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Public Service Commission

CAPITAL CIRCLE OFFICE CENTER • 2540 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0850

-M-E-M-O-R-A-N-D-U-M-

DATE:

January 31, 2008

TO:

Office of Commission Clerk (Cole)

FROM:

Division of Economic Regulation (Slemkewicz, Draper, Maurey, Springer)

Office of the General Counsel (Brown) M-3

RE:

Docket No. 070592-GU - Petition for rate increase by St. Joe Natural Gas

Company, Inc.

AGENDA: 02/12/08 – Regular Agenda – Decision on Interim Rates – Interested Persons May

Participate

COMMISSIONERS ASSIGNED: All Commissioners

PREHEARING OFFICER:

Argenziano

CRITICAL DATES:

02/19/08 (60-Day Suspension Date)

05/21/08 (5-Month Effective Date (PAA Rate Case))

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

None

FILE NAME AND LOCATION:

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Case Background

This proceeding commenced on December 21, 2007, with the filing of a petition for a permanent rate increase by St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. (SJNG or Company). SJNG requested an increase in its retail rates and charges to generate \$627,026 in additional gross annual revenues. This increase would allow the Company to earn an overall rate of return of 6.17 percent or a 11.50 percent return on equity (range 10.50 percent to 12.50 percent). The Company based its request on a projected test year ending December 31, 2008. SJNG stated that this test year is the appropriate period to be utilized because it represents the conditions to be faced by the Company, and is representative of the customer base, investment requirements, throughput levels, and overall cost of service to be realized under the new rates. Per Rule 25-

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7.140(1)(d), Florida Administrative Code, SJNG has elected to use the five month Proposed Agency Action process authorized in Section 366.06(4), Florida Statutes.

Per its original filing, SJNG has also requested an interim rate increase in its retail rates and charges to generate \$274,981 in additional gross annual revenues. This increase would allow the Company to earn an overall rate of return of 6.75 percent or an 11.50 percent return on equity which is the midpoint of the currently authorized range of 10.50 percent to 12.50 percent. The Company based its interim request on a historical test year ended December 31, 2006.

Subsequent to the submission of the minimum filing requirements (MFRs), it was discovered that certain interim MFR schedules, that are electronically linked to historical data in the MFRs, were not automatically updated to reflect the Company's final inputs. The affected interim schedules relate to rate base, capital structure and the calculation of the interim increase. The Company provided the corrected schedules showing the calculated interim increase to be \$229,785 rather than the originally requested amount of \$274,981. The \$229,785 increase would allow the Company to earn an overall rate of return of 6.39 percent or an 11.50 percent return on equity.

The Commission last granted SJNG a \$327,149 rate increase by Order No. PSC-01-1274-PAA-GU.¹ In that order, the Commission found the Company's jurisdictional rate base to be \$4,061,937 for the projected test year ended December 31, 2001. The allowed rate of return was found to be 5.96 percent for the test year using an 11.50 percent return on equity.

This recommendation addresses the suspension of the requested permanent rate increase and the consideration of the requested interim rate increase. The Commission has jurisdiction pursuant to Sections 366.06(2) and (4), and 366.071, Florida Statutes.

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¹ Order No. PSC-01-1274-PAA-GU, issued June 8, 2001, in Docket No. 001447-GU, <u>In re: Request for rate increase by St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc.</u>.

Discussion of Issues

<u>Issue 1</u>: Should the \$627,026 permanent base rate increase and its associated tariff revisions requested by St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. be suspended pending a final decision in this docket?

Recommendation: Yes. The \$627,026 permanent base rate increase and its associated tariff revisions requested by St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc. should be suspended pending a final decision in this docket (Slemkewicz, Draper)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: SJNG filed its petition, testimony, and minimum filing requirements on December 21, 2007. The Company has requested a total permanent base rate increase of \$627,026 based on a projected test year ending December 31, 2008.

Historically, especially when a projected test year has been involved, the Commission has suspended the requested permanent rate schedules in order to adequately and thoroughly examine the basis for the new rates. The suspension of the rate increase is authorized by Section 366.06(3), Florida Statutes, which provides:

Pending a final order by the commission in any rate proceeding under this section, the commission may withhold consent to the operation of all or any portion of the new rate schedules, delivering to the utility requesting such increase, within 60 days, a reason or written statement of good cause for withholding its consent.

Because SJNG's requested permanent rate relief is based on a projected test year, staff recommends that the Commission suspend the requested permanent rate schedules to allow staff and any intervenors sufficient time to adequately investigate whether the request for permanent rate relief is appropriate. It should be noted that this rate case is being processed under the five month Proposed Agency Action process authorized in Section 366.06(4), Florida Statutes.

