STATE OF MISSOURI			
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION			
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS			
Procedural Conference			
August 2, 2018			
Jefferson City, Missouri			
Volume 1			
DAVID APTED, Complainant, v. LACLEDE GAS COMPANY, Respondent. MI CHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE			
REPORTED BY: Beverly Jean Bentch, CCR No. 640 TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC			

APPEARANCES 1 2 MICHAEL C. PENDERGAST, Attorney at Law 423 South Main Street 3 St. Charles, Missouri 63301 314. 288. 8723 4 FOR: Laclede Gas Company 5 JEFFREY A. KEEVIL, Deputy Counsel WHITNEY PAYNE, Assistant Staff Counsel 6 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 7 PO Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360 8 573.751.4140 FOR: Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission 9 Participating without counsel: David Apted 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 2

> TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC 573.999.2662 www.tigercr.com

GC-2017-0348

PROCEEDINGS 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: We're on the record. Today 3 is August 2, 2018. It's 2:30 p.m. The Commission has 4 set this time for a Procedural Conference in the case 5 captioned as David Apted, Complainant v. Laclede Gas 6 Company, Respondent, File No. GC-2017-0348. 7 My name is Michael Bushmann. I'm the 8 Regulatory Law Judge that's been assigned to this 9 matter. We'll begin with attorneys making their entries 10 of appearance. 11 Mr. Apted, am I correct that you're going to 12 be representing yourself in this matter? 13 MR. APTED: No, that is incorrect. I have 14 hired legal counsel. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you know if that attorney 16 is going to be appearing today? 17 MR. APTED: He will not. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. 19 MR. APTED: I mean, we can get into that later 20 It's just me today. on. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Thank you. And 22 appearing for Laclede Gas Company, otherwise known as 23 Spire Missouri? 24 MR. PENDERGAST: Michael C. Pendergast. My 25 business address is 423 South Main Street, St. Charles,

Missouri, 63301. 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Commission staff? 3 MR. KEEVIL: Appearing on behalf of the Commission staff, Jeffrey A. Keevil and Whitney Payne, 4 5 200 Madison Street, Jeff City, Missouri. 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And for the record there's no 7 appearance by the Office of Public Counsel. 8 As far as preliminary matters, I would like 9 staff to file on behalf of the parties a proposed 10 procedural schedule no later than August 9, and that should just include the regular matters that are usually 11 12 included in procedural schedules. Since Mr. Apted does 13 not have an attorney right now but may have one in the 14 future, you may want to have a conversation about 15 whether or not prefiled testimony is going to be 16 necessary or whether we can just go ahead and do live 17 testimony at the evidentiary hearing. I don't have a 18 strong preference. 19 This case may be one that would be suitable 20 for live testimony. The parties might want to talk 21 about that. Mr. Apted, just for your information, just 22 to let you know what I'm talking about here, a 23 procedural schedule, which I've asked staff to file on 24 behalf of all the parties, is simply a list of the 25 deadlines or dates when certain things would be filed

1	and due in the case so that we have a schedule that				
2	would lead up to an evidentiary hearing if necessary.				
3	And that's something that once we go off the record and				
4	I leave the room, then the parties will be able to talk				
5	about and decide what you would like to propose as far				
6	as dates. Did you have any questions about that?				
7	MR. APTED: I do not. I understand.				
8	MR. KEEVIL: Judge, I've got a He's				
9	certainly by all means entitled to hire an attorney; but				
10	if he's going to get an attorney, I see a problem				
11	getting a procedural schedule hammered out by a week				
12	from today.				
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You think you need a little				
14	more time?				
15	MR. KEEVIL: Yeah, because I mean, once his				
16	attorney comes in, he's going to obviously				
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. Apted, do you know when				
18	your attorney is going to start representing you?				
19	MR. APTED: I was expecting a call back from				
20	him today. I just hired the attorney a few weeks ago.				
21	I'm assuming he's going to be asking for some more time				
22	as well.				
23	MR. PENDERGAST: Judge, maybe this is a good				
24	time for me to go ahead and kind of update everybody.				
25	We have had a chance to talk, we meaning Spire Missouri				

1 and Mr. Apted. We went through a mediation process in 2 this case and as a result of that mediation process we 3 reached an agreement in principle to resolve the issues 4 in this complaint. I have since talked to Mr. Apted, 5 and he wants to go ahead and make sure that his attorney 6 is okay with that settlement agreement. And pending 7 that review, it would be our hope to be able to go ahead 8 and file a motion to dismiss on the grounds that we've 9 resolved this matter.

10 I understand that Mr. Apted's attorney still 11 needs to take a look at it. And so before we establish 12 a procedural schedule, I would suggest that within two 13 weeks we either file a motion to dismiss or indicate 14 that things fell apart and we will need to go ahead and do a procedural schedule and, you know, on the advice of 15 16 the staff and Mr. Apted's attorney give you a date 17 certain for when we would be able to file that 18 procedural schedule.

