

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

In the Matter of the Application of)	
Southern Missouri Gas Company L.P.)	
d/b/a Southern Missouri Natural Gas for)	
Authority to Enter Into Certain Debt)	
Instruments and to Issue Up to and)	
Including \$28,000,000 of Short-term)	Case No. GF-2011-0352
Indebtedness, in One or More)	
Transactions, and to, Among Other Things)	
Execute and Deliver a Mortgage and)	
Security Agreement to Secure Said)	
Indebtedness.)	

STAFF RESPONSE TO

COMMISSION ORDER DIRECTING FILING

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and in response to the Commission's April 25, 2011 Order Directing Filing Staff states:

1. On April 22, Southern Missouri Gas Company, LP (dba) Southern Missouri Natural Gas, filed its Application for Commission authority to enter into certain debt instruments for as much as \$28,000,000.
2. Staff has reviewed the Application and will issue data requests for additional information today.
3. Depending on when the Company can respond to Staff, the Staff expects to be able to issue its Recommendation no later than June 1.
4. If Staff is able to issue its recommendation sooner, it will do so.
5. If there are any delays, Staff will promptly notify the Commission.

WHEREFORE Staff requests the Commission accept this pleading in response to the Commission's Order Directing Filing.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell

Lera L. Shemwell

Deputy Counsel

Missouri Bar No. 43792

Attorney for the Staff of the

Missouri Public Service Commission

P. O. Box 360

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 751-7431 (Telephone)

(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

E-mail: lera.shemwell@psc.mo.gov

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 10th day of May, 2011.

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell