

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

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Southern)
Missouri Gas Company, L.P., d/b/a Southern Missouri)
Natural Gas and Missouri Gas Utility, Inc., for Approval) **File No. GM-2011-0354**
of the Merger of Southern Missouri Natural Gas with)
Missouri Gas Utility, Inc., and for Certain Related)
Transactions.)

**ORDER GRANTING INTERVENTION
AND SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

Issue Date: May 31, 2011

Effective Date: May 31, 2011

On April 27, 2011, Southern Missouri Gas Company, L.P., d/b/a Southern Missouri Natural Gas (“SMNG”) and Missouri Gas Utility (“MGU”) filed an application. That application requests, among other things, authority from the Commission for SMNG and MGU to merge, with MGU as the surviving entity.

The Commission issued notice of the application and set a deadline for intervention requests. Southern Union Company, d/b/a Missouri Gas Energy (“MGE”) filed a timely intervention request on May 18, 2011.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(15) allows parties ten days to respond to pleadings unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. The Commission issued no other order; thus, responses to MGE’s request were due on May 28, 2011. The Commission received no objections. The Commission will take up the application unopposed.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.075(4) provides that the Commission may permit any person to intervene on a showing that the proposed intervenor has an interest

which is different from that of the general public and which may be adversely affected by a final order arising from the case; or granting the proposed intervention would serve the public interest. MGE pleads that MGU's operation area is adjacent to MGE's operating area, and that MGU and MGE entered into a stipulation to address certain operating issues due to the proximity of their service territories. Thus, MGE pleads that it has an interest in this case which is different from that of the general public.

The Commission independently finds that MGE meets the Commission's standards for intervention, and, thus, the Commission will grant MGE's request to intervene. Further, the Commission will set this matter for a prehearing conference.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Application to Intervene filed by Southern Union Company d/b/a Missouri Gas Energy is granted.

2. A prehearing conference is hereby scheduled for this case on June 13, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. The conference shall be held in Room 305 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodations to participate in the conference should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing.

3. The parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule or an alternative pleading stating their plans on resolving this case on or before June 20, 2011.

4. This order shall become effective upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Ronald D. Pridgin, Senior Regulatory Law
Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 31st day of May, 2011.