19 If that kind of an approach works for you, you
20 know, hopefully we'll be able to go ahead and get this
21 matter resolved and there won't be a need for a
22 procedural schedule. Dave, does that kind of reflect
23 where you're at today?

24 MR. APTED: Not exactly in those terms, Mike. 25 I'd like to push back a little bit on that. I am not in

1 agreement with anything that we had discussed before. I 2 don't want to be on the record of being in agreement of 3 anything as of right now before I do speak to my 4 counsel. I'd like to go forward either a continuance or 5 some kind of a delay in procedural schedule until I have 6 time to get back with my attorney and really hammer this 7 out. 8 MR. PENDERGAST: That's fine, Dave. You know, 9 I thought that you were basically okay with the 10 agreement pending discussing it with your counsel. And 11 if you want to go ahead and say we don't have an 12 agreement yet, you know, we're willing to go ahead and 13 go a couple of more weeks. If we don't have an 14 agreement that we can file by then, then I think we need 15 to move forward with a procedural schedule and get this 16 matter resolved. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Why don't we do this. 18 You think two weeks is sufficient for you to make a 19 determination about whether or not you're going to need 20 a procedural schedule? 21 MR. APTED: Judge, I'm actually out of town 22 the week of the 13th for some business. If we could 23 push that to either the third or fourth week of the 24 month preferably, that would be great. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What about the 23rd? That's

1 three weeks from today. 2 MR. APTED: That would be fine, I think. JUDGE BUSHMANN: 3 Mr. Pendergast, does that 4 work for you? 5 MR. PENDERGAST: That works for me, Judge. 6 The only other thing that I want to, you know, put on 7 the record at this point is under the Commission's rules 8 you are permitted to collect half of the disputed amount 9 if you, you know, have a complaint of this nature and, 10 you know, if we can't reach an agreement, you know, 11 which I thought we really already had, then we will want 12 to move forward and collect that half of the amount that 13 was owed. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Well, I'm going to 15 discuss that in just a minute. Let's get the filing 16 deadline figured out first. 17 MR. PENDERGAST: That's fine. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Why don't we make it the 23rd 19 for a proposed procedural schedule and then if you reach 20 an agreement with Mr. Apted before then, then you can 21 file your notice of dismissal and we won't need to have 22 a proposed procedural schedule. I just ask you to keep 23 in contact with staff and counsel and make sure that 24 they know whether or not this is actually going to 25 settle or not so that they --

1	MR. KEEVIL: I was going to say, Judge, and				
2	I've been in this situation before, not with Spire so				
3	much but other companies, and when you put the burden on				
4	staff to file something that may or may not be				
5	necessary, which is completely out of staff's control,				
6	it kind of puts us over a barrel.				
7	I suspect Mr. Pendergast We're going to				
8	have to talk about the schedule anyway if we're going to				
9	need a schedule. But we won't know whether we need a				
10	schedule until Spire and Mr. Apted's attorney have their				
11	di scussi ons.				
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: What are you proposing?				
13	MR. KEEVIL: I was going to propose that				
14	either the complainant or respondent have the burden of				
15	filing the actual procedural schedule.				
16	MR. PENDERGAST: Judge, we're fine with				
17	undertaking that burden if we cannot file a notice of				
18	dismissal prior to the 23rd.				
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: That works for me.				
20	MR. PENDERGAST: We will go ahead and file a				
21	proposed procedural schedule on that date after				
22	consultation with the parties and if for whatever reason				
23	we can't reach a unanimous, you know, decision on what				
24	that procedural schedule shall be, we'll certainly note				
25	that and other parties will be free to propose an				

alternative on that date. 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I have no problem with that. 3 Spire Missouri can then file that on the 23rd if it's 4 going to be necessary. 5 MR. PENDERGAST: Okay, great. 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The other thing that you 7 brought up was your request in the amended answer that 8 Mr. Apted pay one-half of the amount at issue pending a 9 resolution of the case. And under Commission Rule 10 13.045, it states that when a customer disputes a charge and the parties can't agree on the amount not in 11 12 dispute, the customer must pay to the utility the lesser 13 of up to 50 percent of the amount in dispute or an 14 amount based on usage during a similar period of time. 15 However, under that rule the remedy for the 16 utility if the customer does not pay that amount is 17 discontinuance of service, not an order from the 18 Commission ordering or requiring that payment. And the 19 Commission, since it's not a court of law and doesn't 20 have any equitable powers, for those reasons I'm going 21 to deny Laclede Gas' request to require that payment. MR. PENDERGAST: Yes, and I understand your 22 23 reasoning perfectly, Judge, and it seems to me that the 24 appropriate way to approach is if we can't reach an 25 agreement and submit a notice of dismissal by that time,

