

Exhibit No.:
Issue: Abandonment of Service
Witness: Mark A. Martin
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony
Sponsoring Party: Atmos Energy Corporation
Case No.: GM-2012-____
Date Testimony Prepared: August 1, 2011

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO.: GM-2012-____

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

MARK A. MARTIN

ON BEHALF OF

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

*Owensboro, Kentucky
August 2011*

1 **Q. Please state your name, position and business address?**

2 A. I am Mark A. Martin, Vice President -- Rates and Regulatory Affairs of Atmos Energy
3 Corporation ("Atmos" or the "Company"), Kentucky/Mid-States Division. My business
4 address is 3275 Highland Point Drive, Owensboro, KY 42303-2114.

5 **Q. Please describe your professional and educational background?**

6 A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Eastern Illinois University. I
7 have been with United Cities Gas Company and subsequently Atmos since September
8 1995. I have served in a variety of progressive positions in both Gas Supply and Rates
9 prior to assuming my current responsibilities. I am presently responsible for Rates and
10 Regulatory Affairs matters in the states of Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, and Missouri.

11 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

12 A. The purpose of my testimony is to provide support for Atmos' need to abandon service in
13 Missouri.

14 **Q. Please briefly describe Atmos?**

15 A. Atmos is a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Texas
16 and the Commonwealth of Virginia, with principal offices located at 1800 Three Lincoln
17 Centre, 5430 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, Texas 75240. It is a public utility within the meaning
18 of the Public Service Commission Law. It is engaged in the business of distributing and
19 selling natural gas in Missouri as well as in the States of Illinois, Georgia, Tennessee,
20 Virginia, Missouri, Mississippi, Iowa, Kansas, Texas, Louisiana, Colorado and Kentucky.

21 **Q. Please briefly describe Atmos' operations in Missouri?**

1 A. Atmos provides natural gas distribution service to approximately 55,000 customers in
2 four operating areas in Missouri: West, Kirksville, Northeast and Southeast. The gas
3 supply for these service areas is received through separate interstate pipelines: Panhandle
4 Eastern Pipe Line Co., LP; Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc.; ANR Pipeline Co.;
5 Natural Gas Pipeline Co. of America; Mississippi River Transmission Corp.; Texas
6 Eastern Transmission, LP and Ozark Gas Transmission, LLC.

7 **Q. Please describe why Atmos is requesting permission from the Commission to**
8 **abandon all gas distribution service?**

9 A. Atmos has entered into a Purchase Agreement in which Atmos will sell all of its Missouri
10 natural gas distribution assets to Liberty Energy Midstates. Upon closing of this
11 transaction, Atmos will cease to provide service to any ratepayers in Missouri. All of
12 Atmos' current customers will have natural gas service provided by Liberty Energy
13 Midstates without interruption in a reliable, safe, and cost efficient manner. Since all of
14 Atmos' former customers will be receiving service from Liberty Energy Midstates, it will
15 no longer be necessary for Atmos to remain a public utility in Missouri.

16 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

17 A. Yes.

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