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Witness: Martha R. Wankum

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Sponsoring Party: Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc.

Case No.: GR-2014-0086 Date: August 8, 2014

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. GR-2014-0086

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

MARTHA R. WANKUM

ON BEHALF OF

SUMMIT NATURAL GAS OF MISSOURI, INC.

Jefferson City, Missouri
August, 2014

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Date 8-19-11 Reporter 45

File No. 68-2011-0086

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SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

MARTHA R. WANKUM

SUMMIT NATURAL GAS OF MISSOURI, INC.

1	\circ	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS	S

- 2 A. Martha R. Wankum, 312 E. Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, MO 65101
- 3 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED TESTIMONY AND SCHEDULES IN
- 4 THIS CASE?
- 5 A. Yes. I submitted direct testimony on January 2, 2014, and rebuttal testimony on
- July 11, 2014, on behalf of Summit Natural Gas of Missouri, Inc. ("SNG").

7 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

- 8 A. The purpose of my surrebuttal testimony is to respond to the following rebuttal
- 9 testimony pertaining to ratepayer funded energy efficiency and low-income
- weatherization programs: Kory Boustead, Missouri Public Service Commission
- Staff ("Staff"); John Buchanan, the Missouri Department of Economic
- Development, Division of Energy ("DE"); Joe Gassner, DE; and Geoff Marke, the
- Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"). In addition, I respond to the following
- rebuttal testimony pertaining to the proposal to consolidate the current SNG tariff
- books and other tariff issues: Kim Cox, Staff; Michael J. Ensrud, Staff; and
- Barbara Meisenheimer, OPC.

PROGRAMS

A.

2	Q.	PLEA	SE SUMMA	RIZE THE POSI	TIONS TAKEN	N BY THE VAF	RIOUS F	ARTIES
3		IN THI	IS CASE PE	RTAINING TOS	NG'S PROPOS	SED RESIDEN	ITIAL N	ATURAL
4		GAS	ENERGY	EFFICIENCY	INCENTIVE	PROGRAM	AND	OTHER
5		RECO	MMENDAT	IONS REGARD	ING THE IMP	PLEMENTATIO	ON OF	A LOW-
6		INCO	ME WEATH	ERIZATION AS	SISTANCE PR	OGRAM.		

Staff witness, Ms. Kory Boustead, does not recommend approval of the energy efficiency program proposed by SNG because she asserts it should have a higher annual budget than the proposed \$15,000. Staff would like the Commission to authorize a natural gas energy efficiency program and a low-income weatherization assistance program with a ramp-up period of three (3) years to reach a goal of 0.5 percent of annual revenues. Ms. Boustead proposes that energy efficiency and low-income weatherization assistance initiatives should be funded through a regulatory asset account.

DE witness, John Buchanan, agrees that to realistically achieve the recommended .5 percent spending target, SNG would need some period of time in which to "ramp up" its energy efficiency portfolio and expertise. DE recommends the Commission authorize the use of a regulatory asset account to record and subsequently recover energy efficiency costs. DE witness, Joe Gassner, also recommends an initial annual funding level of \$30,000 to support a low-income weatherization assistance program. It is the recommendation of DE that costs for a SNG low-income weatherization program should be included in rates, as

authorized by the Commission in prior natural gas rate cases.

A.

OPC witness, Geoff Marke, recommends that the Commission reject SNG's filed energy efficiency program and instead direct the entirety of SNG's proposed energy efficiency expenditures towards supporting low-income weatherization. Mr. Marke also recommends that the Commission not authorize DE or Staff's proposed annual target level of 0.5 percent of SNG's annual gross revenues to implement energy efficiency programs, and Mr. Marke suggests that an SNG ratepayer funded energy efficiency program should be co-delivered with one or more other electric utilities in order for it to be of sufficient scale that it would be cost-effective. Mr. Marke also lists what he believes are deficiencies in the energy efficiency program proposed by SNG, which will be addressed later in my testimony.

Q. PLEASE RESPOND TO THE RECOMMENDATION BY OPC THAT ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS SHOULD BE CO-DELIVERED WITH ONE OR MORE ELECTRIC UTILITIES TO BE COST-EFFECTIVE.

SNG contracted with Apex Analytics to perform a cost-effectiveness analysis of the proposed energy efficiency measures as required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.225(2)(B)3. These analyses were included as <u>Schedule MRW-6</u> and <u>Schedule MRW-7</u> of my direct testimony and show that the proposed measures are cost-effective. Both proposed measures passed benefit cost tests with a score greater than 1, including both the Total Resource Cost Test ("TRC") and the Utility Cost Test ("UCT"), as shown in Table 3 of my direct testimony.

1	The SNG service territory only partially overlaps with small portions of other
2	regulated electric companies, including The Empire District Electric Company and
3	KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations. However, SNG would be willing to
4	investigate the co-delivery of energy efficiency programs in the context of an
5	Energy Efficiency Advisory Collaborative as proposed by Staff and DE.

Q. DOES THE COMPANY BELIEVE THE RECOMMENDED FUNDING LEVELS BY STAFF, DE AND OPC ARE APPROPRIATE?

A.

As stated in my rebuttal testimony, the Company does not currently have any energy efficiency programs in place and does not employ personnel with the expertise to immediately begin to administer robust energy efficiency and low-income weatherization programs. Therefore, the Company is agreeable to a more incremental approach in the "ramp up" and implementation of programs, such as that proposed by Staff and DE, but has no knowledge to support whether reaching an annual target of 0.5 percent of annual revenues is realistically achievable. Additionally, an appropriate form of rate recovery must be approved, which I describe in further detail below.

17 Q. IS THE COMPANY IN AGREEMENT WITH THE DE FUNDING PROPOSAL FOR 18 A LOW-INCOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?

19 A. Yes, the Company is agreeable to an annual funding level of \$30,000 to support a
20 low-income weatherization assistance program, assuming an appropriate form of
21 rate recovery is approved, which I describe further detail below.

Q. IS THE COMPANY IN AGREEMENT WITH THE STAFF AND DE PROPOSALS

FOR RATE RECOVERY?

Q.

Α.

A.

No. As stated in my rebuttal testimony, although the Company proposed the establishment of a regulatory asset account in its direct testimony, this proposal was tied to the Company's proposed energy efficiency funding level. In the event a higher annual funding target is established for energy efficiency and low-income weatherization programs, a more appropriate funding mechanism, such as a tracker, must be established. The absence of such a funding mechanism would require the Company to make large monetary investments towards these programs with no opportunity for recovery until a subsequent rate case.

PLEASE RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONS SET FORTH IN THE REBUTTAL
TESTIMONY OF OPC WITNESS, MR. MARKE, REGARDING THE PROPOSED
RESIDENTIAL NATURAL GAS ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

Mr. Marke asked the following questions: Who would administer the proposed energy efficiency program? How much of the proposed \$15,000 annual budget would pay for program administration costs? How much for program evaluation, marketing and tracking? How much of the ratepayer dollars would actually be allocated for rebates?

As set forth in the proposed energy efficiency tariff filing (Sheet No. 89, P.S.C. MO No. 3), the Company will administer the program. The Company also appreciates the opportunity to clarify any budget related questions. It was the intent that the annual budget cap of \$15,000 would all be allocated for rebates, with program administration, evaluation and marketing costs tracked separately. However, in

