

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 9<sup>th</sup> day  
of November, 2016.

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy	)	
(Laclede) Tariff to Revise Natural Gas Rate	)	<b><u>File No. GT-2017-0124</u></b>
Schedules	)	Tariff No. YG-2017-0061

**ORDER REJECTING TARIFF**

Issue Date: November 9, 2016

Effective Date: November 19, 2016

On October 25, 2016<sup>1</sup>, Missouri Gas Energy (“MGE”) filed a tariff sheet proposed to become effective November 24. Contemporaneously therewith, MGE filed a Motion for Expedited Treatment, asking the Commission to approve the tariff no later than November 4.

MGE states that the tariff sheet would implement a Low-Income Energy Affordability Program (“Program”). MGE states that the Program would help customers maintain or restore their utility service during the upcoming winter heating season, and especially during November.

To do so, the Program would authorize MGE to spend and recover \$300,000 to help eligible customers who would otherwise have to pay 80% of their arrearages to restore or maintain service. Instead of paying the full 80%, eligible customers would receive a bill credit equal to 30% of their arrearages, provided that a payment by them and/or a pledge by a participating Community Action Agency equaled 50% of their arrearages. The amount

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<sup>1</sup> Calendar references are to 2016.

of the credit would not exceed \$400 per customer or \$800 for a registered elderly or disabled customer.

The Staff of the Commission (“Staff”) filed its Recommendation on October 28. Staff recommends and requests that the Commission deny MGE’s motion for expedited treatment and reject the tariff sheet

Staff states that MGE seeks to guarantee recovery of up to \$300,000 for this program in its next rate case, which is single-issue ratemaking prohibited by Section 393.270 RSMo. Furthermore, Staff points out several conflicts that the pending tariff has with MGE’s current Temporary Low-Income Energy Affordability Program.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed tariff sheet and Staff’s recommendation. The Commission shares Staff’s concerns, and finds that the proposed tariff sheet should be rejected.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The proposed tariff sheet filed on October 25, 2016, by Missouri Gas Energy, and assigned Tracking Number YG-2017-0061 and bearing an effective date of November 24, 2016, is rejected. The tariff sheet rejected is:

**P.S.C. MO. No. 6**  

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**Original Sheet No. R-94**

2. The Motion for Expedited Treatment is denied as moot.

3. This order shall become effective on November 19, 2016.



**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

Hall, Chm., Stoll, Kenney,  
Rupp, and Coleman, CC., concur.

Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge