BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Summit Natural)		
Gas of Missouri, Inc. for a Temporary Variance from)		
Rule and Tariff Provisions Relating to Reconnection of)	File No. GE-2020	
Service Fees and Motion for Expedited Treatment)		

SUMMIT NATURAL GAS OF MISSOURI, INC.'S APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY VARIANCE FROM RULE AND TARIFF PROVISIONS RELATING TO RECONNECTION OF SERVICE FEES AND MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT

COMES NOW Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc. ("SNGMO" or "the Company"), pursuant to Commission Rules 20 CSR 4240-2.060(4), 20 CSR 4240-2.205 and 20 CSR 4240 13.065, files this Application for a Temporary Variance from Rule and Tariff Provisions relating to Reconnection of Service fees and Motion for Expedited Treatment which supports the Company's proposal to waive reconnection of service fees for customers during the COVID-19 pandemic. In support thereof, SNGMO respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

APPLICANT

- 1. The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Summit LDC Holdings, LLC, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Summit Utilities, Inc. The Company is a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado, with its principal offices located at 10825 E. Geddes Avenue, Suite 410, Centennial, CO 80112.
- 2. The Company conducts business as a "gas corporation" and a "public utility" as those terms are defined at §386.020, RSMo, and provides natural gas service in the Missouri counties of Benton, Caldwell, Camden, Daviess, Douglas, Greene, Harrison, Howell, Laclede, Miller, Morgan, Pettis, Stone, Taney, Texas, Webster, and Wright, subject to the jurisdiction of

the Commission as provided by law. Other than cases that have been docketed at the Commission, SNGMO has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court within the past three years that involve customer service or rates. SNGMO has no annual report or assessment fees that are overdue.

3. All correspondence, communications, notices, orders and decisions of the Commission with respect to this matter should be sent to the undersigned counsel and:

Matthew Kaply
Sr. Director Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
Summit Utilities Inc.
2 Delorme Ave
Yarmouth, ME 04096
Telephone: 207-621-8000, ex. 1430
Email: mkaply@summitnaturalgas.com

James Lydon Regulatory Affairs Specialist Summit Utilities, Inc. 2 Delorme Ave Yarmouth, ME 04096

Telephone: 207-781-1200, ex. 1740 Email: jlydon@summitutilitiesinc.com

APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE

- 4. COVID-19 has created financial hardships for an increasing number of SNGMO customers including layoffs, medical bills, and decreased wages. Customers are also being asked to stay at home to help prevent the spread of the virus. As part of SNGMO's effort to provide safe and reliable service to its customers who are impacted by this pandemic, SNGMO is seeking a waiver for any reconnection of service fee assessments.
 - 5. Specifically, SNGMO is seeking relief from the following tariff provisions:
 - Sheet No. 59 Reconnection of Service
 - Effective with the effective date of this tariff sheet, charges for reconnection
 of service shall be as follows: +
 - A. Residential customer \$30.00+
 - B. Commercial or Industrial customer, the greater of:

- i. The applicable charge set out in (A) above; or
- ii. A charge that is equal to the actual labor and material costs that are incurred to complete the reconnection of service.
- 6. Additionally, SNGMO seeks a waiver from the Commission Rules which may be construed to limit SNGMO's ability to waive reconnection of service fees¹.
- 7. SNGMO seeks these waivers indefinitely until it has determined that the impact of COVID-19 is no longer detrimental in accordance with section 8 below.
- 8. SNGMO will carefully monitor the spread and impact of the pandemic to determine when normal practices as set forth in its tariff can resume. Upon determining that business has returned to normal or near normal conditions, SNGMO will provide at least 15 days' notice to affected customers before reinstating reconnection of service fees.
- 9. Due to the speed at which the pandemic is spreading and the need to implement these practices in a timely manner, SNGMO submits that there is good cause shown to approve this filing on an expedited basis. Expediting the approval of this filing will avoid further harm to customers and does not negatively impact customers or the public.

WHEREFORE, SNGMO requests, for good cause shown, that the Commission approve the requested temporary variances in an expedited manner. SNGMO requests such other further relief as is just and proper under the circumstances.

Dated this 10th day of April 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

/s/ Brooke South
Brooke South MO Bar #: 66624
Corporate Counsel
Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc.
116 Chiefs Court
Branson, MO 65616-4089
479-783-3181, ex. 2229
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ATTORNEY FOR SUMMIT NATURAL GAS OF MISSOURI, INC.

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¹ See 20 CSR 4240-13.050 and 20 CSR 4240-13.055

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was sent by electronic mail to the following counsel this 10th day of April, 2020:

General Counsel's Office Office Office of the Public Counsel

<u>staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov</u> <u>opcservice@ded.mo.gov</u>

By:

/s/ Brooke South
Brooke South