## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy, a Division of Southern Union Company, Concerning a Natural Gas Incident at 910 West 48th Street in Kansas City, Missouri.

Case No. GS-2013-

## STAFF'S MOTION TO ESTABLISH A CASE FOR INVESTIGATION OF A GAS SAFETY INCIDENT

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and hereby moves the Commission to establish a case for investigation of a gas safety incident, as follows:

1. The Missouri Public Service Commission has statutory responsibility to assure the health and safety of employees, customers, and the public served by natural gas corporations under § 386.310, RSMo.

2. The cited section authorizes the Commission, after hearing or complaint, to order a utility to take appropriate steps to promote the safety of its employees, customers and the general public.

3. Missouri Gas Energy (MGE), a Division of Southern Union Company, of Kansas City, Missouri, is a gas corporation within the intendments of § 386.020(18), RSMo, and is thus subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.

4. A reportable incident occurred on February 19, 2013, in Kansas City, Missouri, an area served by MGE. One fatality, several injuries, and significant property damage occurred.

5. Staff's initial investigation indicates that natural gas was released from an underground distribution line that was breached by a contractor. A natural gas

explosion occurred at JJ's Restaurant at 910 West 48th Street, Kansas City, Missouri at approximately 6:00 p.m., destroying the structure and causing one death, several injuries, and a large fire.

6. As a result of the above-described incident, Staff recommends that the Commission establish a case for the purpose of receiving the Gas Incident Report resulting from the investigation of the incident by the Commission's Gas Safety Section.

7. Staff further recommends that the Commission direct that the Gas Incident Report, or a status report, be filed within 120 days of the date on which the case is established.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will establish a case for the purpose of receiving a Gas Incident Report or status reports as described herein.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>s/ Kevin A. Thompson</u> **KEVIN A. THOMPSON** Missouri Bar Number 36288 Chief Staff Counsel

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Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing were served electronically to all counsel of record this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2013.

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson