

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
April 4, 2000**

CASE NO: GM-2000-312

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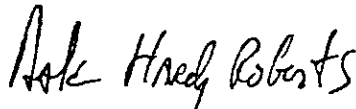
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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Uncertified Copy:
Thomas M. Byrne
720 Olive Street
St. Louis, MO 63101

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)
Atmos Energy Corporation and Arkansas)
Western Gas Company, d/b/a Associated)
Natural Gas Company, for an Order)
Authorizing the Sale and Transfer of)
Certain Assets of Associated Natural Gas)
Company Located in Missouri to Atmos)
Energy Corporation and Either Authorizing)
the Transfer of Existing Certificates of)
Public Convenience and Necessity or)
Granting a New Certificate of Public)
Convenience and Necessity to Atmos Energy)
Corporation in Conjunction with Same.)

Case No. GM-2000-312

ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO FILE MEMORANDUM
ON STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

On March 29, 2000, the Staff of the Public Service Commission (Staff), the Office of the Public Counsel, Atmos Energy Corporation, Arkansas Western Gas Company, d/b/b Associated Natural Gas Company, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1439 and Noranda Aluminum, Inc., filed a *Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement* (the Agreement).

The Agreement states that, if requested by the Commission, the Staff shall have the right to submit to the Commission a memorandum explaining its rationale for entering into the Agreement. The Agreement further provides that each party of record shall be served with a copy of the memorandum and shall have the right to submit to the Commission, within five (5) days of the receipt of Staff's

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memorandum, a responsive memorandum that shall also be served on all parties. The Agreement states that all memoranda submitted by the parties pursuant to this provision shall be considered privileged in the same manner as are settlement discussions under the Commission's rules, shall be maintained on a confidential basis by all parties, and shall not become a part of the record of this proceeding or bind or prejudice the party submitting such memorandum in this or any future proceeding, whether or not the Commission approves the Agreement. The Agreement states that the contents of any memorandum provided by any party are its own and are not acquiesced in or otherwise adopted by the other signatories to the Agreement, whether or not the Commission approves the Agreement.

The Commission would like to have additional information about this Agreement and will request a memorandum from the Staff as provided in the Agreement.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Staff of the Public Service Commission shall furnish a memorandum explaining its rationale for entering into the proposed Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement.

2. That Staff's memorandum shall be submitted no later than 3:00 p.m. on April 11, 2000.

3. That the other parties shall be allowed until 3:00 p.m. on April 17, 2000 to submit any response they wish to make to Staff's memorandum.

4. That this order shall become effective on April 14, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Morris Woodruff, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to 4 CSR 240-2.120(1) (November 30,
1995) and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

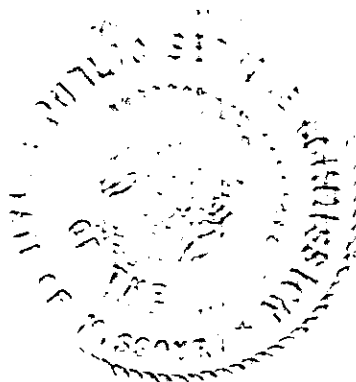
Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 4th day of April, 2000.

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

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and

I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

**WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,
Missouri, this 04th day of April 2000.**



Dale Hardy Roberts

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**