

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

Myron Lockhart,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
Laclede Gas Company)	<u>File No. GC-2012-0078</u>
)	
and)	
)	
Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren)	
Missouri)	
)	
Respondents.)	

**ORDER DIRECTING CONFERENCE BETWEEN COMPLAINANT
AND THE COMMISSION'S STAFF**

Issue Date: October 25, 2011

Effective Date: October 25, 2011

On September 12, 2011, Myron Lockhart filed a complaint against Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede") and Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri"). Laclede and Ameren Missouri ("Respondents") have answered the complaint. Respondents also filed motions to dismiss.

On October, 3, 2011, Mr. Lockhart was directed to file a more definite statement to clarify his complaint. Mr. Lockhart responded on October 11, 2011. However, it is evident from Respondents' replies, and Staff's Report, that the other parties are still unclear about the precise nature of Mr. Lockhart's allegations, his interest in this matter and the Commission's jurisdiction and authority to hear the case or grant relief.

Staff has recommended the Commission convene a prehearing conference to give Mr. Lockhart another opportunity to clarify his complaint. There is no evidentiary hearing set in this matter, and judicial economy does not warrant a formal, on the record, conference that requires counsel from all parties to attend at this stage in the proceeding. Instead, the Commission will direct its Staff to hold a conference with Mr. Lockhart so that Staff can obtain sufficient information to complete its investigation and provide the Commission with a recommendation as to whether the complaint should proceed.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than November 18, 2011, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and Staff Counsel shall confer with Mr. Lockhart to inquire further into his complaint. The meeting may be in person or telephonic.
2. No later than November 28, 2011, Staff shall file an updated report describing its understanding of Mr. Lockhart's complaint. Staff shall also provide the Commission with a recommendation as to whether the allegations fall within the Commission's jurisdiction and if the Commission has the authority to order any requested relief.
3. No later than December 8, 2011, Laclede Gas Company and Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri shall respond to Staff's updated report.
4. Any other party wishing to respond to Staff's updated report shall file their response no later than December 8, 2011.

5. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Reed', is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary.

Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Harold Stearley, Deputy Chief Regulatory
Law Judge by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 25th day of October, 2011.