OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Southern Missouri)
Gas Company, L.P., d/b/a Southern Missouri Natural)
Gas, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and)
Necessity Authorizing It to Construct, Install, Own,) Case No. GA-2007-0168
Operate, Control, Manage and Maintain a Natural Gas)
Distribution System to Provide Gas Service in Branson,)
Branson West, Reeds Spring, and Hollister, Missouri)

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: November 16, 2007 Effective Date: November 16, 2007

On December 11, 2006, the Commission issued its "Order Granting Applications to Intervene, Directing Staff to Investigate, and Directing Staff to File Monthly Status Reports." In that order, the Commission stated:

The Commission would like to have the benefit of an investigation and report by its Staff before it further considers this matter. Therefore, Staff will be directed to promptly commence an investigation into the merits of [the] application and will also be ordered to file monthly status reports informing the Commission of Staff's progress. . . . Additional status reports shall subsequently be filed on a monthly basis until Staff is in a position to file a report and recommendation in this matter.

Although Staff filed monthly status reports as directed for six months thereafter,¹ none were filed after June 8, 2007, and Staff still has not filed its report and recommendation in this matter. As the Commission still wants its Staff to prepare the referenced report and recommendation *before* proceeding with an evidentiary hearing in this matter, Staff will be ordered to promptly file a pleading indicating when it will be filed.

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¹ Staff filed monthly status reports from January 2007 through June 2007.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall, by no later than November 21, 2007, file a pleading informing the Commission when Staff will file its report and recommendation in this matter.
 - 2. This order shall become effective on November 16, 2007.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Benjamin H. Lane, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 16th day of November, 2007.