Agreement* that was filed with the

Commission on June 14, 2023. The *Stipulation and Agreement* states that the Office of the Public Counsel reviewed the agreement and does not object to it.

Commission rules provide that if no party objects to a nonunanimous stipulation and agreement within seven days of its filing, the Commission may treat the stipulation and agreement as unanimous. More than seven days have passed after the *Stipulation* and *Agreement* was filed and none of the other parties have objected to it. Thus, the Commission will treat the *Stipulation and Agreement* as unanimous.

The Commission finds the terms of the unopposed *Stipulation and Agreement* are reasonable and will approve it. The Commission will incorporate the terms of the *Stipulation and Agreement* into this order.

After reviewing Staff's recommendation, Summit's response, and the *Stipulation* and *Agreement*, the Commission concludes that the ACA balances contained within the *Stipulation and Agreement* should be accepted as a resolution of Summit's 2020-2021 ACA audit.

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The provisions of the *Stipulation and Agreement* filed on June 14, 2023, are approved. The signatories, Summit and Staff, shall comply with the terms of the *Stipulation and Agreement*. A copy of the *Stipulation and Agreement* is attached to this order as Exhibit A.
- 2. Summit shall conduct an internal audit of the billing accuracy of its large volume customer meters. Such audit will be limited to Summit's aggregated and manually read meters, along with meters whose readings are collected through its FlowCal system.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 20 CSR 4240-2.115(2).

Summit shall complete this audit and provide the results to Staff by March 31, 2024. Summit shall update billing adjustments impacting PGA costs as part of their future ACA filings, subject to review.

3. The ending (over)/under recovery balances for Summit's 2020-2021 Actual Cost Adjustment are established as provided in the following tables:

| Rogersville/Branson Description (+) Under-recovery (-) Over-recovery | Ending<br>Balances Per<br>Filing | Staff<br>Adjustments for<br>2019-2020 ACA | Staff<br>Recommended<br>Ending<br>Balances |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Prior ACA Balance 8-31-20                                            | \$ (178,195.84)                  | \$ 0                                      | \$ (178,195.84)                            |
| Cost of Gas/Storage                                                  | \$ 27,907,319.04                 | \$ (747,554.94)                           | \$ 27,159,764.10                           |
| Cost of Transportation                                               | \$ 2,465,529.88                  | \$ (68.52)                                | \$ 2,465,461.36                            |
| Revenues - PGA billed                                                | \$ (5,782,602.74)                | \$ 0                                      | \$ (5,782,602.74)                          |
| ACA Approach for Interest Calculation                                | \$ 152,835.99                    | \$ 0                                      | \$ 152,835.99                              |
| Cash Outs                                                            | \$ (1,698,489.59)                | \$ (6,038.77)                             | \$ (1,704,528.36)                          |
| Total ACA Balance 8-31-21                                            | \$ 22,866,396.75                 | \$ (753,662.23)                           | \$ 22,112,734.51                           |

| Gallatin Description<br>(+) Under-recovery<br>(-) Over-recovery | Ending<br>Balances Per<br>Filing | Staff<br>Adjustments for<br>2019-2020 ACA | Staff<br>Recommended<br>Ending<br>Balances |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Prior ACA Balance 8-31-20                                       | \$ (84,912.37)                   | \$ 0                                      | \$ (84,912.37)                             |
| Cost of Gas/Storage                                             | \$ 1,451,298.30                  | \$ 0                                      | \$ 1,451,298.30                            |
| Cost of Transportation                                          | \$ 158,529.63                    | \$ 0                                      | \$ 158,529.63                              |

| Revenues - PGA billed                 | \$ (653,342.34) | \$ 0           | \$ (653,342.34) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| ACA Approach for Interest Calculation | \$ 3,176.63     | \$ (202.67)    | \$ 2,973.96     |
| Cash Outs                             | \$ (290,774.92) | \$ (23,618.17) | \$ (314,393.09) |
| Total ACA Balance 8-31-21             | \$ 583,974.93   | \$ (23,820.84) | \$ 560,154.09   |

| Warsaw/Lake of the<br>Ozarks Description<br>(+) Under-recovery<br>(-) Over-recovery | Ending<br>Balances Per<br>Filing | Staff<br>Adjustments for<br>2019-2020 ACA | Staff<br>Recommended<br>Ending<br>Balances |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Prior ACA Balance 8-31-20                                                           | \$ (191,767.94)                  | \$ 0                                      | \$ (191,767.94)                            |
| Cost of Gas/Storage                                                                 | \$ 9,528,900.70                  | \$ (2,445.56)                             | \$ 9,526,455.14                            |
| Cost of Transportation                                                              | \$ 645,494.06                    | \$ (68.53)                                | \$ 645,425.53                              |
| Revenues – PGA billed                                                               | \$ (1,788,065.25)                | \$ 0                                      | \$ (1,788,065.25)                          |
| ACA Approach for Interest Calculation                                               | \$ 50,810.44                     | \$ (0.88)                                 | \$ 50,809.56                               |
| Cash Outs                                                                           | \$ (416,049.34)                  | \$ (51.67)                                | \$ (416,101.01)                            |
| Total ACA Balance 8-31-21                                                           | \$ 7,829,322.67                  | \$ (2,566.64)                             | \$ 7,826,756.03                            |