1		the event the proposed budget is revised to include a "ramp up" to .5 percent of
2		annual revenues, as proposed by Staff and DE, the total budget should include
3		costs associated with program administration, evaluation and marketing costs.
4	Q.	PLEASE RESPOND TO THE OPC CONCERN REREGARDING COMPETITION
5		AND SNG'S PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY INCENTIVE
6		PROGRAM.
7	A.	OPC witness, Mr. Marke, states that a strong case could be made that a
8		Commission approved energy efficiency program would be giving SNG an unfair
9		advantage in the marketplace, in that SNG could offer programs to customers that
10		propane competitors cannot.
11		SNG does not agree with Mr. Marke's contention. Although SNG is subject to the
12		Commission's rules regarding promotional practices and may only provide such
13		services and charge such rates as are lawfully approved by the Commission, SNG
14		is not aware of any similar limitations on the propane industry.
15		CONSOLIDATION OF TARIFF BOOKS
16	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY STAFF AND OPC
17		REGARDING THE MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES IN THE PROPOSED
18		CONSOLIDATION OF THE CURRENT SNG TARIFF BOOKS.
19	A.	Staff witness, Ms. Cox, recommends either the miscellaneous tariff charges
20		remain separate for the two service areas, or the lowest miscellaneous rates from
21		SNG's two tariffs is used.
22		OPC witness, Ms. Meisenheimer, recommends that where the SMNG and MGU

- tariffs currently reflect different fees for a like service, Public Counsel suggests that
 the Commission should allow a consolidated rate set, at most, the lower of the two
 fees. OPC also recommends that if particular terms and conditions differ between
 the tariffs, the Commission should allow consolidation only if the more lenient term
 or condition is adopted.
- 6 Q. DOES THE COMPANY AGREE WITH THE STAFF AND OPC
 7 RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE MISCELLANEOUS TARIFF
 8 CHARGES?
- 9 A. Yes. The table below lists revisions to the miscellaneous tariff charges included in the proposed consolidated tariff book (P.S.C. MO No. 3) consistent with SNG's understanding of the recommendations by Staff and OPC.

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Table 1: Proposed Revisions to Miscellaneous Tariff Charges

Summit Proposed Revisions to Consolidated Tariff (P.S.C. MO No. 3)			
Description	Amount	Sheet No.	
Reconnection Charge- Residential	\$30	59	
Reconnection Charge- Commercial or Industrial	The greater of \$30 or actual charges for labor and materials.	60	
Reconnection Charge-Residential, Commercial or Industrial. Whose service pipe was disconnected and/or whose meter was removed by reason of	The greater of (a) The applicable reconnection charge for the customer class or (b) A charge that is equal to the actual labor and material costs that are incurred in the reinstallation of the meter or		
fraudulent use or tampering.	service pipe.	60	
Disconnect Charge- Residential Disconnect Charge- Commercial or Industrial	\$30 The greater of \$30 or actual charges for labor and materials	60	

Special Meter Reading Charge	\$20	60
Collection Trip Charge	\$30	60
Non-Sufficient Funds Check Charge	\$10	60

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OTHER TARIFF ISSUES

Q. ARE ANY OTHER TARIFF RELATED CONCERNS MENTIONED BY THE PARTIES IN THIS CASE?

- Yes. OPC witness, Ms. Meisenheimer, has concerns related to the proposed SNG conversion program and commodity flex provisions contained in the proposed consolidated tariff book. Staff witness, Mr. Ensrud, also provides an example of where he believes the existing tariff book from the former SMNG service territory (P.S.C. MO No. 2) has been misinterpreted.
- 10 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CONCERNS OF MS. MEISENHEIMER RELATED TO
 11 THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE SNG CONVERSION PROGRAM TARIFF
 12 SHEETS.
- 13 A. Ms. Meisenheimer states that she has concerns with SNG's proposal to implement
 14 a free conversion program and that it has not labeled the program as a
 15 promotional practice.
 - OPC has misunderstood the Company's proposal. As explained in my direct testimony, the Company has proposed revisions (Sheet Nos. 82-85 P.S.C. MO No. 3) to the tariff sheets that currently provide for a free conversion program (Sheet Nos. 78-83, P.S.C. MO No. 1). SNG would like to offer the service to new

1	customers, but for a charge. SNG proposes to include the same labor charges as
2	are currently contained in the conversion program tariff (Sheet No. 82, P.S.C. MO
3	No. 1) in the proposed consolidated tariff book (Sheet No. 84, P.S.C. MO No. 3)
4	and bill the actual cost of pipe and fittings to customers. The labor charges
5	currently included in the conversion program tariff are a technician-only hourly
6	labor charge of \$30 and a technical and truck hourly labor charge of \$40 (Sheet
7	No. 82, P.S.C. MO No. 1).

