

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

Percy Cannon,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. GC-2008-0169
)	
Missouri Gas Energy,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

MGE’S RESPONSE TO ORDER DIRECTING MGE TO SHOW CAUSE

COMES NOW Missouri Gas Energy, a division of Southern Union Company (“MGE”), and respectfully states the following to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) in response to the Commission’s Order Directing Missouri Gas Energy to Show Cause for Denial of, or Discontinuance of, Service:

BACKGROUND

1. On November 19, 2007, Percy Cannon (Mr. Cannon or Complainant) filed a Complaint with the Commission against MGE. Mr. Cannon alleges that he has requested and been wrongfully denied gas service. On November 26, the Commission issued notice of the complaint and directed that MGE file its response by December 26.

2. On November 27, Complainant filed a letter with the Commission seeking expedited treatment of his complaint action. Thereafter, on the same day, the Commission issued its Order Directing Missouri Gas Energy to Show Cause for Denial of, or Discontinuance of, Service. Therein, the Commission directed MGE to “show cause for its denial of, or discontinuance of, service to Complainant” by November 29.

3. This pleading will response to the order to show cause. MGE will file its complete answer and affirmative defenses to the Complaint by December 26, as directed by the Commission's Notice and acknowledged by the Order to show cause.

SHOW CAUSE

4. The Commission need look no further than Mr. Cannon's Complaint to find appropriate cause for the denial of service to Mr. Cannon.

5. Mr. Cannon has requested that natural gas service be provided to him, his wife and his family at 3223 E. 41st Street, Kansas City, MO.

6. MGE's tariffs provide as follow, in relevant part:

3.02 Denial of Service (1) Company may refuse to commence service to an applicant for any of the following reasons: . . . (G) Failure of a previous owner or occupant of the premises to pay delinquent utility charges where the previous owner or occupant remains an occupant. (See General Terms and Conditions for Gas Service, Sheet No. R-19.1).

7. Mr. Cannon's wife, Swanita M Carson-Cannon, is in arrears to MGE in the amount of \$1929.57, for natural gas service provided to her at 3223 E. 41st Street in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Cannon admits in his Complaint that Ms. Carson-Cannon is his wife and that she has an unpaid bill for gas service provided to 3223 E. 41st Street.

8. Ms. Carson-Cannon has been an MGE customer at 3223 E. 41st Street since March 10, 1997. This account has been shut off several times over the years. It was last shut off on April 6, 2007, for non-payment of the outstanding amount.

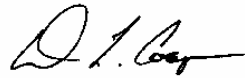
9. Setting aside Mr. Cannon's arguments regarding the other addresses referenced in

Mr. Cannon's Complaint for MGE's filing of its complete answer and affirmative defense in this matter, the situation at 3223 E. 41st Street alone is sufficient pursuant to Section 3.02(1)(G) of MGE's Tariff and Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.035 for MGE to refuse to commence natural gas service to Mr. Cannon. Ms. Carson-Cannon is a previous occupant of the premises, she has failed to pay delinquent utility charges and she remains an occupant.

10. Mr. Cannon asserts in his complaint that he takes full responsibility for the natural gas bill at 3223 E. 41st Street. Although MGE asserts that it has properly withheld service in this matter, MGE has attempted, and will continue to attempt, to contact Mr. Cannon to see if some accommodation can be reached that will enable MGE to initiate service to this address if Mr. Cannon pays for the outstanding debt at this address.

WHEREFORE, Respondent Missouri Gas Energy prays the Commission consider this response to have sufficiently shown cause for the denial of Mr. Cannon's requested gas service.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEYS FOR MISSOURI GAS ENERGY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was sent by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, or electronic mail, on November 29, 2007, to the following:

Office of the General Counsel
Governor Office Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Office of the Public Counsel
Governor Office Building
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Percy Cannon
3223 E. 41st Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64130