<u>Issue 2</u>: Is SJNG's proposed 2006 interim test year rate base of \$3,330,861 appropriate?

<u>Recommendation</u>: No. The appropriate 2006 interim test year rate base is \$3,077,180. (Slemkewicz)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: In its filing, the Company proposed an interim test year thirteen month average rate base of \$3,330,861 for the period ended December 31, 2006. As discussed in the Case Background, the interim rate base MFR schedules were not updated automatically for the Company's final inputs. By incorporating the Company's final inputs, the resulting 2006 historical test year rate base is \$3,077,180 for interim purposes. Adjustment 4 on Attachment A shows the \$253,681 of adjustments necessary to update the interim rate base on MFR Schedule F-1 to reflect the updated test year on MFR Schedule B-2.

Staff has reviewed the MFR Schedule B-2 rate base adjustments made in the current filing for consistency with the findings made in the Company's last rate case order. Based on the staff's preliminary review, it appears that SJNG has made the applicable and appropriate adjustments that are consistent with the previous rate case. Therefore, staff recommends that \$3,077,180 is the appropriate amount of rate base for the 2006 interim test year. The calculation is shown on Attachment A.

It should be noted that 2006 is also the historical base year that was utilized to develop the 2008 projected test year for the requested permanent base rate increase. The 2006 historical test year data is currently being audited as part of the normal ratemaking review process in this docket.

<u>Issue 3</u>: Are SJNG's proposed return on equity of 11.50 percent and overall cost of capital of 6.75 percent appropriate for the purpose of determining interim rates?

Recommendation: No. The appropriate return on equity and overall cost of capital are 10.50 percent and 5.60 percent, respectively. (Springer)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: As discussed in the Case Background, SJNG provided staff updated schedules related to its request for an interim rate increase. The updated schedule reflects an overall cost of capital of 6.39 percent instead of the 6.75 percent reflected in the Company's original filing.

SJNG's authorized return on equity (ROE) is 11.50 percent with a range of plus or minus 100 basis points. The Commission set the return and range by Order No. PSC-01-1274-PAA-GU². As required by Section 366.071(5)(b)3., Florida Statutes, the applicable ROE for purposes of an interim increase is the minimum of the range of return as authorized in the company's last rate proceeding. In its interim request, SJNG inadvertently used 11.50 percent, which is the midpoint of the range of its last authorized return on equity. SJNG's appropriate ROE for interim purposes is 10.50 percent.

Section 366.071(5)(b)1, Florida Statutes, requires a company requesting an interim increase to make all adjustments consistent with those made in the most recent rate proceeding. The Commission determined in Order No. PSC-01-1274-PAA-GU that the appropriate capital structure should consist of no more than 60.00 percent equity as a percentage of investor sources of capital. In its interim request, SJNG used a capital structure that contained an equity ratio of 88.80 percent. Staff made a specific adjustment to SJNG's capital structure to attain the required equity ratio of 60.00 percent.

SJNG appropriately used a 6.00 percent cost rate for customer deposits, which is based on Commission Rule 25-7.083(5)(a), Florida Administrative Code. The Company included long-term debt and short-term debt in its capital structure with applicable cost rates of 8.75 percent and 8.00 percent, respectively. Using a 10.50 percent cost of equity and the adjusted capital structure discussed above, staff calculated the overall weighted average cost of capital for interim purposes of 5.60 percent. A schedule of the interim capital structure is included in Attachment B.

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² Order No. PSC-01-1274-PAA-GU, issued June 8, 2001, in Docket No. 001447-GU, <u>In re: Request for rate increase by St. Joe Natural Gas Company, Inc.</u>

<u>Issue 4</u>: Is SJNG's proposed 2006 interim test year net operating income of \$54,079 appropriate?

Recommendation: No. The appropriate 2006 interim test year net operating income is \$74,410. (Slemkewicz)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: The proposed interim test year net operating income of \$54,079 is the twelve month amount for the year ended December 31, 2006. Staff has reviewed the net operating income adjustments made in the current interim filing for consistency with the findings made in the Company's last rate case. Based on the staff's preliminary review, it appears that SJNG has not made all of the applicable and appropriate adjustments that are consistent with the previous rate case. Staff recommends that the following adjustments be made.

Adjustment 1: Gross Receipts Tax – Although the gross receipts tax is applicable to all of the Company's customers, it is billed as a separate line item on the customers' bills. Therefore, neither the revenues nor the expenses related to the gross receipts tax should be included in the income statement for ratemaking purposes. Both operating revenues and taxes other than income should be reduced by \$44,428. Since these amounts offset each other, there is no effect on the amount of net operating income.

