

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

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy)	
Company concerning a Natural Gas)	
Incident at 1706 Smith Street, Blue)	Case No. GS-2007-_____
Springs, Missouri)	

**STAFF'S REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A
CASE FOR INVESTIGATION OF GAS SAFETY INCIDENT**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and for its Motion to Open Case states:

1. The Missouri Public Service Commission has statutory responsibility to assure the health and safety of employees, customers and the public service by natural gas corporations under Missouri Revised Statute Section 386.310.

2. This section grants the Commission, after hearing or complaint, to issue orders to require a utility to take steps to promote the safety of utility employees, customers and the general public.

3. Missouri Gas Energy Company of Kansas City, Missouri (MGE or Company) is a gas corporation as defined in Section 386.020(18) and is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

4. A reportable incident occurred on January 8, 2007, in Blue Springs, Missouri, an area served by MGE. There were no injuries or fatalities, but the vacant home at 1706 Smith Street was damaged by a natural gas explosion.

5. Staff's initial investigation indicates that a contractor for MGE was replacing natural gas lines in Blue Springs and inadvertently connected a high pressure line with an abandoned gas line.

6. As a result of the connection, a large amount of natural gas flowed into the abandoned line, migrated into a sanitary sewer system and accumulated in the house at 1706 Smith Street, resulting in an explosion and fire.

7. The house, however, received only minor damage.

8. Within one-hundred days of the Commission opening a case, Staff will file either its final report or an update with the Commission detailing its progress in its investigation.

WHEREFORE the Staff recommends that the Commission open a case for investigation of the natural gas incident that occurred in Blue Springs, Missouri.

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 6th day of April 2007.

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell