

**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) **Case No. GS-2013-0400**
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, July 26, and September 4, 2013, the Commission issued Orders directing Staff to continue to investigate the incident and to file Status Reports no later than July 26, August 27, and September 27, 2013 respectively.

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. Missouri Gas Energy (MGE) has provided Staff its responses and answers to Staff's information requests. MGE's answers include a substantial number of supporting documents and data supporting its answers. Staff has been reviewing and analyzing this information and is drafting additional follow-up information requests or Data Requests to MGE. **____

_____.** Staff is also waiting on information from another party to the incident. This party has informed Staff that it will provide this information by October 11, 2013.

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 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, including additional requested 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 October 28, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Robert S. Berlin

Robert S. Berlin
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 51709

Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 526-7779 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)
bob.berlin@psc.mo.gov

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 26th day of September, 2013.

/s/ Robert S. Berlin