

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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

## **ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION TO INTERVENE**

Issue Date: March 6, 2007

Effective Date: March 6, 2007

On October 26, 2006, Alliance Gas Energy Corporation ("AGE") filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission requesting that the Commission grant AGE authority to provide natural gas service to customers in four southwest Missouri communities: Branson, Branson West, Reeds Spring, and Hollister. All of these towns are located in either Stone or Taney County.

On November 2, 2006, the Commission issued notice of AGE's application to members of the public at large and other potentially interested parties and established an intervention deadline of December 4, 2006. On November 8 and November 30, 2006, respectively, Missouri Gas Energy ("MGE," a division of Southern Union Company) and Ozark Energy Partners, LLC ("Ozark") filed applications to intervene pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.075, which governs intervention. The Commission granted those applications by order dated December 11, 2006.

On February 21, 2007, Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. (“Southern Star”) submitted a late-filed application to intervene in this case. According to the application, Southern Star is an interstate natural gas pipeline and storage operator with active pipeline operations in the area of southwest Missouri implicated by this case and has been identified as a potential supplier of wholesale gas transportation service to AGE should AGE’s application be granted.<sup>1</sup>

In accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.075(2), the application states Southern Star’s interests in this case, the reason it is seeking intervention, and that it is not yet sure what position it will ultimately take on the relief sought by AGE. The application also demonstrates that Southern Star has interests in this case that are different from those of the general public and which may be adversely affected by a final order arising from this case. See 4 CSR 240-2.075(4)(A). Moreover, ten days have now passed and no existing party has opposed intervention by Southern Star. Finally, the application shows good cause for Southern Star’s failure to seek intervention before the deadline of December 4, 2006, as required by 4 CSR 240-2.075(5). Consequently, the Commission grants the late-filed application to intervene, and Southern Star is authorized to participate fully in this matter as an intervening party.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. The Application to Intervene filed by Southern Star Central Gas Pipeline, Inc. on February 21, 2007, is granted.

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<sup>1</sup> Southern Star points out that it intervened as a party to Case No. GA-2006-0561, an earlier-filed matter in which Ozark Energy Partners, LLC has applied for a certificate of convenience and necessity to operate a natural gas distribution system in portions of three southwest Missouri counties (Christian, Stone, and Taney Counties), some of which overlap with the proposed service territories sought by AGE in this case. Indeed, Southern Star correctly notes that it is the only party in Case No. GA-2006-0561 that is not currently a party to this case (Case No. GA-2007-0168), and that Staff has filed a motion, in the other action, to consolidate the two cases.

2. This order shall become effective on March 6, 2007.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a faint, illegible stamp.

Colleen M. Dale  
Secretary

( S E A L )

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 6th day of March, 2007.