BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Joint Application of Fidelity Natural Gas, Inc., and Laclede Gas Company for an Order Authorizing the Sale and Transfer of Certain Assets of Fidelity Natural Gas, Inc., Located in Missouri to Laclede Gas Company and Either Authorizing the Transfer of Existing Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity or Granting a New Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Laclede Gas Company in Conjunction with Same

Case No. GM-2006-0183

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: February 17, 2006

Effective Date: February 17, 2006

On February 14, 2006, a letter from the Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition was received by the Commission. Under 4 CSR 240-4.020(8), when such communication, whether oral or written, occurs outside the hearing process, a written report concerning the communication must be submitted to the Commission and the parties. A report describing the communication was filed in this case on February 17, 2006.

The Commission will direct the parties to respond to the allegations in the ex parte letter received by the Commission.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The parties shall file a response to the letter filed with the Notice of Ex Parte Contact by 4:00 p.m. on February 21, 2006.

2. That this order shall become effective on February 17, 2006.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Steven C. Reed, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 17th day of February, 2006.