STATE OF MISSOURI **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY** April 5, 2001

CASE NO: GR-2001-292

Office of the Public Counsel

P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Gary W. Duffy

Brydon, Swearengen & England P.C. P. O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Stuart W. Conrad

Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson, L.C. 3100 Broadway, Suite 1209 Kansas City, MO 64111

Mark W. Comley

Newman, Comley & Ruth P.C. 601 Monroe Street, Suite 301 Jefferson City, MO 65101

General Counsel

Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Robert J. Hack

Missouri Gas Energy 3420 Broadway Kansas City, MO 64111

Larry W. Dority, Esq. Fischer & Dority, P.C. 101 Madison Street, Suite 400 Jefferson City, MO 65101 Jeremiah D. Finnegan

Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson, L.C. 3100 Broadway, Suite 1209

Kansas City, MO 64111

Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,

Dale Hardy Roberts

Ask Hard Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Tariff Revisions of Missouri)

Gas Energy, a Division of Southern Union) Case No. GR-2001-292

Company, Designed to Increase Rates for Natural) Tariff Nos. 200100529

Gas Service to Customers in the Missouri Service) 200100697

Area of the Company

ORDER GRANTING THE APPLICATION OF THE COUNTY OF JACKSON AND THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE TO INTERVENE OUT OF TIME

On March 26, 2001, the County of Jackson, Missouri, and the City of Riverside, Missouri, filed an application to intervene and become parties in this case. The application indicates that Jackson County and Riverside are users of natural gas supplied by Missouri Gas Energy, and that they, and the residents and businesses within their corporate boundaries, would be adversely impacted by the proposed increase in natural gas rates. Jackson County and Riverside assert that they have a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding that is different from that of the general public, and that granting their request to intervene would serve the public interest.

Jackson County and Riverside filed their application to intervene substantially after December 18, 2000, which was the date established by the Commission for intervention. Jackson County and Riverside assert that their delay in filing for intervention should be excused because they were unable to ascertain whether they had sufficient funds available in their budgets for participation in this case, and thereafter they were unable to obtain the necessary approvals for intervention from the appropriate officials of the county and city until after the deadline for intervention

had passed. Jackson County and Riverside assert that their delay in filing their application to intervene will not cause or contribute to any delay, nor will it prejudice or harm any party.

4 CSR 240-2.080(16) provides that a party is allowed not more than ten days from the date of filing to respond to any pleading unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. No party has filed a response to Jackson County's and Riverside's application to intervene.

The Commission has reviewed the Application to Intervene Out of Time and finds that it is in compliance with Commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.075(4), and that Jackson County and Riverside have an interest in this matter that is different from that of the general public. The Commission also finds that Jackson County and Riverside have shown good cause to permit them to intervene out of time. The Commission concludes that Jackson County's and Riverside's application for intervention should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That the Application to Intervene Out of Time filed by the County of Jackson, Missouri, and the City of Riverside, Missouri, is granted.
 - 2. That this order shall become effective on April 15, 2001.

BY THE COMMISSION

(SEAL)

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Morris L. Woodruff, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 5th day of April, 2001.

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 5th day of April 2001.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Hake Hard Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge