BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Southern Union Company)	
d/b/a Missouri Gas Energy, Sigma Acquisition)	
Corporation and Energy Transfer Equity, L.P.)	
for an Order Authorizing them to Perform in)	Case No. GM-2011-0412
Accordance with a Merger Agreement and)	
to Undertake Related Transactions)	

JOINT RECOMMENDATION

Come now Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC), Southern Union Company ("Southern Union"), d/b/a Missouri Gas Energy ("MGE"), Sigma Acquisition Corporation ("Sigma") and Energy Transfer Equity, L.P. ("ETE"), (hereinafter "the Parties") and for their Joint Recommendation respectfully state as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission:

- 1. By Order dated January 6, 2012, the Commission directed the Staff, no later than January 18, 2012, to either file its recommendation regarding the proposed merger, or a recommendation as to how the Commission should proceed to consider the application which is the subject of this case.
- 2. The Parties continue to be engaged in the process of pursuing a settlement of this matter. In this regard, a comprehensive settlement document has been prepared and circulated among the parties as a basis of negotiations and the Parties, on January 12, 2012, met and discussed same.
- 3. In view of this and while the ultimate outcome of these settlement negotiations cannot be determined at this time, the Parties now anticipate that they will be in a position, on or before February 3, 2012, to notify the Commission

as to the status of these negotiations and indicate the likelihood of a resolution of these matters or whether the establishment of a procedural schedule might be appropriate.

WHEREFORE, the Parties respectfully submit this Joint Recommendation and request the Commission to establish February 3, 2012, as the date on or before which the Parties shall file their recommendation as to how the Commission should proceed to consider the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Lera Shemwell

Lera Shemwell Mo #43792
Deputy General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Tel: (573) 751-7431 Fax: (573)751-9285

Lera.shemwell@psc.mo.gov

Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

/s/Marc Poston

Marc Poston Mo # 45722 Assistant Public Counsel Office of the Public Counsel P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Tel: (573) 751-5558 Fax: (573) 751-5562

marc.poston@ded.mo.gov

Attorney for the Office of the Public Counsel

/s/James C. Swearengen_

James C. Swearengen Mo #21510
Paul A. Boudreau Mo #33155
Brydon, Swearengen& England, P.C.
312 E. Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456
Tol: (573) 635-7166

Tel: (573) 635-7166 Fax: (573) 634-7431

LRackers@brydonlaw.com

Todd J. Jacobs Mo #52366 Senior Attorney Missouri Gas Energy 3420 Broadway Kansas City, MO 64111 Tel: (816) 360-5976

Fax: (816) 360-5903 todd.jacobs@sug.com

Attorneys for Southern Union Company d/b/a Missouri Gas Energy

/s/Larry Dority

James M. Fischer Mo #27543 Larry W. Dority Mo #25617 Fischer & Dority, P.C. 101 Madison – Suite 400 Jefferson City, MO 65101 Tel: (573) 636-6758 Fax: (573) 636-0383 jfischerpc@aol.com lwdority@sprintmail.com

Attorneys for Energy Transfer Equity, L.P. and Sigma Acquisition Corporation

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 13th day of January, 2012.

<u>/s/ James C. Swearengen</u>