

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

In the matter of Missouri Gas Energy's	)	
tariff sheets designed to increase rates for	)	Case No. GR-2001-292
gas service in the Company's Missouri	)	
service area.	)	

**REPLY TO PROPOSED CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS**

**Comes now** Missouri Gas Energy ("MGE"), a division of Southern Union Company, and in compliance with the Commission's order herein dated February 4, 2004, respectfully offers this reply to proposed contract modifications:

1. MGE has had the opportunity to confer with the Mid America Assistance Coalition ("MAAC") regarding the contract modifications proposed by the Office of the Public Counsel and seconded by the Commission's Staff. As a result of those discussions MGE replies as follows:

- Public Counsel's first suggestion, related to paragraph 3 of the contract between MGE and MAAC, is acceptable.
- Public Counsel's second suggestion, related to paragraph 10 of the Plan for Distribution of Funds through Charitable or Social Service Agencies (the "Distribution Plan"), is generally acceptable in concept. However, MAAC has expressed concern that providing client level information to the Commission Staff and Public Counsel would violate confidentiality guidelines inherent in MAACLink, and to which agencies, intake workers and MAAC have all agreed. As an alternative to Public Counsel's proposed language, MGE suggests the addition of a new sentence at the end of paragraph 10 of the Distribution Plan to read as follows: "Also on a bi-monthly basis, MAAC will provide the

Commission's Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel with its reports that state the numbers of assists and dollars of assistance provided by each participating agency."

- Public Counsel's third suggestion, related to paragraph 12 of the Distribution Plan, is also generally acceptable in concept. However, MAAC has expressed a desire to clarify that the outside audit contemplated is not a fund-specific audit, but a financial audit of MAAC. Therefore, in addition to the language change suggested by Public Counsel, MGE suggests the addition of a new sentence at the end of paragraph 12 to read as follows: "This report results from the annual financial audit conducted by outside auditors of MAAC and does not focus specific attention on any particular fund administered by MAAC."

2. MGE has communicated with counsel for the Commission Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel regarding the above and understands that they have no objection to MGE's suggestions. MGE and MAAC stand ready to make the contract changes discussed above. Upon being advised that the changes suggested above are acceptable and that no other changes are desired to the contract between MGE and MAAC, an executed contract reflecting the above revisions will be filed with the Commission as soon as possible.

**Wherefore,** MGE respectfully offers this reply to proposed contract

modifications.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Robert J. Hack**

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ATTORNEY FOR MISSOURI  
GAS ENERGY

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record this 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2004.

**/s/ Robert J. Hack**

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