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February 21, 2002

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, Suite 100
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

FILED
FEB 21 2002
Missouri Public
Service Commission

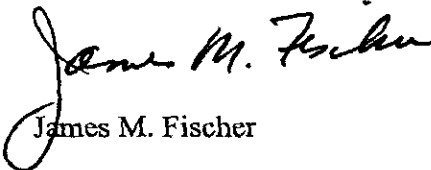
RE: *In the matter of the Application of Atmos Energy Corporation for an order authorizing it to merge with Mississippi Valley Gas Company, Case No. GM-2002-295.*

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter are the original and eight (8) copies of the Atmos Energy Corporation's Motion For Extension Of Time To File Response To Staff Recommendation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


James M. Fischer

/jr
Enclosure

cc: Office of the Public Counsel
Tim Schwarz

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

FILED
FEB 21 2002
Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the matter of the Application of Atmos)
Energy Corporation for an order authorizing it to)
merge with Mississippi Valley Gas)
Company .)

Case No. GM-2002-295

**ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION'S MOTION
FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
TO FILE RESPONSE TO STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

COMES NOW Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos") by and through their counsel, and, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.085, hereby requests the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") extend by one-week the date for the filing of Atmos' Response to the Staff Recommendation filed on February 8, 2002. In support thereof, Atmos states as follows:

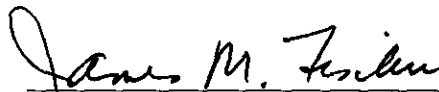
1. Atmos has filed an Application to merge with Mississippi Valley Gas Company. Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060(8)(1)(A), the Application includes an Agreement and Plan of Merger ("Agreement") between Atmos and Mississippi Valley Gas Company.
2. On January 4, 2002, the Commission issued its Order Directing Filing which directed the Commission Staff to file its recommendation concerning the application of Atmos no later than February 14, 2002. The Order also directed that any party wishing to respond to the Staff recommendation should do so by February 21, 2002.
3. On February 8, 2002, the Staff filed its Staff Recommendation which recommends approval of the Application, subject to certain recommended conditions.
4. Atmos believes it will be able to comply with the Staff's proposed conditions, with one possible exception related to Staff's request that Atmos submit monthly surveillance

date reports on a stand alone basis for its Missouri operating units. However, Atmos has not, as yet, determined if it will be possible for its accounting system to capture and otherwise separate the information required for the monthly surveillance reports for its operating units on a stand alone basis.

5. In order to give Atmos more time to determine if it can comply with all the proposed conditions suggested by the Commission Staff in its Staff Recommendation, Atmos respectfully requests that it be given a one-week extension until February 28, 2002, to respond to the Staff Recommendation in this matter.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth herein, Atmos Energy Corporation respectfully requests the Commission extend the date for filing its response to the Staff Recommendation until February 28, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



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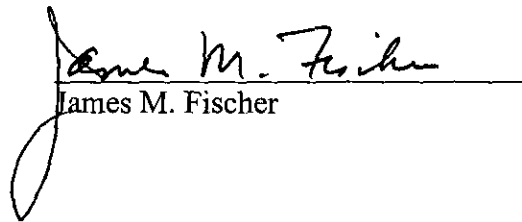
Attorneys for Atmos Energy Corporation

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion for Protective Order has been hand-delivered or mailed, First Class mail, postage prepaid, this 21st day of February, 2002, to:

Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City MO 65102

Dana K. Joyce, General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102


James M. Fischer