Adjustment 2: Regulatory Assessment Fee – The regulatory assessment fee (RAF) revenue and expense related to non-cost recovery clause revenues are included in base rates for ratemaking purposes. The Company inappropriately removed all RAF revenue from its interim test year operating revenues. To correct this error, operating revenues should be increased by \$6,030. After taxes, the effect on net operating income is an increase of \$3,761 (\$6,030 - \$2,269). Because SJNG did not remove the non-cost recovery clause RAF expense from taxes other than income, no further adjustment is necessary.

Adjustment 3: Interest Synchronization – This adjustment is necessary to match the interest expense inherent in the capital structure with the interest expense utilized to calculate the income tax expense included in the income statement. Staff has made a \$503,100 adjustment to increase the amount of long term debt to adjust the equity ratio. This results in a \$44,021 increase in the interest expense deduction for income tax purposes. Therefore, income tax expense should be reduced by \$16,565 (\$44.021 x 37.60%) as shown on Attachment B.

After considering these three adjustments, staff recommends that \$74,410 is the appropriate amount of net operating income for the 2006 interim test year. The calculation is shown on Attachment A.

It should be noted that 2006 is also the historical base year that was utilized to develop the 2008 projected test year for the requested permanent base rate increase. The 2006 historical test year data is currently being audited as part of the normal ratemaking review process in this docket.

<u>Issue 5</u>: Is SJNG's proposed net operating income multiplier of 1.6114 appropriate?

Recommendation: Yes. The appropriate net operating income multiplier is 1.6114. (Slemkewicz)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: On MFR Schedule F-6, the Company calculated a net operating income multiplier of 1.6114 using a 34 percent federal income tax rate and a 5.5 percent state income tax rate. Additionally, the Company applied a .5 percent factor for regulatory assessment fees. Staff has reviewed the Company's calculation of the net operating income multiplier and is not proposing any adjustments. Therefore, staff recommends that 1.6114 is the appropriate net operating income multiplier. The calculation is shown below.

| <u>Line</u> | <u>Description</u> | |
|-------------|--|-----------------|
| 1 | Revenue Requirement | 100.000% |
| 2 | Gross Receipts Tax | 0.000% |
| 3 | Regulatory Assessment Fee | (0.500)% |
| 4 | Bad Debt Rate | <u>0.000</u> % |
| 5 | Net Before Income Taxes | 99.500% |
| 6 | Combined State/Federal Income Tax @ 37.63% | (37.442)% |
| 7 | Revenue Expansion Factor | <u>62.058</u> % |
| 8 | Net Operating Income Multiplier | <u>1.6114</u> |

<u>Issue 6</u>: Should SJNG's requested interim rate increase of \$274,981 and percentage increase factor of 26.35 percent be granted?

Recommendation: No. SJNG should be granted an interim rate increase of \$157,775, a percentage increase factor of 15.12 percent. (Slemkewicz, Draper)

Staff Analysis: As originally proposed, SJNG requested interim rate relief of \$274,981 for the historical test year ended December 31, 2006. This would allow the Company to earn an overall rate of return of 6.75 percent and the midpoint of the range on return on equity of 11.50 percent. As discussed in the Case Background, this calculation was affected by the MFR schedules that were not updated for the latest revisions to the 2006 historical test year. The effect of SJNG's revisions results in a recalculated interim increase amount of \$229,785. This would allow the Company to earn an overall rate of return of 6.39 percent and the midpoint of the range on return on equity of 11.50 percent.

As discussed in the previous issues, staff has made certain adjustments to SJNG's rate base, capital structure and net operating income. These adjustments affect the calculation of the interim increase to be granted in this docket. The calculation of the recommended \$157,775 interim rate relief and the 15.12 percent increase factor is shown below. This would allow the Company to earn an overall rate of return of 5.60 percent and a 10.50 percent return on equity, the minimum of the range. After a determination of the permanent rate increase has been made, the interim rate increase will be reviewed to determine if any portion should be refunded to the ratepayers.

| Jurisdictional Adjusted Rate Base | \$3,077,180 |
|--|----------------------|
| Adjusted Overall Rate of Return | x <u>5.60%</u> |
| Jurisdictional Adjusted Revenue Requirement | \$172,322 |
| Jurisdictional Adjusted Net Operating Income | _(74,410) |
| Income Deficiency/(Excess) | \$97,912 |
| Net Operating Income Multiplier | x <u>1.6114</u> |
| Interim Revenue Increase/(Decrease) | \$157,775 |
| Base Rate Revenues | -:- <u>1,043,735</u> |
| Percentage Increase Factor | <u>15.12%</u> |

<u>Issue 7</u>: How should the interim revenue increase for SJNG be distributed among the rate classes?

Recommendation: Any interim revenue increase approved should be applied evenly to all rate classes based on their base rate revenues, as required by Rule 25-7.040, Florida Administrative Code, and should be recovered on a cents-per-therm basis. The interim rates should be made effective for all meter readings made on or after thirty days from the date of the vote approving any interim increase. The Company should give notice to customers of the interim increase commencing with the first bill for service that reflects the increase. A copy of the notice should be submitted to staff for approval prior to its use. (Draper)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: As shown on Attachments C and D, staff has determined the cents-per-therm increases to be applied to each rate class based on staff's recommended interim increase of \$157,775. The increases were calculated using the methodology contained in Rule 25-7.040, Florida Administrative Code, which requires that any increase be applied evenly to all rate classes based on their base rate revenues. Attachment E contains monthly bill amounts for each rate class comparing the present rates with the staff-recommended interim rates.

The interim rates should be made effective for all meter readings made on or after thirty days from the date of the Commission vote approving any interim increase. SJNG should be required to give appropriate notice to customers commencing with the first bill for service that reflects the approved interim increase that explains the nature, purpose, and effect of the increase. A copy of the notice should be submitted to staff for approval prior to its use.

<u>Issue 8</u>: What is the appropriate security to guarantee the amount collected subject to refund?

Recommendation: A corporate undertaking in the amount of \$52,592 guaranteed by SJNG is appropriate. Interim rates are subject to refund with interest, pending the final order in the permanent rate relief request. (Springer)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: The criteria for a corporate undertaking include sufficient liquidity, ownership equity, profitability, and interest coverage to guarantee any potential refund. Staff reviewed the financial statements of the Company to determine if SJNG can support a corporate undertaking. SJNG's 2004, 2005, and 2006 financial statements were used to determine the financial condition of the Company. SJNG experienced a net loss in 2004. However, SJNG's average equity ratio over the three-year period has been 85 percent. Additionally, SJNG's profitability and interest coverage have improved over the most recent three-year period. SJNG's financial performance has demonstrated adequate levels of ownership equity, liquidity, and interest coverage measures to offset the low net income relative to the amount proposed to be collected subject to refund.

Based on the analysis of SJNG's financial condition, staff recommends that the Company can support a corporate undertaking in the amount of \$52,592. This amount represents four months of revenue that SJNG will collect during the interim period. This treatment complies with Section 366.071(2)(a) and (c), Florida Statutes.

This brief financial analysis is only appropriate for deciding if the Company can support a corporate undertaking in the amount requested and should not be considered a finding regarding staff's position on other issues in this proceeding.

<u>Issue 9</u>: Should this docket be closed?

Recommendation: No, this docket should remain open to process the Company's revenue increase request. (Brown)

<u>Staff Analysis</u>: This docket should remain open pending the Commission's final resolution of the Company's requested permanent base rate increase.

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. DOCKET NO. 070592-GU INTERIM TEST YEAR DECEMBER 31, 2006

| | As Filed by Company | Adjustment 1 Gross Receipts <u>Tax</u> | Adjustment 2 Regulatory Assessment Fee | Adjustment 3 Interest Synchronization | Adjustment 4 Test Year <u>Updates</u> | Total Adjustments | Total Adjusted <u>Rate Base</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| RATE BASE | | | | | | | |
| Plant in Service | \$6,155,759 | | | | | \$0 | \$6,155,759 |
| Common Plant Allocated | (58,035) | | | | | 0 | (58,035) |
| Customer Advances for Construction | (60,788) | | | | | 0 | (60,788) |
| Accumulated Depreciation | (3,030,494) | | | | 24,713 | 24,713 | (3,005,781) |
| Net Plant in Service | 3,006,442 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24,713 | 24,713 | 3,031,155 |
| Property Held for Future Use | 0 | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Construction Work in Progress | 31,131 | | | | | 0 | 31,131 |
| Net Utility Plant | 3,037,573 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24,713 | 24,713 | 3,062,286 |
| Working Capital | 293,288 | | | | (278,394) | (278,394) | 14,894 |
| Total Rate Base | \$3,330,861 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | (\$253,681) | (\$253,681) | \$3,077,180 |
| INCOME STATEMENT | | | | | | | |
| Operating Revenues | \$1,146,191 | (44,428) | 6,030 | | 0 | (38,398) | \$1,107,793 |
| Operating Expenses: | | | | | | | |
| Operation & Maintenance - Gas | 25,823 | | | | | 0 | 25,823 |
| Operation & Maintenance - Other | 709,215 | | | | | 0 | 709,215 |
| Depreciation & Amortization | 222,854 | | | | | 0 | 222,854 |
| Taxes Other Than Income | 101,601 | (44,428) | | | | (44,428) | 57,173 |
| Income Taxes - Current | 32,614 | (, , , | 2,269 | (16,565) | | (14,296) | 18,318 |
| Deferred Income Taxes (Net) | 0 | | , | ` , , | | 0 | 0 |
| Investment Tax Credit (Net) | 0 | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| (Gain)/Loss on Disposition | 0 | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 1,092,107 | (44,428) | 2,269 | (16,565) | 0 | (58,724) | 1,033,383 |
| Net Operating Income | \$54,084 | \$0 | \$3,761 | \$16,565 | \$0 | \$20,326 | \$74,410 |
| OVERALL RATE OF RETURN | 1.62% | - | | <u>-</u> | | 0.79% | 2.42% |
| RETURN ON EQUITY | 1.87% | | | = | | -0.70% | 1.17% |

ATTACHMENT B

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. DOCKET NO. 070592-GU INTERIM TEST YEAR DECEMBER 31, 2006

| CAPITAL STRUCTURE AS FILED BY COMPANY Long Term Debt Short Term Debt Preferred Stock Customer Deposits Common Equity Deferred Income Taxes Deferred Credits - FCPC Tax Credits - Zero Cost Regulatory Asset/Liability 109 Total | Amount \$107,156 116,420 0 36,260 1,772,709 23,311 1,275,004 0 | Ratio 3.22% 3.50% 0.00% 1.09% 53.22% 0.70% 38.28% 0.00% 0.00% | Cost Rate 8.75% 8.00% 0.00% 6.00% 11.50% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% | Weighted <u>Cost</u> 0.28% 0.28% 0.00% 0.07% 6.12% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% | | | |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 Otal | \$3,330,860 | 100.00% | = | 6.75% | | | |
| Equity Ratio | 88.80% | | | | | | |
| STAFF ADJUSTED Long Term Debt Short Term Debt | Amount \$107,156 116,420 | Adjust Specific \$503,100 | <u>Pro Rata</u> (\$13,374) (14,530) | Adjusted <u>Total</u> \$596,882 101,890 | <u>Ratio</u> 19.40% 3.31% | Cost Rate 8.75% 8.00% | Weighted <u>Cost</u> 1.70% 0.26% |
| Preferred Stock Customer Deposits Common Equity Deferred Income Taxes Deferred Credits - FCPC | 0 36,260 1,772,709 23,311 1,275,004 | (503,100) | (4,525) (221,251) | 0 31,735 1,048,358 23,311 1,275,004 | 0.00% 1.03% 34.07% 0.76% 41.43% | 0.00% 6.00% 10.50% 0.00% | 0.00% 0.06% 3.58% 0.00% 0.00% |
| Tax Credits - Zero Cost Regulatory Asset/Liability 109 Total | 0 0 \$3,330,860 | \$0 | (\$253,680) | 0 0 \$3,077,180 | 0.00% 0.00% 100.00% | 0.00% 0.00% | 0.00% 0.00% 5.60% |
| Equity Ratio | 88.80% | | | 60.00% | | | |
| INTEREST SYNCHRONIZATION | | | - | 33.3370 | | | |
| | <u>Adjustments</u> | Cost Rate | Effect on Interest Exp. | Tax Rate | Effect on Income Taxes | | |
| Long Term Debt Short Term Debt Customer Deposits Total | \$503,100 0 0 \$503,100 | 8.75% 8.00% 6.00% | \$44,021 0 0 \$44,021 | 37.630% 37.630% 37.630% | (\$16,565) 0 0 (\$16,565) | | |

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. ALLOCATION OF INTERIM RATE INCREASE DOCKET NO. 070592-GU

ATTACHMENT C

| | PRESENT BASE RATE REVENUE | | | | | | | TERIM INCRE | ASE |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| RATE CODE | RATE SCHEDULE | BILLS | THERM SALES | CUSTOMER CHARGE | ENERGY CHARGE | (4) + (5) TOTAL BASE REVENUE | (6)X(8) INTERIM INCREASE | (7) / (6) % INCREASE | (7)/(3)*100 INCREASE IN CENTS PER THERM |
| | | 21220 | 5.1225 | <u> </u> | 01111102 | | 11,022,102 | | |
| GS-1 | RESIDENTIAL | 34,620 | 738,876 | \$311,580 | \$281,408 | \$592,988 | \$89,638 | 15.12% | 12.132 |
| GS-2 | GENERAL SERVICE | 2,553 | 93,221 | \$22,977 | \$35,504 | \$58,481 | \$8,840 | 15.12% | 9.483 |
| GS-3 | GENERAL SERVICE | 452 | 213,576 | \$18,080 | \$44,135 | \$62,215 | \$9,405 | 15.12% | 4.403 |
| TS-5 | TRANSPORTATION SERVICE | 12 | 430,898 | \$12,000 | \$34,864 | \$46,864 | \$7,084 | 15.12% | 1.644 |
| TS-6 | TRANSPORTATION SERVICE | 36 | 6,724,310 | \$36,000 | \$247,186 | \$283,186 | \$42,807 | 15.12%_ | 0.637_ |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 37,673 | 8,200,881 | \$400,637 | <u>\$643,098</u> | <u>\$1,043,735</u> | <u>\$157,775</u> | <u>15.12%</u> | |

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. PRESENT AND STAFF RECOMMENDED INTERIM RATES DOCKET NO. 070592-GU

ATTACHMENT D

| DATE | | | STAFF RECOMMENDED | STAFF RECOMMENDED |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| RATE CODE | RATE SCHEDULE | PRESENT RATE | INTERIM INCREASE | INTERIM RATE |
| GS-1 | RESIDENTIAL | | | |
| | CUSTOMER CHARGE | \$9.00 | N/A | \$9.00 |
| | ENERGY CHARGE (cents/therm) | 38.086 | 12.132 | 50.218 |
| GS-2 | GENERAL SERVICE 2 | | | |
| | CUSTOMER CHARGE | \$9.00 | N/A | \$9.00 |
| | ENERGY CHARGE (cents/therm) | 38.086 | 9.483 | 47.569 |
| GS-3 | GENERAL SERVICE 3 | | | |
| | CUSTOMER CHARGE | \$40.00 | N/A | \$40.00 |
| | ENERGY CHARGE (cents/therm) | 20.665 | 4.403 | 25.068 |
| TS-5 | TRANSPORTATION SERVICE 5 | | | |
| | CUSTOMER CHARGE | \$1,000 | N/A | \$1,000 |
| | ENERGY CHARGE (cents/therm) | 8.091 | 1.644 | 9.735 |
| TS-6 | TRANSPORTATION SERVICE 6 | | | |
| _ | CUSTOMER CHARGE | \$1,000 | N/A | \$1,000 |
| | ENERGY CHARGE (cents/therm) | 3.676 | 0.637 | 4.313 |

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. BILL COMPARISONS - PRESENT VS. RECOMMENDED INTERIM RATES DOCKET NO. 070592-GU

ATTACHMENT E

RESIDENTIAL

(Residential Usage)

Average Usage: 22 therms per month

PRESENT RATES

INTERIM RATES

Customer Charge \$9.00 Customer Charge \$9.00

Energy Charge (Cents per Therm) 38.086 Energy Charge (Cents per Therm) 50.218

Gas Cost Cents/Therm:

87.871

Therm Usage Increment:

2

| Therm Usage | Present Monthly Bill w/o Fuel | Present Monthly Bill with Fuel | Recommended Interim Monthly Bill w/o Fuel | Recommended Interim Monthly Bill with Fuel | Percent Increase w/o Fuel | Percent Increase with Fuel | Dollar Increase |
|----------------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 | 40.7 6 | 01150 | \$10.00 | ¢11.76 | 2.400/ | 2 110/ | 00.24 |
| 2 | \$9.76 | \$11.52 | \$10.00 | \$11.76 | 2.49% | 2.11% | \$0.24 |
| 4 | \$10.52 | \$14.04 | \$11.01 | \$14.52 | 4.61% | 3.46% | \$0.49 |
| 6 | \$11.29 | \$16.56 | \$12.01 | \$17.29 | 6.45% | 4.40% | \$0.73 |
| 8 | \$12.05 | \$19.08 | \$13.02 | \$20.05 | 8.06% | 5.09% | \$0.97 |
| 10 | \$12.81 | \$21.60 | \$14.02 | \$22.81 | 9.47% | 5.62% | \$1.21 |
| 12 | \$13.57 | \$24.11 | \$15.03 | \$25.57 | 10.73% | 6.04% | \$1.46 |
| 14 | \$14.33 | \$26.63 | \$16.03 | \$28.33 | 11.85% | 6.38% | \$1.70 |
| 16 | \$15.09 | \$29.15 | \$17.03 | \$31.09 | 12.86% | 6.66% | \$1.94 |
| 18 | \$15.86 | \$31.67 | \$18.04 | \$33.86 | 13.77% | 6.89% | \$2.18 |
| 20 | \$16.62 | \$34.19 | \$19.04 | \$36.62 | 14.60% | 7.10% | \$2.43 |
| 22 | \$17.38 | \$36.71 | \$20.05 | \$39.38 | 15.36% | 7.27% | \$2.67 |
| 24 | \$18.14 | \$39.23 | \$21.05 | \$42.14 | 16.05% | 7.42% | \$2.91 |
| 26 | \$18.90 | \$41.75 | \$22.06 | \$44.90 | 16.69% | 7.56% | \$3.15 |
| 28 | \$19.66 | \$44.27 | \$23.06 | \$47.66 | 17.27% | 7.67% | \$3.40 |
| 30 | \$20.43 | \$46.79 | \$24.07 | \$50.43 | 17.82% | 7.78% | \$3.64 |

⁻ Bills do not include conservation cost recovery charges, local taxes, franchise fees, or gross receipts taxes.

⁻ Gas cost effective January 2008.

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. BILL COMPARISONS - PRESENT VS. RECOMMENDED INTERIM RATES DOCKET NO. 070592-GU

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GENERAL SERVICE 2

(Commercial usage - sales service) Average Usage: 37 therms per month

PRESENT RATES

INTERIM RATES

Customer Charge \$9.00 Customer Charge \$9.00

Energy Charge (Cents per Therm) 38.086 Energy Charge (Cents per Therm) 47.569

Gas Cost Cents/Therm:

87.871

Therm Usage Increment:

20

| Therm Usage | Present Monthly Bill w/o Fuel | Present Monthly Bill with Fuel | Recommended Interim Monthly Bill w/o Fuel | Recommended Interim Monthly Bill with Fuel | Percent Increase w/o Fuel | Percent Increase with Fuel | Dollar Increase |
|----------------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 0 | \$9.00 | \$9.00 | \$9.00 | \$9.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | \$0.00 |
| 20 | \$16.62 | \$34.19 | \$18.51 | \$36.09 | 11.41% | 5.55% | \$1.90 |
| 40 | \$24.23 | \$59.38 | \$28.03 | \$63.18 | 15.65% | 6.39% | \$3.79 |
| 60 | \$31.85 | \$84.57 | \$37.54 | \$90.26 | 17.86% | 6.73% | \$5.69 |
| 80 | \$39.47 | \$109.77 | \$47.06 | \$117.35 | 19.22% | 6.91% | \$7.59 |
| 100 | \$47.09 | \$134.96 | \$56.57 | \$144.44 | 20.14% | 7.03% | \$9.48 |
| 120 | \$54.70 | \$160.15 | \$66.08 | \$171.53 | 20.80% | 7.11% | \$11.38 |
| 140 | \$62.32 | \$185.34 | \$75.60 | \$198.62 | 21.30% | 7.16% | \$13.28 |
| 160 | \$69.94 | \$210.53 | \$85.11 | \$225.70 | 21.69% | 7.21% | \$15.17 |
| 180 | \$77.55 | \$235.72 | \$94.62 | \$252.79 | 22.01% | 7.24% | \$17.07 |
| 200 | \$85.17 | \$260.91 | \$104.14 | \$279.88 | 22.27% | 7.27% | \$18.97 |

⁻ Bills do not include conservation cost recovery charges, local taxes, franchise fees, or gross receipts taxes.

- Gas cost effective January 2008.

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ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. BILL COMPARISONS - PRESENT VS. RECOMMENDED INTERIM RATES DOCKET NO. 070592-GU

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GENERAL SERVICE 3

(Commercial or industrial usage - sales service) Average Usage: 518 therms per month

PRESENT RATES

INTERIM RATES

Customer Charge \$40.00 Customer Charge \$40.00

Energy Charge (Cents per Therm) 20.665 Energy Charge (Cents per Therm) 25.068

Gas Cost Cents/Therm:

87.871

Therm Usage Increment:

175

| Therm Usage | Present Monthly Bill w/o Fuel | Present Monthly Bill with Fuel | Recommended Interim Monthly Bill w/o Fuel | Recommended Interim Monthly Bill with Fuel | Percent Increase w/o Fuel | Percent Increase with Fuel | Dollar Increase |
|----------------|--|---|---|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 0 | \$40.00 | \$40.00 | \$40.00 | \$40.00 | 0.00% | 0.00% | \$0.00 |
| 175 | \$76.16 | \$229.94 | \$83.87 | \$237.64 | 10.12% | 3.35% | \$7.71 |
| 350 | \$112.33 | \$419.88 | \$127.74 | \$435.29 | 13.72% | 3.67% | \$15.41 |
| 525 | \$148.49 | \$609.81 | \$171.61 | \$632.93 | 15.57% | 3.79% | \$23.12 |
| 700 | \$184.66 | \$799.75 | \$215.48 | \$830.57 | 16.69% | 3.85% | \$30.82 |
| 875 | \$220.82 | \$989.69 | \$259.35 | \$1,028.22 | 17.45% | 3.89% | \$38.53 |
| 1,050 | \$256.98 | \$1,179.63 | \$303.21 | \$1,225.86 | 17.99% | 3.92% | \$46.23 |
| 1,225 | \$293.15 | \$1,369.57 | \$347.08 | \$1,423.50 | 18.40% | 3.94% | \$53.94 |
| 1,400 | \$329.31 | \$1,559.50 | \$390.95 | \$1,621.15 | 18.72% | 3.95% | \$61.64 |
| 1,575 | \$365.47 | \$1,749.44 | \$434.82 | \$1,818.79 | 18.97% | 3.96% | \$69.35 |
| 1,750 | \$401.64 | \$1,939.38 | \$478.69 | \$2,016.43 | 19.18% | 3.97% | \$77.05 |

⁻ Bills do not include conservation cost recovery charges, local taxes, franchise fees, or gross receipts taxes.

