

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

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy and)
Its Tariff Filing to Implement a General) Case No. GR-2009-0355
Rate Increase for Natural Gas Service)

STAFF OF THE COMMISSION’S STATEMENT OF POSITIONS

COMES NOW the Staff of the Commission and files its Statement of Positions on the Issues. In support thereof Staff states:

1. On April 2, 2009, in Case No. GR-2009-0355, MGE filed tariff sheets to increase rates by \$32,416,997.
2. The Parties are engaged in ongoing settlement discussions, which may resolve some of these issues.
3. On October 21, 2009 the Parties filed a Joint List of Issues, Order of Witnesses and Order of Cross-Examination.
4. In the attached Statement of Positions on the Issues/Prehearing brief, Staff explains its recommendations to the Commission.
5. The fact that Staff has not taken a position on a particular issue does not indicate, and should not be interpreted to mean that Staff may not adopt a position after hearing on the issue.

WHEREFORE Staff respectfully requests the Commission accept its Statement of Position.

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 electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 22nd day of October 2009.

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell