OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of an Investigation into the Status of
Missouri's Natural Gas Local Distribution Companies'
Compliance with Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-40.018.

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: September 20, 2005 Effective Date: September 20, 2005

On September 12, 2005, the Public Counsel filed his Motion to Open a New Case, wherein he prayed that the Commission would "open a case for the purpose of investigating that status of natural gas utilities' compliance with 4 CSR 240-40.018, and that it take evidence on the record concerning that compliance." Thereafter, on September 14, the Commission issued its Order Directing Notice, setting October 4, 2005, as the date by which Missouri certificated gas corporations might respond to Public Counsel's motion. The Commission also directed its Staff to file a Memorandum and Recommendation by that date.

The Commission will shorten the response deadline previously ordered so that it may act more quickly on Public Counsel's motion.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- That the Commission's Data Center shall send a copy of this order to all
 Missouri certificated local distribution companies and gas corporations.
- 2. That any entity may file a response or objection to the Public Counsel's motion, described above, not later than Noon on Monday, September 26, 2005, with:

Colleen M. Dale, Secretary Missouri Public Service Commission Post Office Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

and send copies to:

Office of the Public Counsel Post Office Box 2230 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

- 3. That the Staff of the Commission shall file a memorandum advising either approval or rejection of Public Counsel's motion and giving the reasons therefor not later than Noon on Monday, September 26, 2005.
 - 4. That this order shall become effective on September 20, 2005.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Kevin A. Thompson, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 20th day of September, 2005.