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STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 31st  
day of July, 1997.

In the matter of Fidelity Natural Gas,            )  
Inc.'s tariff revision to be reviewed in        )  
its 1995-1996 Actual Cost Adjustment.        )        Case No. GR-97-151

In the matter of Fidelity Natural Gas,            )  
Inc.'s tariff revision to be reviewed in        )  
its 1994-1995 Actual Cost Adjustment.        )        Case No. GR-96-125

**ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES AND GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME**

Docket No. GR-96-125 was opened for the purpose of conducting an audit of the 1994-95 Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) filing of Fidelity Natural Gas, Inc. (Fidelity). The Commission issued its Order Approving Actual Cost Adjustment on September 10, 1996. As part of that order the Commission ordered Fidelity to comply with Staff recommendation No. 2, which stated: "The Staff recommends that Fidelity investigate (\*\*Highly Confidential material\*\*) and address the Firm Transportation concerns of Staff by October 1, 1996. The Staff also recommends that this ACA docket remain open pending resolution of this issue."

Docket No. GR-97-151 was opened for the purpose of reviewing the subsequent 1995-96 ACA filing of Fidelity. On July 18, 1997 the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a Motion to Consolidate these two dockets as Staff believes it will save considerable time by consolidating the remaining issue in GR-96-125 with the subsequent ACA docket. Staff states that neither of the other two parties have any objection to consolidating these two cases.

On July 25 Staff filed a motion in each docket for a 30-day extension of time in which to file their respective recommendations. The

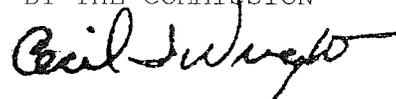
Staff recommendation regarding compliance in Case No. GR-96-125 was due August 1, 1996. The Staff recommendation in Case No. GR-97-151 is due August 1, 1997. Staff states that it needs additional time to file the respective recommendations in that the Staff member responsible for filing the recommendations is on temporary emergency family leave. Staff adds that neither of the other two parties object to the 30-day extension.

The Commission finds both of Staff's requests to be reasonable. It will consolidate the two ACA cases and grant the 30-day extension of time. The lead case will be GR-97-151. The Commission will order the Staff recommendations filed no later than the close of business, September 2, 1997.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That Cases No. GR-96-125 and GR-97-151 are hereby consolidated, with Case No. GR-97-151 being the lead case.
2. That the Staff of the Commission is granted an extension of time in which to file its recommendations in both of the consolidated cases. The Staff recommendations in both consolidated cases will be filed no later than the close of business, September 2, 1997.
3. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION



Cecil I. Wright  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Zobrist, Chm., Crumpton, Drainer,  
Murray, and Lumpe, CC., Concur.

ALJ: Derque