it will be up to us to, you know, tell the complainant 1 2 that we need \$950 and if we don't then discontinuance of 3 service is the remedy. 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I think that's appropriate 5 under the rule. Any other parties have anything else 6 that needs to be addressed at this point? 7 MR. KEEVIL: No. 8 MR. APTED: Can you state that rule one more 9 time? 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes. It's 4 -- Do you have 11 something to write down with? 12 MR. APTED: Yes, go ahead. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: 4 CSR 240-13.045. 14 MR. APTED: Got it. Thank you. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Anything else, 16 Mr. Apted, that you need to discuss today while we're on 17 the record? 18 MR. APTED: No. 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I guess that's it. We're 20 going to go off the record. And I brought a copy of the 21 adjudication calendar for the rest of the year I'm 22 leaving with staff so that you can talk about dates, and the phone bridge will be available until 4:30. 23 We're 24 off the record. Thank you very much. 25 (Off the record.)

> TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC www.tigercr.com 573.999.2662

1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER				
2					
3	I, Beverly Jean Bentch, RPR, CCR No. 640,				
4	Certified Court Reporter with the firm of Tiger Court				
5	Reporting, LLC, within the State of Missouri, do hereby				
6	certify that I was personally present at the proceedings				
7	had in the above-entitled cause at the time and place				
8	set forth in the caption sheet thereof; that I then and				
9	there took down in Stenotype the proceedings had; and				
10	that the foregoing is a full, true and correct				
11	transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at such time				
12	and place.				
13					
14	Beverly Jean Bentch				
15	Beverly Jean Bentch, CCR No. 640				
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					
	12				

		1	I	I
A	9:10	<u> </u>	continuance 7:4	9:18 10:25
able 5:4 6:7,17	asked 4:23	C 2:1,2 3:1,24	control 9:5	dispute 10:12,13
6:20	asking 5:21	calendar 11:21	conversation	disputed 8:8
above-entitled	assigned 3:8	call 5:19	4:14	disputes 10:10
12:7	Assistant 2:6	caption 12:8	copy 11:20	due 5:1
actual 9:15	assuming 5:21	captioned 3:5	correct 3:11	
address 3:25	attorney 2:2	case 3:4 4:19 5:1	12:10	E
addressed 11:6	3:15 4:13 5:9	6:2 10:9	counsel 2:5,6,9	E 2:1,1 3:1,1
adjudication	5:10,16,18,20	cause 12:7	3:14 4:7 7:4,10	either 6:13 7:4
11:21	6:5,10,16 7:6	CCR 1:23 12:3	8:23	7:23 9:14
advice 6:15	9:10	12:15	couple 7:13	entitled 5:9
ago 5:20	attorneys 3:9	certain 4:25	court 1:24 10:19	entries 3:9
agree 10:11	August 1:7 3:3	6:17	12:4,4	equitable 10:20
agreement 6:3,6	4:10	certainly 5:9	CSR 11:13	establish 6:11
7:1,2,10,12,14	available 11:23	9:24	customer 10:10	everybody 5:24
8:10,20 10:25		CERTIFICATE	10:12,16	evidentiary 4:17
ahead 4:16 5:24	B	12:1		5:2
6:5,7,14,20	back 5:19 6:25	Certified 12:4	D	exactly 6:24
7:11,12 9:20	7:6	certify 12:6	D 3:1	expecting 5:19
11:12 9.20	barrel 9:6	chance 5:25	date 6:16 9:21	
	based 10:14		10:1	F
alternative 10:1	basically 7:9	charge 10:10	dates 4:25 5:6	far 4:8 5:5
amended 10:7	behalf 4:3,9,24	Charles 2:3 3:25	11:22	fell 6:14
amount 8:8,12	Bentch 1:23	City 1:8 2:7 4:5	Dave 6:22 7:8	figured 8:16
10:8,11,13,14	12:3,15	collect 8:8,12	David 1:13 2:9	file 1:15 3:6 4:9
10:16	Beverly 1:23	comes 5:16	3:5	4:23 6:8,13,17
answer 10:7	12:3,15	Commission 1:2	deadline 8:16	7:14 8:21 9:4
anyway 9:8	bit 6:25	2:8 3:3 4:2,4	deadlines 4:25	9:17,20 10:3
apart 6:14	Box 2:7	10:9,18,19	decide 5:5	filed 4:25
appearance 3:10	bridge 11:23	Commission's	decision 9:23	filing 8:15 9:15
4:7	brought 10:7	8:7	delay 7:5	fine 7:8 8:2,17
appearing 3:16	11:20	companies 9:3	deny 10:21	9:16
3:22 4:3	burden 9:3,14	Company 1:16	Deputy 2:5	firm 12:4
approach 6:19	9:17	2:4 3:6,22	determination	first 8:16
10:24	Bushmann 1:19	complainant	7:19	foregoing 12:10
appropriate	3:2,7,15,18,21	1:14 3:5 9:14	discontinuance	forth 12:8
10:24 11:4	4:2,6 5:13,17	11:1	10:17 11:2	forward 7:4,15
Apted 1:13 2:9	7:17,25 8:3,14	complaint 6:4	discuss 8:15	8:12
3:5,11,13,17	8:18 9:12,19	8:9	11:16	fourth 7:23
3:19 4:12,21	10:2,6 11:4,10	completely 9:5	discussed 7:1	free 9:25
5:7,17,19 6:1,4	11:13,15,19	Conference 1:6	discussing 7:10	full 12:10
6:24 7:21 8:2	business 3:25	3:4	discussions 9:11	future 4:14
8:20 10:8 11:8	7:22	consultation	dismiss 6:8,13	
11:12,14,16,18	1.44	9:22	dismissal 8:21	G
Apted's 6:10,16		contact 8:23	GIGHHOGH 0.21	G 3:1
		I	I	

