# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Missouri Propane Gas Association, Complainant, v. Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc., Respondent.

File No.GC-2016-0083

### STAFF'S RESPONSE TO SUMMIT NATURAL GAS OF MISSOURI, INC.'S REQUEST FOR MEDIATION

**COMES NOW** the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission and for its response to the *Request for Mediation and to Suspend Schedule* filed herein by Respondent, hereby respectfully states:

1. On October 2, 2015, the Missouri Propane Gas Association ("MPGA") filed a complaint with the Commission alleging that Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc. ("SNGMO") had violated its tariff and a Commission order by Stipulation and Agreement.

2. On October 5, 2015, the Commission ordered the Respondent to file an answer no later than November 4, 2015. In this order, the Commission indicated that the filing of a complaint requires the Commission to set a hearing before making its decision. As an alternative to the formal evidentiary hearing procedure, the Commission offered mediation, and upon a request for mediation, a suspension of the schedule.

3. On November 4, 2015, Respondent filed its *Request for Mediation and to Suspend Schedule*.

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4. Subsequently, on November 4, 2015, the Commission ordered each party other than SNGMO to file a response to Respondent's filing no later than November 16, 2015.

5. Staff does not oppose the request for mediation. Staff believes that it is appropriate to suspend the schedule, as the Commission has already done.

6. Should the Commission choose to grant the request for mediation, Staff would be unavailable to participate in mediation on the following dates in 2015 because of conflicts:

- November: 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>; and
- December: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>.

WHEREFORE Staff submits this response pursuant to the Commission's November 4, 2015 order.

Respectfully submitted,

## <u>/s/ Jamie S. Myers</u>

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served, by hand delivery, electronic mail, or First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, to all parties of record on the Service List maintained for this case by the Data Center of the Missouri Public Service Commission, on this 16th Day of November, 2015.

### /s/ Jamie S. Myers