## MEMORANDUM

TO:

Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File,

Case No. GR-2000-319, File No. 200000435,

Greeley Gas Company, a Division of Atmos Energy Corporation,

FROM:

James A. Gray, Gas Department - Tariffs/Rate Design

Utility Operations Division / Date

West Gender 11-18.99 Thomas General Counsel's Office

SUBJECT:

Staff Recommendation for Greeley Gas Company's Scheduled Winter Season PGA

Filing Effective December 1, 1999.

DATE:

November 18, 1999

On November 4, 1999, Greeley Gas Company (Greeley or Company), a Division of Atmos Energy Corporation of Dallas, Texas, filed a tariff sheet proposed to become effective December 1, 1999. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect scheduled changes in Greeley's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season. The winter season includes the months of November through March. Additionally, this tariff filing reflects changes in the Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) and Refund factors.

The net effect of these changes will decrease the firm PGA factor for the 1999-2000 winter season to \$0.3123 per Ccf from the 1998-1999 winter season firm PGA factor of \$0.3393 per Ccf. Greeley did not file a 1999 summer PGA factor change. This represents an approximate 8% decrease in gas costs to consumers. In spite of an increase in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season, the change in the ACA factor to correct an over-collection in gas costs along with the initialization of a refund contributes to an over-all decrease in gas costs to consumers.

Case No. GR-2000-319, under which this change was filed, was established to track the Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in its 1998-1999 ACA filing. Interim subject to refund status should be maintained pending a final Commission decision in Case No. GR-2000-319.

Because of the short time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factor represented in this filing, the Procurement Analysis Department (PAD) has requested permission to submit its results and recommendations regarding information included in this ACA filing to the Commission on or before May 1, 2000.

The Commission's Gas Department - Tariffs/Rate Design Staff (Staff) has reviewed this filing and has determined that it was calculated in conformance with Greeley's PGA Clause. Staff is of the opinion that good cause for approval of this tariff sheet on less than thirty days notice is demonstrated by

MO PSC Case No. GR-2000-319 OFFICIAL CASE FILE MEMORANDUM Page 2 of 2

Greeley's Commission-approved PGA clause allowing for a minimum of ten (10) business days notice for PGA change filings. Therefore, Staff recommends that the following tariff sheet be approved, interim subject to refund:

## P.S.C. MO. No. 1

Forty-Fourth Revised Sheet No. 6 Cancelling Forty-Third Revised Sheet No. 6.

Copies:

**Director - Utility Operations Division** 

Director - Research and Public Affairs Division

Director - Utility Services Division

General Counsel

Manager - Financial Analysis Department Manager - Procurement Analysis Department

Manager - Gas Department

Bob J. Cline, Manager, Rate Administration (Greeley)

Douglas C. Walther, Senior Attorney (Greeley)

Office of the Public Counsel