⁻ Gas cost effective January 2008.

100,000

\$9,091.00

N/A

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. **BILL COMPARISONS - PRESENT VS. RECOMMENDED INTERIM RATES DOCKET NO. 070592-GU**

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TRANSPORTATION SERVICE 5

(Usage greater than 150,000 therms per year - transportation service) Average Usage: 34,008 therms per month

PRESENT RATES **INTERIM RATES**

Customer Charge Customer Charge \$1,000.00 \$1,000.00

Transport Charge Transport Charge (Cents (Cents per Therm) per Therm) 8.091 9.735

Therm Usage Increment: 10,000 Gas Cost Cents/Therm: n/a Recommended Recommended Present Present Interim Interim Monthly Monthly Monthly Monthly Percent Percent Dollar Therm Bill Bill Bill Bill Increase Increase w/o Fuel with Fuel w/o Fuel with Fuel w/o Fuel with Fuel Increase Usage 0 \$1,000.00 N/A \$1,000.00 N/A 0.00% N/A \$0.00 \$1,973.50 9.09% N/A \$164.40 10,000 \$1,809.10 N/A N/A 20,000 \$2,618.20 N/A \$2,947.00 N/A 12.56% N/A \$328.80 \$3,920.50 N/A 14.39% N/A \$493.20 30,000 \$3,427.30 N/A 40,000 \$4,236.40 N/A \$4,894.00 N/A 15.52% N/A \$657.60 50,000 \$5,045.50 N/A \$5,867.50 N/A 16.29% N/A \$822.00 N/A 60,000 \$5,854.60 \$6,841.00 16.85% \$986.40 N/A N/A 70,000 \$7,814.50 17.27% N/A \$6,663.70 N/A N/A \$1,150.80 N/A 80,000 \$7,472.80 N/A \$8,788.00 N/A 17.60% \$1,315.20 90,000 \$8,281.90 N/A \$9,761.50 N/A 17.87% N/A \$1,479.60 \$10,735.00 18.08% N/A \$1,644.00

N/A

⁻ Bills do not include conservation cost recovery charges, local taxes, franchise fees, or gross receipts taxes.

ST. JOE NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC. BILL COMPARISONS - PRESENT VS. RECOMMENDED INTERIM RATES DOCKET NO. 070592-GU

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TRANSPORTATION SERVICE 6

(Usage greater than 500,000 therms per year - transportation service)

Average Usage: 138,333 therms per month

PRESENT RATES <u>INTERIM RATES</u>

Customer ChargeCustomer Charge\$1,000.00\$1,000.00

Transport Charge
(Cents
(Cents
per Therm)
3,676

Transport Charge
(Cents
per Therm)
4.313

50,000 Gas Cost Cents/Therm: N/A Therm Usage Increment: Recommended Recommended Present Present Interim Interim Monthly Percent Monthly Monthly Monthly Percent Therm Bill Bill Bill Bill Increase Increase Dollar with Fuel w/o Fuel with Fuel w/o Fuel with Fuel Increase w/o Fuel Usage 0 N/A \$1,000.00 N/A 0.00% N/A \$0.00 \$1,000.00 50,000 \$2,838.00 N/A \$3,156.50 N/A 11.22% N/A \$318.50 \$4,676.00 N/A \$5,313.00 N/A 13.62% N/A \$637.00 100,000 150,000 \$6,514.00 N/A \$7,469.50 N/A 14.67% N/A \$955.50 \$8,352.00 N/A \$9,626.00 N/A 15.25% N/A \$1,274.00 200,000 15.63% N/A \$1,592.50 \$10,190.00 N/A \$11,782.50 N/A 250,000 \$13,939.00 15.89% N/A \$1,911.00 300,000 \$12,028.00 N/A N/A \$16,095.50 16.08% N/A \$2,229.50 350,000 \$13,866.00 N/A N/A 400,000 \$15,704.00 N/A \$18,252.00 N/A 16.23% N/A \$2,548.00 \$20,408.50 \$17,542.00 N/A 16.34% N/A \$2,866.50 450,000 N/A 500,000 \$19,380.00 N/A \$22,565.00 N/A 16.43% N/A \$3,185.00

⁻ Bills do not include conservation cost recovery charges, local taxes, franchise fees, or gross receipts taxes.