

MEMORANDUM

FILED

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TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File
Case No. GO-91-277, Missouri Gas Energy

FROM: John D. Kottwitz, Energy Department - Gas Safety

SUBJECT: Staff Response to Commission Notice

DATE: April 1, 1996

REVIEWED BY: Sam Eldamman 4-2-96 Jeffrey B. 4/3/96 CDM
Utility Operations Division/Date General Counsel's Office/Date

MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

4-3-96

Missouri Gas Energy (MGE) filed its ANNUAL STATUS REPORT (Report) in Case No. GO-91-277 on January 22, 1996, as required by the Commission's REPORT AND ORDER dated January 13, 1995. The Commission issued a NOTICE on March 15, 1996, requesting the Staff to advise whether it intends to review and submit comments on the MGE filing.

Over the years, Staff requested all Missouri operators with replacement programs to submit annual program updates by February 28. Routinely, Staff reviews these individual program updates and takes appropriate actions when necessary without the need to file Staff recommendations in case files. The Staff is currently in the process of reviewing all the other 1995 update reports as it has in the past.

In response to the NOTICE, the Staff has reviewed the Report filed by MGE and finds it to be satisfactory. The Report indicates that MGE is in compliance with its approved program, except for one item. MGE did not meet its annual quota for unprotected steel mains in 1994 or 1995, but Staff is not too concerned because MGE is more than forty-five (45) miles ahead of its cumulative quota for unprotected steel mains.

During review of the Report, MGE informed Staff that the original mileage total used to establish the annual quotas for unprotected steel mains was too high. At the end of 1995, MGE had 173 miles of unprotected steel mains remaining in its program. MGE will complete the program in 1997 as scheduled, but the annual amounts in 1996 and 1997 will be approximately 86.5 miles instead of the annual quotas of 128.2 miles in 1996 and 126.2 miles in 1997. Staff agrees with this plan of action by MGE. Staff believes the change in annual amounts is informational in nature, and does not require MGE to file a motion to modify its program.

Copies: Director - Utility Operations Division
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