Exhibit No.

Issue: Gas Transportation Witness: Richard Haubensak

Sponsoring Party: Constellation

NewEnergy-Gas Division, LLC

Type of Exhibit: Rebuttal Testimony

Case No.: GR-2009-0355

Date Testimony Prepared: September 28, 2009

### OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

CASE NO. GR-2009-0355 MISSOURI GAS ENERGY

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

**RICHARD HAUBENSAK** 

ON BEHALF OF CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY-GAS DIVISON, LLC

**September 28, 2009** 

### **REBUTTAL TESTIMONY**

OF

### **RICHARD HAUBENSAK**

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

I.	Rebuttai	Testimony	1
Sche	dule RJH 4		pdi

1		
2	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
3	A.	My name is Richard Haubensak. My business address is 12120
4		Port Grace Boulevard, Suite 200, LaVista, Nebraska, 68128.
5	Q.	BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?
6	A.	I am a self-employed consultant. I am testifying in this case or
7		behalf of Intervenor, Constellation NewEnergy-Gas Division, LLC
8		("Constellation"). Constellation is a major marketer of natural gas
9		on the Missouri Gas Energy ("MGE") distribution system.
10	Q.	DID YOU PREVIOUSLY PRESENT DIRECT TESTIMONY IN THIS CASE?
11	A.	Yes, I did.
12	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?
13	A.	I wish to comment on the "Staff Report: Class Cost-of-Service and
14		Rate Design," prepared by the Staff of the Missouri Public Service
15		Commission for this case and filed on September 3, 2009
16		Specifically, I want to address the Staff's comments related to the
17		proposed changes in the transportation tariff as proposed by MGE.
18	Q.	PLEASE PROCEED.
19	A.	As I stated in my direct testimony (page 12, line 21 - page 13, line
20		4): "The local distribution company should design its transportation
21		rules to 'mirror' the applicable interstate pipeline to insure they
22		recover all the penalties coming from the interstate pipeline from
23		the party on their system responsible for the penalty. Anything more

than that, such as being allowed to call an OFO day when one is not being called by the interstate pipeline, means they are attempting to recover from someone else a penalty that the other party is not responsible for." An OFO day is an Operational Flow Order, as described in my direct testimony on page 11.

#### Q. Does Staff agree with you?

A. The Staff Report recommends approval of all of MGE's proposed transportation tariff changes in this case. Approval of all of these changes means MGE would be at times penalizing marketers and customers purchasing their own gas supplies by adjusting the cashout price when MGE is not being subject to the same provisions in the applicable interstate pipeline tariff.

# Q. ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC STATEMENTS IN THE STAFF REPORT THAT YOU WISH TO CHALLENGE?

A. Yes, there are. On page 21, line 3, the Staff Report states: "The ability of transport customers to buy and sell gas from MGE is far more beneficial to the transport customer than to MGE or its 'firm' customers." This statement is simply not accurate. With MGE's proposed changes, endorsed by the Staff, MGE will always be able to recover any incremental costs or any fluctuations in gas prices caused by transportation customer activity, which is fine. However, the proposed changes, coupled with the ability to call an OFO without the applicable pipeline calling an OFO, means that at times

MGE will be unfairly making money off the transportation customers by overcharging when marketers' nominations are less than actual deliveries to their customers, or underpaying when marketers' nominations are greater than actual deliveries to their customers. With the ability to call an OFO whenever they want, coupled with the lower tolerances for cashouts, MGE is effectively penalizing marketers and other transportation customers and giving themselves much more freedom to have significant fluctuations between how much gas they purchase for their sales customers and how much gas they deliver to them.

# Q. HAS MGE EVER CALLED AN OFO WHEN ITS INTERSTATE PIPELINE HAS NOT?

A. Not only does MGE apparently believe it has the right to call an OFO when its interstate pipeline has not, but MGE called an OFO for the *entire month of September* 2009 when its interstate pipeline had not called an OFO. This extraordinary "OFO month" (instead of the typical "OFO day") subjects Constellation, other marketers and all transportation customers to greater penalties for imperfect balancing of nominations and deliveries, while allowing MGE to over-nominate or under-nominate its own supplies without risk of similar penalties from its interstate pipeline. This situation is patently unfair and should not be allowed by this Commission. As I stated in my direct testimony, MGE's inability to forecast the

needs of its own sales customers should not result in tighter balancing requirements for marketers like Constellation who have contracted with some other party to purchase gas supplies and meet the needs of their customers.

# Q. How should the Commission ensure that MGE cannot arbitrarily declare OFO days?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

A. The Commission should order MGE to add language to its tariff that limits the circumstances under which MGE can call an OFO day or issue an Operational Flow Order (OFO). Specifically, MGE should be required to add language to its Missouri tariff that says the following. "An Operational Flow Order (OFO) Day shall be a day which may be declared by the Company whenever any of the following five conditions occurs or is anticipated to occur: (a) when the Company experiences failure of transmission, distribution, gas storage or gas manufacturing facilities; (b) when transmission system pressures or other unusual conditions jeopardize the operation of the Company's system; (c) when the Company's transportation, storage, and supply resources are being used at or near their maximum rated deliverability; (d) when any of the Company's transporters or suppliers call the equivalent of an OFO Day; or (e) when the Company is unable to fulfill its firm contractual obligations or otherwise when necessary to maintain the overall operational integrity of all or a portion of the Company's system."

1		This language is modeled after language in the lowa tariff of
2		MidAmerican Energy Company, which is attached to this rebuttal
3		testimony as Schedule RJH 4.
4	Q.	IS A "CRITICAL DAY" IN THE IOWA TARIFF THE SAME AS AN OFO
5		DAY IN MGE'S SERVICE AREA?
6	A.	Yes. Critical days, Operational Flow Order (OFO) days, and SOL
7		(System Over-run Limitation) days all have the same meaning and
8		purpose in the industry.
9	Q.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR REBUTTAL TESTIMONY?
10	Α.	Yes. it does.

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

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy and	)	
Its Tariff Filing To Implement a General	)	Case No. GR-2009-0355
Rate Increase for Natural Gas Service	)	

#### AFFIDAVIT OF RICHARD HAUBENSAK

Richard Haubensak, of lawful age, on his oath, states that he has participated in the preparation of the foregoing Rebuttal Testimony in question and answer form, to be presented in the above case; that the answers in the foregoing Rebuttal Testimony were given by him; that he has knowledge of the matters set forth in such answers; and that such matters are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Richard Haubensak

Subscribed and sworn before me this 28th day of September 2009.

GENERAL NOTARY - State of Nebraska MIKE G. PETERSEN My Comm. Exp. Nov. 7, 2010

1

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 160 7 2010