

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

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's
Request for Waiver of Rule 4.020(2) for
Upcoming ISRS Case Filings

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File No. GE-2017-0193

ORDER GRANTING WAIVER AND DESIGNATING FILE FOR ISRS FILINGS

Issue Date: January 27, 2017

Effective Date: January 27, 2017

On January 16, 2017, Laclede Gas Company filed a notice of its intention to make its next ISRS filing. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.020(2) requires regulated entities to file such a notice at least 60 days before filing what is likely to be a contested case. Laclede asks the Commission to waive a portion of the 60-day requirement to allow it to make its ISRS filing on February 1, 2017. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.020(2)(B) allows the Commission to grant such a waiver upon a showing of good cause.

In response to Laclede's motion, the Commission directed that any party wishing to respond do so by January 26. On that date, the Office of the Public Counsel filed a response indicating it does not object to the requested waiver in these circumstances. Public Counsel explains its belief that the 60-day notice is necessary to ensure that improper ex parte communications about ISRS issues do not take place before an application is filed. Laclede already has an ISRS petition before the Commission in File No. GO-2016-0333, and so as long as that file is open, the ex parte communication protections regarding ISRS issues will be in place. Public Counsel is concerned that if GO-2016-0333 were to be closed before Laclede files its next ISRS petition; there could be an ex parte protection gap.

To avoid the possibility of such a gap occurring, the Commission has opened a new GO file to contain Laclede's next ISRS filing. Laclede's notice of intended case filing will be added to that file. That way the ex parte protections will remain in place even if GO-2016-0333 were closed before Laclede makes its ISRS filing.

The Commission finds that Laclede has shown good cause to grant its request for waiver of the 60-day filing requirement, and the Commission will grant the requested waiver.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Laclede Gas Company's request for waiver of rule 4 CSR 240-4.020(2) is granted and the company may file its next ISRS petition when it is ready to do so.
2. When Laclede Gas Company files its next ISRS petition it shall do so in File No. GO-2017-0202.
3. This order shall be effective when issued.
4. This file shall be closed.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 27th day of January, 2017.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 27th day of January 2017.




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

January 27, 2017

File/Case No. GE-2017-0193

**Missouri Public Service
Commission**

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.