

STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
Hearing

September 15, 2008
Jefferson City, Missouri
Volume 1

In the Matter of the Application)
Of Missouri Gas Energy, A)
Division Of Southern Union)Case No. GO-2009-0009
Company, For Approval To Change)
Its Infrastructure System)
Replacement Surcharge.)

RONALD D. PRIDGIN, Presiding,
SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.

REPORTED BY:
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Good
3 morning. We're on the record. This is the
4 prehearing conference in Case No. GO-2009-0009, in
5 the Matter of the Application of Missouri Gas Energy,
6 A Division of Southern Union Company, for Approval to
7 Change Its Infrastructure System Replacement
8 Surcharge.

9 I am Ron Pridgin and I am the regulatory
10 law judge assigned to preside over this prehearing
11 conference that's being held September 15th, 2008, in
12 the Governor Office Building, Jefferson City,
13 Missouri. The time is approximately 10:05 a.m.

14 I would like to get oral entries of
15 appearance from counsel, beginning with Staff,
16 please.

17 MR. BERLIN: Robert S. Berlin, Post
18 Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102,
19 appearing on behalf of the Staff of the Missouri
20 Public Service Commission.

21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Berlin, thank you.
22 On behalf of the Company, please.

23 MR. COOPER: Dean Cooper from the
24 law firm of Brydon, Swearngen & England, PC,
25 P.O. Box 456, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102,

1 appearing on behalf of Missouri Gas Energy, a
2 division of Southern Union Company.

3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Cooper, thank you.
4 On behalf of the Office of Public Counsel, please.

5 MR. POSTON: Thank you. Marc Poston,
6 P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102,
7 appearing for the Office of Public Counsel and the
8 public.

9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Poston, thank you.
10 Any other counsel wishing to enter an appearance?

11 (NO RESPONSE.)

12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Hearing
13 none, I have convened this prehearing conference
14 because of a dispute that the Company and Staff have
15 on the proposed infrastructure system replacement
16 discharge, and because time is of the essence, I have
17 asked the parties if they cannot resolve their
18 dispute, they can file a procedural schedule no later
19 than Wednesday. That's because the 120-day clock is
20 running.

21 If you do need a hearing, I would
22 suggest you look at the week of September 29th. I
23 believe that week is fairly clear. Wednesday would
24 probably be bad because of a seminar that the
25 Commissioners and I would likely be attending.

1 But otherwise, I think that week is
2 fairly clear, and I would at least point the parties
3 toward that week if you think you need a hearing
4 date.

5 And I'll ask the parties to correct
6 me -- well, first of all, is there anything in the
7 pleadings that's highly confidential or proprietary?
8 I don't recall anything.

9 MR. COOPER: I don't think so, your
10 Honor.

11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay.

12 MR. BERLIN: No.

13 JUDGE PRIDGIN: As I see the dispute, is
14 it over roughly \$28,000?

15 MR. BERLIN: It's around that number as
16 I understand it.

17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. And Mr. Cooper,
18 is that --

19 MR. COOPER: That's in the ball park,
20 yes, sir.

21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: And Mr. Poston, I don't
22 mean to ignore you. Does that sound right to you?

23 MR. POSTON: To be honest, I'm not
24 real -- I thought it was less than that, but that's
25 fine.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. I understand.
2 And the reason I ask is that the Commissioners may
3 ask me if this does go to hearing, "Hey, how much are
4 the parties fighting over?" Because I know they're
5 going to be busy with local public hearings and rate
6 case hearings coming up, and sometimes they simply
7 want to know how much money or how important it is as
8 to how to devote their time.

9 Is there anything that the parties need
10 from me?

11 MR. COOPER: I don't believe so.

12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Obviously, I'm up
13 on the ninth floor, and you have access to this room
14 all day if you need an area to talk. I'm on the
15 ninth floor, the hearing calendar is on the ninth
16 floor.

17 Again, I think that week of the 29th is
18 pretty clear if you do actually need a hearing, but
19 because of the dollar amount, I would encourage you
20 to at least give one more chance at settling today
21 while you're all here together.

22 Is there anything further from the
23 parties before we go off the record?

24 (NO RESPONSE.)

25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Hearing

1 nothing, that concludes the prehearing conference in
2 Case No. GO-2009-0009. Thank you very much. We're
3 off the record.

4 (WHEREUPON, the recorded portion of the
5 prehearing conference was concluded.)

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