

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

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy,	)	
a Division of Southern Union Company	)	
Concerning a Natural Gas Incident at	)	<b><u>Case No. GS-2013-0400</u></b>
910 West 48th Street in Kansas City,	)	
Missouri.	)	

**STATUS REPORT**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and in response to the Commission's *Order Directing Staff to Continue Investigation* (Order), states as follows:

1. On February 27, 2013, the Commission issued its *Order Opening File and Directing Filing* which directed Staff to investigate the natural gas incident which occurred on February 19, 2013, at JJ's Restaurant at 910 West 48th Street, Kansas City, Missouri, and to file interim progress reports on March 27, April 24, and May 29, 2013, and either a Gas Incident Report or a Status Report no later than June 27, 2013. On June 26, 2013, the Commission issued an Order directing Staff to continue to investigate the incident and to file a Status Report no later than July 26, 2013. On July 31, 2013, the Commission issued an Order directing Staff to continue to investigate the incident and file a Status Report no later than August 27, 2013.

2. Staff began its investigation into the natural gas explosion and fire at JJ's Restaurant on February 19, 2013, the day of the incident. Staff's investigation activities have continued since the night of February 19th and its investigation is ongoing.

3. The area surrounding the incident site has been secured from the time the site was released by the Kansas City Fire Department on February 20, 2013. Access to the site was blocked by fencing, a construction barrier wall, and locked gates until the final on-site investigations were conducted on July 8 and 9, 2013.

4. Staff's on-site investigation has now been completed. Staff is waiting on additional information from Missouri Gas Energy (MGE). MGE has committed to provide to Staff not later than Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> its finalized responses and answers in narrative format to Staff's information requests. MGE's answers will include a substantial number of supporting documents, including pertinent cell phone records, GPS locational records, and other detailed documents and data supporting its answers. After Staff has had time to review and analyze this information, the Staff may have a need to issue additional follow-up information requests or Data Requests to MGE.

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5. Staff will draft the Gas Incident Report following the completion of its investigation and gathering of information. At this time, Staff anticipates that it may complete the Gas Incident Report and file it by early December 2013. This estimate is based on Staff receiving its requested information and conducting any needed follow-up requests for information from MGE and others in a timely manner. The Staff will provide the Commission a more definitive report filing date as soon as Staff determines that it has received all available information. The completed Gas Incident Report will

explain in detail the facts of the February 19, 2013, Incident, as well as Staff's analysis, conclusions and recommendations. The focus of Staff's investigation and its resulting Gas Incident Report is to determine whether Missouri Gas Energy was in compliance with applicable Commission regulations, and any applicable State and Federal safety standards.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff prays the Commission will accept its Status Report pursuant to the Commission's Order and allow the Staff to continue conducting its Investigation through the filing of its next Status Report on or before September 27, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically served to all counsel of record this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2013.

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**