2. This order shall become effective on July 28, 2023.

3. This file shall be closed on July 29, 2023.



BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell Secretary

Rupp, Chm., Coleman, Holsman, Kolkmeyer and Hahn CC., concur.

Seyer, Regulatory Law Judge

# DEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

| In the Matter of Summit Natural Gas of ) |                       |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Missouri, Inc.'s Changes to the          | Case No. GR-2022-0122 |
| Company's Purchase Gas Adjustment )      |                       |
| "PGA" Clause )                           |                       |

### STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

**COME NOW** Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc. (SNGMO) and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and submit the following Stipulation and Agreement (Agreement), which resolves all outstanding issues in this matter, for the Commission's approval:

- 1. This matter originated on November 4, 2021, when SNGMO made its ACA filings for the 2020-2021 ACA period.
- 2. On December 14, 2022, the Staff filed its recommendations regarding the Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc. 2020-2021 Actual Cost Adjustment ("ACA") filings. The Staff Recommendation set out the results of Staff's audit of the billed revenues and actual gas costs for the period September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021, included in the Company's 2020-2021 ACA filings.
- 3. Staff recommended adjustments to the Company's filed ACA balances to reflect its view of the actual billed revenues, less natural gas costs, for the period under review. SNGMO responded to Staff's recommended disallowances on January 18, 2023, and identified its disagreement with certain of the Staff proposed adjustments. The Commission granted the parties additional time to discuss the issues.
- 4. SNGMO and Staff have discussed the matters and have arrived at this Agreement. Pursuant to the Agreement, SNGMO agrees to adjust ACA account balances

as identified in **Appendix A**. The Agreement resolves all the outstanding issues in this matter.

- 5. Additionally, the Company agrees to conduct an internal audit of the billing accuracy of its large volume costumer meters. Such audit will be limited to the Company's aggregated and manually read meters, along with meters whose readings are collected through its FlowCal system. The Company agrees to complete this audit and provide the result to Staff by March 31, 2024. Billing adjustments impacting PGA costs will be updated as part of the Company's future ACA filings, subject to review.
- 6. The Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) has reviewed this Agreement and has confirmed with counsel for SNGMO and Staff that the OPC does not object to the Agreement.

### **General Provisions**

- 7. This Agreement is being entered into solely for the purpose of settling the issues in this case. Unless otherwise explicitly provided herein, none of the signatories to this Agreement shall be deemed to have approved, accepted, agreed, consented or acquiesced to any ratemaking or procedural principle, and, except as explicitly provided herein, none of the signatories shall be prejudiced or bound in any manner by the terms of this Agreement (whether this Agreement is approved or not) in this or any other proceeding, other than a proceeding limited to enforcing the terms of this Agreement.
- 8. If the Commission does not approve this Agreement unconditionally and without modification, then this Agreement shall be void and no signatory shall be bound by any of the agreements or provisions hereof, except as explicitly provided herein.

9. In the event the Commission approves the specific terms of this Agreement without condition or modification, the signatories waive their respective rights to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses pursuant to § 536.070(2) RSMo; present oral argument and written briefs pursuant to §536.080.1 RSMo; their respective rights to the reading of the transcript by the Commission pursuant to RSMo §536.080.2 RSMo; their respective rights to seek rehearing pursuant to §386.500 RSMo; and their respective rights to judicial review pursuant to §386.510 RSMo. These waivers apply only to a Commission order approving this Agreement without condition or modification issued in this above-captioned proceeding. These waivers do not apply to any matters raised in any prior or subsequent Commission proceeding.

WHEREFORE, SNGMO and Staff request the Commission issue an order approving this Stipulation and Agreement and order SNGMO to adjust its ACA balances.

