## OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

| In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Verified   | ) |                       |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| Application for Authority to Issue and Sell First | ) |                       |
| Mortgage Bonds, Unsecured Debt and Preferred      | ) | Case No. GF-2007-0220 |
| Stock, in Connection with a Universal Shelf       | ) |                       |
| Registration Statement, and to Issue Common Stock | ) |                       |
| and Receive Capital Contributions, All in a Total | ) |                       |
| Amount Not to Exceed \$500 Million                | ) |                       |

## **ORDER DIRECTING FILING**

Issue Date: December 21, 2006 Effective Date: December 21, 2006

This order directs the Staff of the Commission to file a pleading informing the Commission when it will file its recommendation in this matter.

On December 15, 2006, Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede") filed a verified application for authority to issue and sell no more than \$350 million in registered securities (including first mortgage bonds, unsecured debt instruments, and preferred stock), and to obtain no more than \$150 million in additional equity capital by issuing common stock and receiving paid-in capital contributions, all in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$500 million. Laclede also asks that the Commission consider and approve the application in sufficient time for Laclede to begin issuing and selling the registered securities and obtaining the equity capital by February 15, 2007, or as soon thereafter as reasonably practicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Laclede's application is filed pursuant to Sections 393.190 and 393.200, RSMo 2000 and Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-2.060 and 4 CSR 240-3.220.

The Commission is waiting for its Staff to file a recommendation before acting on Laclede's application. In light of the February 15, 2007 target date requested by Laclede, the Commission will order its Staff to file a pleading stating when it will file its recommendation as to whether Laclede's application should be approved.

## IT IS ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Staff of the Commission shall, by no later than January 19, 2007, file a pleading informing the Commission when it will file its recommendation in this matter.
  - 2. This order shall become effective on December 21, 2006.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Benjamin H. Lane, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 21st day of December, 2006.