

made on their behalf by a participating Community Action Agency. The amount of the credit would not exceed \$400 per customer or \$800 for a registered elderly or disabled customer.

3. Similar tariff modifications have previously been approved for Laclede Gas in an effort to assist eligible customers in restoring or retaining utility service at the commencement of the winter heating season. The need for such an initiative for both the MGE and Laclede Gas operating units, however, is particularly compelling this year, given the fact that supplemental assistance under the federal Energy Crises Intervention Program (“ECIP”) will be delayed for one month. This means that low-income customers who are not registered elderly or disabled customers will have to wait until December 1, 2016 to receive ECIP assistance, while registered elderly and disabled customers will not be able to receive ECIP funding until November 1, 2016 at the earliest (as opposed to prior years when ECIP was distributed to them beginning on October 1). As a practical matter, this means that more customers with larger arrearages will be unable to have service restored since the amount of assistance available to many of them during November will be very limited compared to previous years. The tariff modification proposed herein will help to bridge that gap and in the process assist more customers in obtaining or retaining service during this period of delayed energy assistance funding.

4. It is expressly understood by the undersigned that customers participating in the program would continue to be subject to the rights and obligations afforded by the Commission’s Cold Weather Rule, and that any expenditures made by MGE for the

allocated funds shall be deferred and recovered in a manner identical to funds expended on MGE's energy efficiency programs.

5. With this Motion, MGE requests on behalf of the Joint Movants, that the Commission permit the Tariff Sheet to go into effect on less than 30 days' notice. Specifically, MGE requests that the Commission approve the Tariff Sheet effective for service on and after November 4, 2016.

6. Consistent with 4 CSR 240-2.080(16), MGE submits that there is good cause for granting the request. The November 1, 2016 effective date will allow this effort to maintain or restore service to eligible utility customers to be implemented in a timely manner as the winter heating season progresses.

7. MGE filed the Tariff Sheet as soon as possible after the above parties reached an agreement on the specifics of this initiative.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, MGE respectfully requests that the Commission issue its Order approving the Tariff Sheet for service rendered on and after November 4, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

LACLEDE GAS COMPANY

/s/ Rick Zucker

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading was served on the parties of record in this case on this 25th day of October, 2016 by United States mail, hand-delivery, email, or facsimile.

/s/ Marcia Spangler_____