- 9 PROMOTIONAL PRACTICE AS DEFINED BY COMMISSION RULE 4 CSR 24010 14.010(6)(L)?
- 11 A. No. SNG is proposing to offer conversion services to new customers for a charge;
 12 therefore, it is not offering applicants a form of consideration for new service and
 13 would not be considered a prohibited promotional practice.
- 14 Q. DOES OPC EXPRESS CONCERNS REGARDING MODIFICATIONS TO THE

 15 TARIFFED COMMODITY CHARGE FLEX PROVISIONS?
- 16 A. Yes. However, SNG believes OPC witness, Ms. Meisenheimer, may again
 17 misunderstand the intent of these proposed revisions. Both SNG tariff books
 18 (P.S.C. MO No. 1 and P.S.C. MO No. 2) <u>currently include</u> commodity charge flex
 19 provisions that allow the Company to flex between two different commodity rates
 20 for contract commercial service customers as well as large general service, large
 21 volume service and transport customers. The revisions only correct language
 22 inconsistencies across tariffs and customer classes, where needed, and the

1		Company does not believe that the revisions result in a substantive change to
2		current practices.
3	Q.	PLEASE DISCUSS THE SCENARIO IN WHICH STAFF WITNESS, MR.
4		ENSRUD, BELIEVES THE EXISTING TARIFF BOOK FROM THE FORMER
5		SMNG SERVICE TERRITORY (P.S.C. MO NO. 2) HAS BEEN
6		MISINTERPRETED.
7	A.	Staff witness, Mr. Ensrud, asserts in his rebuttal testimony that the Company has
8		misapplied its rates for the collection trip charge and delinquent bill fee listed in the
9		tariff book for the former SMNG service territory (P.S.C. Mo No. 2). To my
10		knowledge, this the first time the proposed misapplication has been brought to the
11		Company's attention. However, should approval be granted to consolidate the two
12		existing SNG tariff books, this language and any future ambiguity will cease to
13		exist.
14		CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY
15	Q.	PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE CONCLUSIONS TO YOUR SURREBUTTAL
16		TESTIMONY.
17	A.	In summary, the recommendations in my surrebuttal testimony are the following:
18		(1) Approval of the Residential Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Incentive Program
19		proposed by SNG;
20		(2) In the event a higher funding level is approved for energy efficiency programs
21		or a low-income weatherization assistance program is ordered, an alternative
22		funding mechanism such as a tracker should be established; and,

1 (3) Approval of a consolidated SNG tariff book (P.S.C. MO No. 3), which also includes the lowest miscellaneous rates from SNG's two tariffs, continuation of commodity flex provisions and the ability to offer conversion services to new customers for a charge.

5 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY?

6 A. Yes.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Summit Natural Gas of Missouri Inc.'s Filing of Revised Tariffs To Increase its Annual Revenues For Natural Gas Service) Case No. GR-2014-0086)
AFFIDAVIT O	F MARTHA R. WANKUM
STATE OF MISSOURI)	
COUNTY OF COLE) ss	
Martha R. Wankum, being first duly sworn	n on her oath, states:
1. My name is Martha R. W employed by Summit Utilities, Inc. as the	Vankum. I work in Jefferson City, Missouri and I am Missouri Regulatory Affairs Manager.
Testimony on behalf of Summit Natural	e a part of hereof for all purposes is my Surrebuttal Gas of Missouri, Inc. consisting of 11 pages, all of for introduction into evidence in the above-referenced
3. I hereby swear and affirm the questions therein propounded are true	that my answers contained in the attached testimony to and correct.
	Mattha R. Wankum Martha R. Wankum
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6 ^t	^h day of August, 2014.
	Salab Jourtaine Notary Public
My commission expires: March 23,7	SARAH B. FONTAINE NOTARY My Commission Expires March 23, 2018 Callaway County Commission #14596390