STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY September 20, 2000

CASE NO: GR-99-304

Office of the Public Counsel P.O. Box 7800

Jefferson City, MO 65102

Robert J. Hack

Missouri Gas Energy 3420 Broadway Kansas City, MO 64111

Tina Monaldo

335 North Washington, Suite 130 Corporate Square, PO Box 728 Hutchinson, KS 67504-0728

General Counsel

Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Jeffrey A. Keevil

Stewart & Keevil, L.L.C. 1001 Cherry Street, Suite 302 Columbia, MO 65201

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

Sincerely,

Ask Haed Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

| In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy's |) | |
|--|---|--------------------|
| Purchased Gas Adjustment Factors to be |) | Case No. GR-99-304 |
| Reviewed in its 1998-1999 Actual Cost |) | |
| Adjustment. |) | |

ORDER SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND REQUIRING FILING OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On August 1, 2000, the Staff of t6he Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed its recommendation herein, in which certain adjustments were proposed. On August 3, 2000, the Commission directed Missouri Gas Energy (MGE) to respond to Staff's recommendation on or before August 31, 2000. MGE timely filed its response on August 31. Therein, MGE agreed to one of Staff's proposed adjustments and objected to the other.

This matter is now at issue and a prehearing conference and procedural schedule are appropriate to ensure its prompt resolution. At the prehearing conference, the parties' representatives should be prepared to discuss the nature of any discovery each will conduct and the interval necessary for its completion; the number of witnesses each expects to call at hearing; the number and nature of any exhibits each expects to offer at hearing; and the anticipated length of the hearing. The parties' representatives should also be prepared to discuss the current status of settlement negotiations. It is expected

that the prehearing conference will provide an opportunity for the parties to further pursue settlement discussions.

The parties shall jointly file a proposed procedural schedule. The proposed procedural schedule shall establish dates for the prefiling of direct, rebuttal and surrebuttal testimony according to Commission rule, as well as dates for the filing of a joint list of contested issues to be determined by the Commission; a list of witnesses and proposed order of cross-examination; and position statements setting out each party's position as to each contested issue. The proposed procedural schedule shall also establish dates for the hearing of this matter.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That a prehearing conference shall be held on October 20, 2000, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The prehearing will be held at the Commission's offices in the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri, a building that meets the accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in this prehearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the hearing.
- 2. That the parties shall jointly prepare and file a proposed procedural schedule no later than October 27, 2000.

3. That this order shall become effective on September 30, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

HAL HARD Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Kevin A. Thompson, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 20th day of September 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 20th day of September 2000.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

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