

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Tariff to)
Increase Its Annual Revenues for Natural Gas Service)

File No. GR-2010-0171
Tariff No. YG-2010-0376

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: June 24, 2010

Effective Date: June 24, 2010

The Missouri Public Service Commission is ordering the parties to file procedural suggestions related to *Staff's Motion to Add Parties* ("motion"). On June 21, 2010, Staff filed the *Parties Response to Commission's Order Regarding Procedural Schedule* ("response"), agreed to or unopposed by all parties, stating that the Commission should set the motion for oral argument because it may be necessary despite an earlier continuance.¹ The Commission set such oral argument for July 9, 2010.

But, in both the motion and the response to the motion, Staff and Laclede make allegations that constitute their factual grounds for claims and defenses. For example, Staff alleges that the parties it asks the Commission to join share directors, officers, employees, and resources. Laclede alleges that its affiliates have responded to extensive inquiries on those matters. Support for such allegations is absent. Neither party cites the record, or includes any evidence or any substitute like admissions or stipulations, in support of its allegations. Such allegations are also not the type of which counsel has first-hand knowledge, like the exchange of discovery or the value of attorney fees, to which counsel can testify.

¹ Staff filed the motion with supporting suggestions on May 4, 2010. Laclede filed its opposition on May 14, 2010. The Commission set a date for oral argument on the motion. But the parties asked to continue such date by motion filed on June 9, 2010, and the Commission granted the continuance on that same date. After that, the Commission inquired as to whether the parties desired suspension of the procedural schedule and received status reports in response.

Therefore, the Commission will direct the parties to file suggestions for supplying evidence in support of the facts on which Staff and Laclede rely. The suggestions may be separately or joint. The parties may stipulate to facts, agree on the date for an evidentiary hearing, and offer other alternatives.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than noon, on June 30, 2010, the parties shall file suggestions as described in the body of this order.
2. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Daniel Jordan, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 24th day of June 2010.