BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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USW Local 11-6 Complainant, v. Laclede Gas Company, Respondent.

Case No. GC-2006-0390

STAFF PLEADING IN SUPPORT OF LACLEDE GAS COMPANY'S REQUEST TO MAKE A LIVE DEMONSTRATION OF HOW AN AUTOMATED METER READING DEVICE IS INSTALLED

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and respectfully submits as follows:

1. On August 7, 2006, Laclede Gas Company (Laclede) filed its Request to make a live demonstration of how an automated meter reading device is installed.

2. Staff believes that such a demonstration would greatly assist the Commission in determining the issues in this case. The allegations in the Complaint in this case involve allegation that automated meter reading devices are not being installed properly. A live demonstration of how an automated meter reading device is properly installed would be beneficial to the Commission and to all of the Parties in the case.

3. Accordingly, Staff supports Laclede's Request for such a demonstration. Staff recommends that the demonstration be part of the hearing and record in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Robert V. Franson</u> Robert V. Franson Senior Counsel Missouri Bar No. 34643

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 8th day of August 2006.

/s/ Robert V. Franson