

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

The Staff of the Missouri Public)	
Service Commission,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
v.)	Case No. GC-2016-0149
)	
Missouri Gas Energy, an Operating)	
Unit of Laclede Gas Company,)	
Respondent.)	

**MISSOURI GAS ENERGY’S RESPONSE TO
STAFF’S MOTION TO FILE AMENDED COMPLAINT**

COMES NOW Missouri Gas Energy (“MGE”), an operating unit of Laclede Gas Company (“Laclede”), and hereby replies to Staff’s motion to file an amended complaint (“Motion”), stating as follows:

1. On December 15, 2015, the Staff filed a complaint against MGE alleging that MGE had issued bills longer than the normal billing period of 26-35 days in connection with MGE’s consolidation of the number of its billing cycles from 21 to 18.

2. On January 19, 2016, MGE filed its answer and motion to dismiss, arguing that Staff had failed to state a claim upon which relief could be granted, because Commission rules permit MGE to issue long bills or short bills when changing billing cycles.

3. On February 25, Staff filed a motion seeking to extend its response to MGE’s motion for summary determination so that Staff can conduct more discovery. MGE did not oppose Staff’s request and the Commission granted it.

4. On July 15, Staff filed the Motion, along with its proposed Amended Complaint. The Amended Complaint has two counts that completely differ from the count alleged in the original complaint. The Amended Complaint dropped the sole count

in the original complaint, as described in paragraph 1, and settles on two completely new counts.

5. The Amended Complaint is in reality a new complaint, completely replacing and abandoning the original complaint. Therefore, the original complaint should be dismissed, leaving Staff free to file its new complaint. MGE believes that this is the appropriate remedy.

6. Notwithstanding this procedural issue, MGE does not oppose having the Staff's new claims administered as an Amended Complaint in the current case. If the Commission chooses to issue an order granting the Motion, MGE requests that it be afforded 30 days from the date of the order to respond.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rick Zucker

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ATTORNEY FOR MISSOURI GAS ENERGY

Certificate of Service

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading was served on the Complainant, the General Counsel of the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, and the Office of Public Counsel on this 26th day of July, 2016 by United States mail, hand-delivery, email, or facsimile.

/s/ Rick Zucker