

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

Sheila Bruton,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	<b><u>Case No. GC-2006-0502</u></b>
	)	
Laclede Gas Company,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**ORDER ESTABLISHING A PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Issue Date: September 7, 2006

Effective Date: September 7, 2006

On June 26, 2006, Sheila Bruton filed a complaint with the Commission against Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede"). Laclede filed its answer on July 27, 2006, and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission filed its Report on August 24, 2006.

A prehearing conference was set in this matter to take place on September 5, 2006; however, the prehearing was canceled at the parties' request because they have stated that they have reached a resolution in this matter. Staff's August 24 Report was filed as "Highly Confidential" pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.070(10). Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.085(2) states, in pertinent part: "Pleadings, testimony, or briefs shall not contain highly confidential or proprietary information unless a protective order has been issued by the commission."

Although Staff has not filed a motion for a protective order in conjunction with its Report, the Commission finds that there is a need to protect confidential information, and the

filing of Staff's Report as Highly Confidential is reasonable. The Commission has previously recognized the need to protect confidential information, and protective orders have helped minimize disputes in past cases. Therefore, the Commission concludes that a protective order should be issued.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. A protective order is issued in this matter, and the protective order attached to this order as Attachment A is adopted.
2. This order shall become effective on September 7, 2006.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale  
Secretary

( S E A L )

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 7th day of September 2006.