Respectfully submitted,

Dean L. Cooper #36592

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND

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ATTORNEY FOR STAFF OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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# ATTORNEYS FOR SUMMIT NATURAL GAS OF MISSOURI, INC.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served electronically on all counsel of record on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

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## APPENDIX A

**ACA Account Balances** SNGMO should be ordered to adjust the ACA account balances for its service territories in its next ACA filing to reflect the following adjustments:

| Gallatin               | Ending          | Staff          | Staff                  |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Description            | Balances        | Adjustments    | Recommended            |
| (+) Under-             | Per Filing      | for 2020-2021  | <b>Ending Balances</b> |
| recovery               |                 | ACA            |                        |
| (-) Over-recovery      |                 |                |                        |
| Prior ACA              | \$ (84,912.37)  | \$ 0           | \$ (84,912.37)         |
| Balance 8-31-20        |                 |                |                        |
| Cost of                | \$ 1,451,298.30 | \$ 0           | \$ 1,451,298.30        |
| Gas/Storage            |                 |                |                        |
| Cost of                | \$ 158,529.63   | \$ 0           | \$ 158,529.63          |
| Transportation         |                 |                |                        |
| <b>Revenues - PGA</b>  | \$ (653,342.34) | \$ 0           | \$ (653,342.34)        |
| billed                 |                 |                |                        |
| ACA Approach           | \$ 3,176.63     | \$(202.67)     | \$ 2,973.96            |
| for Interest           |                 |                |                        |
| Calculation            |                 |                |                        |
| Cash Outs              | \$ (290,774.92) | \$ (23,618.17) | \$ (314,393.09)        |
| Total ACA              | \$ 583,974.93   | \$ (23,820.84) | \$ 560,154.09          |
| <b>Balance 8-31-21</b> |                 |                |                        |

| Warsaw/Lake of    | Ending            | Staff         | Staff                  |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| the Ozarks        | Balances          | Adjustments   | Recommended            |
| Description       | Per Filing        | for 2020-2021 | <b>Ending Balances</b> |
| (+) Under-        |                   | ACA           |                        |
| recovery          |                   |               |                        |
| (-) Over-recovery |                   |               |                        |
| Prior ACA         | \$ (191,767.94)   | \$ 0          | \$ (191,767.94)        |
| Balance 8-31-20   |                   |               |                        |
| Cost of           | \$ 9,528,900.70   | \$ (2,445.56) | \$ 9,526,455.14        |
| Gas/Storage       |                   |               |                        |
| Cost of           | \$ 645,494.06     | \$ (68.53)    | \$ 645,425.53          |
| Transportation    |                   |               |                        |
| Revenues – PGA    | \$ (1,788,065.25) | \$ 0          | \$ (1,788,065.25)      |
| billed            |                   |               |                        |
| ACA Approach      | \$ 50,810.44      | \$ (0.88)     | \$ 50,809.56           |
| for Interest      |                   |               |                        |
| Calculation       |                   |               |                        |
| Cash Outs         | \$ (416,049.34)   | \$ (51.67)    | \$ (416,101.01)        |
| Total ACA         | \$ 7,829,322.67   | \$ (2,566.64) | \$ 7,826,756.03        |
| Balance 8-31-21   |                   | , ,           |                        |

| Rogersville/Branson      | Ending            | Staff           | Staff                  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Description              | Balances          | Adjustments     | Recommended            |
| (+) Under-recovery       | Per Filing        | for             | <b>Ending Balances</b> |
| (-) Over-recovery        |                   | 2020-2021       |                        |
|                          |                   | ACA             |                        |
| <b>Prior ACA Balance</b> | \$ (178,195.84)   | \$ 0            | \$ (178,195.84)        |
| 8-31-20                  |                   |                 |                        |
| Cost of Gas/Storage      | \$ 27,907,319.04  | \$ (747,554.94) | \$ 27,159,764.10       |
| Cost of                  | \$ 2,465,529.88   | \$ (68.52)      | \$ 2,465,461.36        |
| Transportation           |                   |                 |                        |
| Revenues - PGA           | \$ (5,782,602.74) | \$ 0            | \$ (5,782,602.74)      |
| billed                   |                   |                 |                        |
| ACA Approach for         | \$ 152,835.99     | \$ 0            | \$ 152,835.99          |
| Interest                 |                   |                 |                        |
| Cash Outs                | \$ (1,698,489.59) | \$ (6,038.77)   | \$ (1,704,528.36)      |
| <b>Total ACA Balance</b> | \$ 22,866,396.75  | \$ (753,662.23) | \$ 22,112,734.51       |
| 8-31-21                  |                   | •               |                        |

## STATE OF MISSOURI

### OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

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Nancy Dippell Secretary

## MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION June 28, 2023

#### File/Case No. GR-2022-0122

### **Missouri Public Service** Commission

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### **Summit Natural Gas of** Missouri. Inc.

Jesse W Craig 312 East Capitol Avenue P.O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102 jcraig@brydonlaw.com

### **Summit Natural Gas of** Missouri. Inc.

Brooke South 116 Chiefs Court Branson, MO 65616-4089 bsouth@summitutilities.com

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.