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

In the Matter of the Application of)
UtiliCorp United Inc., d/b/a Missouri)
Public Service, for Permission,)
Approval, and a Certificate of Public)
Convenience and Necessity Authorizing) **Case No. GA-98-509**
it to Own, Operate, Control, Manage and)
Maintain a Natural Gas Transmission)
Pipeline and Related Facilities as a Part)
of its Distribution System for the Public,)
in a Portion of Pettis County, Missouri.)

ORDER GRANTING LATE INTERVENTION

On May 12, 1998, UtiliCorp United Inc., d/b/a/ Missouri Public Service (MPS or Applicant) filed an application with the Commission requesting authority to own and operate a natural gas transmission pipeline and related facilities, entirely within Pettis County, as a part of its gas distribution system. MPS states that it has entered into an agreement with Williams Gas Pipeline Central, Inc. (Williams) that will transfer approximately 5.8 miles of pipeline to MPS from Williams.

The Commission directed its Records Department and Information Office to send notice of this application, and directed parties wishing to intervene to file an application to intervene no later than July 2.

On August 6, Missouri Gas Energy, a division of Southern Union Company (MGE) filed an application for leave to intervene out of time. MGE states that it sells gas to approximately eleven of Williams' domestic right of way customers. MGE states that it will cease, and MPS will begin, serving these customers upon MPS's purchase of the line from Williams. MGE states that its interest in this case is limited to

ensuring that these customers are transferred. MGE states that it only became aware of this case on August 3, and that its participation will assist in the orderly processing of the case. MGE asserts that it has an interest in this proceeding which is not similar to the public generally and that it has demonstrated good cause for granting its application for leave to intervene out of time. The Commission has reviewed the application to intervene and notes that no party has filed an objection. The Commission finds that the application is in substantial compliance with the Commission's rules regarding intervention. The Commission also finds that the applicant has an interest in this matter different from that of the general public, and that MGE has demonstrated good cause for granting its application for leave to intervene out of time. Therefore, the application to intervene will be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Missouri Gas Energy, a division of Southern Union Company is hereby granted intervention.
2. That this order shall become effective on September 8, 1998.

(S E A L)

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Lewis Mills, Deputy Chief 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 28th day of August, 1998.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION