

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

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy's)
Tariff Sheets Designed to Increase)
Rates for Gas service in the)
Company's Missouri Service Area)

Case No. GR-2004-0209

REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT BEFORE THE COMMISSION

COMES NOW Missouri Gas Energy ("MGE"), a division of Southern Union Company, pursuant to Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") rule 4 CSR 240-2.140(1) and requests that the Commission set aside a time for presentation of oral argument to the Commission concerning the Motion of Missouri Gas Energy, a Division of Southern Union Company, to Exclude Certain Testimony and Opinions of David Murray filed on May 18, 2004 (the "Motion"). The Motion presents important issues concerning the admissibility of expert testimony with regard to Staff's recommended rate of return for MGE. Oral argument would assist the Commission in understanding the important legal principles presented by the Motion, particularly in light of the Missouri Supreme Court's recent decision in *State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts v. McDonough*, 123 S.W.3d 146 (Mo. banc 2003) addressing the applicability of §490.065 RSMo 2000 in administrative proceedings. MGE requests that the Commission schedule oral argument on the afternoon of Thursday, June 3, 2004 commencing not earlier than 3:00 p.m.

WHEREFORE, for good cause shown, MGE requests the Commission to schedule oral argument on MGE's Motion as aforesaid.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paul Boudreau

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was delivered by first class mail or by hand delivery, on this 28th day of May 2004 to the following:

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