

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 20th day
of May, 2008.

In the Matter of the Application of Missouri Gas)	
Energy, a division of Southern Union Company,)	<u>Case No. GE-2008-0352</u>
for a Variance from Certain Commission Rules)	Tariff No. JG-2008-0645
in Order to Provide Electronic Billing.)	

**ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE
AND APPROVING TARIFF SHEETS**

Issue Date: May 20, 2008

Effective Date: May 28, 2008

Syllabus: This order grants Missouri Gas Energy a variance from Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-13.015(1)(B),¹ (T),² 4 CSR 240-13.050(5)³ and 4 CSR 240-13.055(3)⁴ and approves tariff sheets to allow Missouri Gas Energy to implement optional electronic billing.

On April 28, 2008, Missouri Gas Energy asked the Commission for a variance from Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-13.015(1)(B) and (T), 4 CSR 240-13.050(5) and 4 CSR 240-13.055(3). MGE requests the variance so that it may offer electronic billing to its customers.

¹ This rule defines "bill" as a "written demand for payment". MGE seeks a variance so that it may send electronic bills.

² This rule defines "rendition of a bill" as "the mailing or hand delivery of a bill." MGE seeks a variance so that it may electronically send bills.

³ This rule requires utilities to provide at least ten days' notice of a proposed disconnection of residential service by first-class mail. MGE seeks a variance so that it may send those notices electronically.

⁴ This rule requires a ten day notice by first class mail specifically during the cold weather season of November 1 – March 31. MGE seeks a variance so that it may send such notice electronically.

MGE also filed tariff sheets, effective May 28, 2008, to implement the proposed electronic billing. At Staff's request, MGE filed substitute tariff sheets on May 12. At OPC's request, MGE filed substitute tariff sheets on May 15.

The Staff of the Commission filed its Recommendation on May 14. In the Recommendation, Staff stated that MGE's program would allow its customers the option to receive and pay bills electronically. Further, Staff stated that MGE's program is similar to electronic billing programs already used by Laclede Gas Company and Kansas City Power & Light Company. Staff finds MGE's requests to be reasonable, and recommends that the Commission approve the variance and tariff sheets.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.060(4) allows the Commission to grant variances from Commission rules upon good cause shown. Upon review of MGE's verified application, the Commission rules and Staff's recommendation, the Commission finds that MGE has shown good cause in its request for a variance. With electronic billing, payment and notice, customer choices are increased, and both MGE and its customers may enjoy savings from the elimination of paper bills, checks, envelopes and postage stamps.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Commission grants Missouri Gas Energy, a division of Southern Union Company, a variance from Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-13.015(1)(B) and (T), 4 CSR 240-13.050(5) and 4 CSR 240-13.055(3).
2. The Commission approves Tariff No. JG-2008-0645, which is the tariff Missouri Gas Energy, a division of Southern Union Company, filed on April 28, 2008, as

amended by substitute sheets filed on May 12, 2008 and May 15, 2008, effective May 28, 2008. The specific tariff sheets approved are:

P.S.C. MO. No. 1

Second Revised SHEET No. R-7, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-7
Second Revised SHEET No. R-8, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-8
Second Revised SHEET No. R-9, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-9
Second Revised SHEET No. R-10, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-10
Fifth Revised SHEET No. R-23, Canceling Fourth Revised SHEET No. R-23
Second Revised SHEET No. R-25, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-25
Second Revised SHEET No. R-27, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-27
Second Revised SHEET No. R-51, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-51
Second Revised SHEET No. R-52, Canceling First Revised SHEET No. R-52

3. That this order shall become effective on May 28, 2008.
4. That this case may be closed on May 29, 2008.

BY THE COMMISSION



Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Davis, Chm., Murray, Clayton,
Jarrett, and Gunn, CC., concur.

Pridgin, Regulatory Law Judge