

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held by telephone/internet
audio conference on the 25th day of
March, 2020.

In the Matter of a Waiver of Commission Rule)
20 CSR 4240-40.030(12)(S) for all Missouri)
Natural Gas Distribution Companies and)
Municipal Gas Distribution Systems)

File No. GE-2020-0297

ORDER APPROVING WAIVER

Issue Date: March 25, 2020

Effective Date: March 27, 2020

On March 23, 2020, in response to the national COVID-19 emergency and Executive Order 20-02, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a motion for application for a waiver from Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-40.030(12)(S)(1)(B). This rule requires operators of intrastate natural gas pipelines in Missouri to visually inspect accessible customer gas piping and all connected equipment at the time an operator physically turns on the flow of gas to a customer.

Staff states good cause exists for this waiver due to the risk of operator employee exposure to the COVID-19 virus that could result from the customer contact necessary to gaining access and entering inside homes and businesses. Staff states that the requested waiver does not apply to 20 CSR 4240-40.030(12)(S)1.A., which requires that the operator also test each segment of fuel line for leakage to at least the delivery pressure.

Further, Staff notes that that the waiver request would also not relieve the operator from providing safety information to new or relocated customers, discontinuing service to any customer whose fuel lines or gas utilization equipment are determined to be unsafe, and maintaining records of tests and inspections conducted. Finally, Staff points out that

Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-40.030(12)(S)(1)(B) is not a federal requirement included in 49 CFR Part 192, so that operators would remain in compliance with federal pipeline safety standards while the Waiver is in effect.

Staff also recommends that the Waiver be made effective through May 15, 2020 (expiration date of Executive Order 20-02) unless Executive Order 20-02 is extended. If Executive Order 20-02 is extended, Staff requests that the waiver shall renew automatically and remain in effect for the duration of Executive Order 20-02 or until such time Staff makes a filing with the Commission to terminate the Waiver.

The Commission finds good cause due to the COVID-19 emergency to grant the requested waiver. The Commission further finds that this order should be effective in less than 30 days.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-40.030(12)(S)(1)(B) is waived for all Missouri Natural Gas Distribution Companies and Municipal Gas Distribution Systems.
2. This order shall be effective until May 15, 2020, unless Executive Order 20-02 is extended. If Executive Order 20-02 is extended, then this order shall remain in effect until Executive Order 20-02 expires, or until otherwise ordered by the Commission.
3. This order shall be effective on March 27, 2020.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and
Holsman CC., concur.

Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

**WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission,
at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 25th day of March 2020.**




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

March 25, 2020

File/Case No. GE-2020-0297

**Missouri Public Service
Commission**

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,



**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.