BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

)

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy's Tariffs) Increasing Rates for Gas Service Provided to Customers in the Company's Missouri Service Area.

Case No. GR-2006-0422

MISSOURI GAS ENERGY'S PROPOSED CALENDAR OF ISSUES

COMES NOW Missouri Gas Energy ("MGE") and submits for the Commission's consideration a proposed calendar of issues for the evidentiary hearing in this case which will commence on Monday, January 8, 2007.

1. The evidentiary hearing in this case is scheduled for January 8-12 and January 16-19, 2007. On November 28, 2006, Staff filed a Joint Statement of Issues, Calendar of Issues and Order of Witnesses, and Order of Cross-Examination. Thereafter, on November 30, 2006, MGE filed its comments regarding Staff's pleading, including MGE's reservations about Staff's proposed calendar of issues.¹

2. MGE believes the issues in this case have been narrowed sufficiently that it is realistic to schedule the remaining issues in the case all to be heard during the week of January 8-12. Consequently, MGE proposes the following calendar of events.

DATES	TIME	ISSUES	WITNESSES*
Monday/1-8-07	8:30	Opening Statements (1 hour approx.)	
	9:30	Cost of Capital	Frank Hanley, Mike Noack, David Murray, Russ Trippensee
		Policy	Rob Hack, Mike Noack, Mark Oligschlaeger

¹ See, MGE's Comments, ¶5, EFIS Doc. No. 112.

Tuesday/1-9-07	8:30	Rate Design	Ron Amen, Russ Feingold, Phil Thompson, Anne Ross, Barb Meisenheimer
Wednesday/1- 10-07	8:30	Weather Normalization	Russ Feingold, Curt Wells, Jim Gray, Henry Warren
		Low Income Weatherization/ Natural Gas Conservation	David Hendershot, Mike Noack, Russ Feingold, Anne Ross, Barb Meisenheimer, Robert Jackson
Thursday/1-11- 07	8:30	Property Tax Refunds	Mike Noack, David Winter
		Unrecovered Cost Of Service Amortization	Mike Noack, Mark Oligschlaeger, Ted Robertson
		Depreciation Rates	Thomas Sullivan, Greg Macias
		Environmental Response Fund	Mike Noack, Alan Fish, Paul Harrison, Ted Robertson
Friday/1-12-07	8:30	Infinium Software amortization	Mike Noack, Paula Mapeka, Ted Robertson
		Emergency Cold Weather Rule AAO Recovery	Mike Noack, Paul Harrison
		Seasonal Disconnects	Mike Noack, Mike Ensrud, Barb Meisenheimer
		Staff's proposed PGA Tariff Language	Mike Noack, Anne Allee
		Kansas Property Tax AAO	Mike Noack, Paula Mapeka, Ted Robertson

*The listing of witnesses is included for informational purposes only and is subject to change as a consequence of the surrebuttal testimony to be filed on December 11, 2007.

The schedule proposed by MGE has a number of features that recommend it to

the Commission.

3. The two biggest issues in this case are Cost of Capital (Rate of Return) and Rate Design. Consequently, MGE proposes to schedule those two issues early in the week and has set aside the better part of two full days for them to be heard along with the additional issue of ratemaking Policy. Scheduling Cost of Capital as the first issue on Monday, January 8, is also

beneficial in that MGE's expert witness, Frank Hanley, will be traveling to Jefferson City from out of town. This should free Mr. Hanley to return home Monday afternoon or evening.

4. MGE proposes handling the issues of Rate Design, Weather Normalization and Low Income Weatherization/Natural Gas Conservation on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 9th and 10th. The issues are conceptually connected and, additionally, MGE's outside expert, Russell Feingold, will be coming from out of town and offering testimony on each of these three issues. This scheduling proposal will allow Mr. Feingold to testify on those matters for which he is responsible in reasonably close proximity to each other so as to minimize the time he needs to spend in Jefferson City. The remaining issues are set for Thursday the 11th and Friday the 12th. While this may appear ambitious, several of the issues are relatively narrow and MGE does not anticipate an inordinate amount of time being allocated to them.

5. If it turns out that one week is insufficient for the hearing to be completed, the following week is available for any necessary spillover. Accordingly, MGE recommends that the Commission keep those dates reserved for that purpose.

6. MGE believes that the schedule of events will promote a cost efficient processing of this case. MGE's costs and, consequently, the cost to its customers, will be mitigated to the extent that the hearing can be concluded in less time than originally set aside by the Commission. The same is also true with respect to the time of the Commission and its Staff. Also, quickly processing the

3

case will free up time for MGE, the Commission, and the other parties in the case that can be allocated to other ongoing matters and obligations.

7. Counsel for MGE has circulated this proposal among all the parties and none of those parties has voiced opposition prior to the filing of this pleading.

WHEREFORE, MGE requests an order from the Commission adopting a calendar of issues in this case consistent with the proposal set forth in paragraph 2, *supra*, and for such other orders as may be appropriate in the circumstances.

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND

By: <u>/s/ Paul A. Boudreau</u> Paul A. Boudreau Mo. Bar # 33155 BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C. P.O. Box 456 312 East Capitol Avenue Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456 Telephone: (573) 635-7166 Facsimile: (573) 634-7431 paulb@brydonlaw.com ATTORNEYS FOR MISSOURI GAS ENERGY, A DIVISION OF SOUTHERN UNION COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was electronically transmitted, sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, on this 6th day of December, 2006, to:

Robert Franson Missouri Public Service Commission Governor's Office Building 200 Madison Street P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Robert.franson@psc.mo.gov

Stuart Conrad Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson, LC 3100 Broadway, Suite 1209 Kansas City, MO 64111 <u>stucon@fcplaw.com</u>

Jeffrey Keevil Stewart & Keevil, LLC 4603 John Garry Drive, Suite 11 Columbia, MO 65203 Per594@aol.com Marc Poston Office of the Public Counsel Governor's Office Building 200 Madison Street P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102 marc.poston@ded.mo.gov

Jeremiah Finnegan Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson 3100 Broadway, Suite 1209 Kansas City, MO 64111 jfinnegan@fcplaw.com

Mark W. Comley Newman, Comley & Ruth P.C. P.O. Box 537 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0537 comleym@ncrpc.com

/s/ Paul A. Boudreau Paul A. Boudreau