STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY December 1, 2000

CASE NO: GR-99-304

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

Sincerely,

Hale Hardy 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 DIRECTING FILING, SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND REQUIRING FILING OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On October 10, 2000, the Commission by order placed this case in abeyance pending the final judicial determination of the then-pending appeal of a substantially similar case, Case No. GR-96-450. In that order, the Commission directed the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) to file a pleading herein advising the Commission that the aforementioned judicial determination was final. Staff filed that pleading on November 29, 2000.

Although Staff's pleading recites that a copy of the judicial decision is attached, in fact, it is not. Staff must correct this oversight.

There is no longer any need to hold this matter in abeyance. 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 Staff shall file herein a copy of the final judicial resolution of Case No. GR-96-450 within ten days of the issue date of this order.
- 2. That a prehearing conference shall be held on December 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.

- 3. That the parties shall jointly prepare and file a proposed procedural schedule no later than December 27, 2000.
- 4. That this order shall become effective on December 11, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

Ark 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 1st day of December, 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 1st day of December 2000.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Hake HARRY Roberts.