

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

In the Matter of the Joint Application of )  
Southern Missouri Gas Company, LP., )  
d/b/a Southern Missouri Natural and )  
Missouri Gas Utility Inc., for Approval )  
of the Merger of Southern Missouri )  
natural Gas with Missouri Gas Utility. )  
Inc., and for Certain Related )  
Transactions. )

**Case No. GM-2011-0354**

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Commission, and in response to the Commission's February 24, 2012 Order Directing Filing states Staff recommends approval of Missouri Gas Utility (MGU) to adopt Southern Missouri Natural Gas' (SMNG) tariffs and to change its name to Summit Natural Gas of Missouri. In support Staff states:

1. Staff recommends approval of MGU's Application to formally adopt SMNG's tariffs, which is one step necessary to complete the merger between MGU and SMNG, which the Commission has approved in this case.

2. Staff recommends Summit also permit Missouri Gas Utility to adopt the name Summit Natural Gas of Missouri. This will help eliminate customer confusion between Missouri Gas Energy and Missouri Gas Utility, which is important since both operate facilities in Southwest Missouri.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff recommends Commission approval of MGU's Application as in the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Lera L. Shemwell**

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or emailed to all counsel of record this 15th day of March, 2012.

**/s/ Lera L. Shemwell**

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File,  
Case No. GM-2011-0354, File No. YG-2012-0399 Southern Missouri Gas Company,  
L.P. (SMGC) d/b/a Southern Missouri Natural Gas (SMNG) and Missouri Gas Utility,  
Inc. (MGU)

FROM: Thomas M. Imhoff, Energy Department - Tariffs/Rate Design

/s/ Lena M. Mantle 03/15/12

Energy Department/Date

/s/ Lera Shemwell 03/15/12

General Counsel's Office/Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation On SMGC and MGU's Application for a Merger and Name  
Change to Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc.

DATE: March 15, 2012

On April 27, 2011, SMGC and MGU filed a joint application seeking approval of a merger and certain transactions with MGU as the surviving entity. On September 15, 2011, a Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement (S&A) was filed in the case, and on September 28, 2011, the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) issued its Order Approving Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement.

In that S&A, MGU agreed to maintain each company's current tariffs separately and to formally adopt SMGC's tariffs upon Commission approval of the merger. As part of the S&A, MGU also agreed to change its name to eliminate any confusion between Missouri Gas Energy and MGU customers. On February 2, 2012, MGU filed for a name change to call itself, Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc. (Summit). On March 5, 2012, the Commission issued an Order approving the name change.

On February 23, 2012, Summit filed two tariff sheets requesting approval of its formal adoption notice and title sheet, in compliance with the Commission's Order in GM-2011-0354. On March 7, 2012, Summit filed substitute tariff sheets to insert additional information. Staff has reviewed the tariff sheets and determined that the tariff sheets are in compliance with the Commission's Order.

The Commission's Energy Tariffs-Rate Design Staff (Staff) has verified that this company has filed its annual report and is not delinquent on any assessment.

Staff recommends the Commission approve Summit's filing to become effective on March 24, 2012.

P.S.C. MO. No. 2

Original Sheet Title, Cancelling P.S.C. MO No. 1 Original Sheet Title

Original Sheet No. A, Cancelling P.S.C. MO No. 1 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. A

