

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Donald and Glenda Rose,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. GC-2005-0249</u>
)	
Laclede Gas Company,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

On January 31, 2005, Donald and Glenda Rose filed a complaint against Laclede Gas Company stating that the company billed them for an old debt. Complainant requested that Laclede show proof that the debt is still owed and explain why it took so long to bring it to Complainant's attention.

Laclede filed an answer to the complaint, offering proof that the debt is still owed and an explanation of why it took so long to bring it to Complainant's attention. As part of its answer, Laclede also moved the Commission to dismiss the complaint. On April 13, 2005, the Staff of the Commission filed a memorandum, recommending that the complaint be dismissed. Staff stated that Laclede has not violated any Commission rules and has satisfied Complainant's request for relief.

On April 26, 2005, Complainant filed a letter stating that Laclede has provided Complainant with the account history but not the original bill. Also, Complainant stated that

there are issues remaining that are relevant to the validity of the debt, and requested a hearing.

This matter is now at issue and a prehearing conference and procedural schedule are appropriate to ensure its prompt resolution. At the prehearing conference, the parties or their representatives should be prepared to discuss the nature of any discovery each will conduct and the interval necessary for its completion; the number of witnesses each expects to call at hearing; the number and nature of any exhibits each expects to offer at hearing; and the anticipated length of the hearing. The parties or their representatives should also be prepared to discuss the current status of settlement negotiations. It is expected that the prehearing conference will provide an opportunity for the parties to further pursue settlement discussions.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That a prehearing conference shall be held on May 10, 2005, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The prehearing conference shall be held at the Commission's office in the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri, a building that meets accessibility standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the prehearing. **The parties may elect to participate in the prehearing conference by telephone by dialing 1-573-522-8027.**

2. That this order shall become effective on April 27, 2005.

BY THE COMMISSION

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Kennard L. Jones, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 27th day of April, 2005.