	1	1	1	
Gas 1:16 2:4 3:5	Jeff 4:5	Madison 2:6 4:5	10:5 11:15	problem 5:10
3:22	Jefferson 1:8 2:7	Main 2:3 3:25	once 5:3,15	10:2
Gas' 10:21	Jeffrey 2:5 4:4	making 3:9	one-half 10:8	procedural 1:6
GC-2017-0348	Judge 1:19 3:2,8	matter 3:9,12	order 10:17	3:4 4:10,12,23
1:15 3:6	3:15,18,21 4:2	6:9,21 7:16	ordering 10:18	5:11 6:12,15
getting 5:11	4:6 5:8,13,17	matters 4:8,11	owed 8:13	6:18,22 7:5,15
give 6:16	5:23 7:17,21	mean 3:19 5:15		7:20 8:19,22
go 4:16 5:3,24	7:25 8:3,5,14	meaning 5:25	$\frac{\mathbf{P}}{\mathbf{P}}$	9:15,21,24
6:5,7,14,20 7:4	8:18 9:1,12,16	means 5:9	P 2:1,1 3:1	proceedings 1:5
7:11,12,13	9:19 10:2,6,23	mediation 6:1,2	p.m 3:3	12:6,9
9:20 11:12,20	11:4,10,13,15	Michael 1:19	Participating	process 6:1,2
going 3:11,16	11:19	2:2 3:7,24	2:9	propose 5:5 9:13
4:15 5:10,16		Mike 6:24	parties 4:9,20,24	9:25
5:18,21 7:19	<u> </u>	minute 8:15	5:4 9:22,25	proposed 4:9
8:14,24 9:1,7,8	keep 8:22	Missouri 1:1,8	10:11 11:5	8:19,22 9:21
9:13 10:4,20	Keevil 2:5 4:3,4	2:3,7,8 3:23	pay 10:8,12,16	proposing 9:12
11:20	5:8,15 9:1,13	4:1,5 5:25 10:3	payment 10:18	Public 1:2 2:8
good 5:23	11:7	12:5	10:21	4:7
great 7:24 10:5	kind 5:24 6:19	month 7:24	Payne 2:6 4:4	push 6:25 7:23
grounds 6:8	6:22 7:5 9:6	motion 6:8,13	Pendergast 2:2	put 8:6 9:3
guess 11:19	know 3:15 4:22	move 7:15 8:12	3:24,24 5:23	puts 9:6
	5:17 6:15,20		7:8 8:3,5,17	
<u> </u>	7:8,12 8:6,9,10	<u> </u>	9:7,16,20 10:5	Q
half 8:8,12	8:10,24 9:9,23	N 2:1 3:1	10:22	questions 5:6
hammer 7:6	11:1	name 3:7	pending 6:6	R
hammered 5:11	known 3:22	nature 8:9	7:10 10:8	
hearing 4:17 5:2	L	necessary 4:16	percent 10:13	R 2:1 3:1
hire 5:9		5:2 9:5 10:4	perfectly 10:23	reach 8:10,19
hired 3:14 5:20	Laclede 1:16 2:4	need 5:13 6:14	period 10:14	9:23 10:24
hope 6:7	3:5,22 10:21	6:21 7:14,19	permitted 8:8	reached 6:3
hopefully 6:20	law 1:19 2:2 3:8	8:21 9:9,9 11:2	personally 12:6	really 7:6 8:11
	10:19	11:16	phone 11:23	reason 9:22
	lead 5:2	needs 6:11 11:6	place 12:7,12	reasoning 10:23
include 4:11	leave 5:4	note 9:24	PO 2:7	reasons 10:20
included 4:12	leaving 11:22	notes 12:11	point 8:7 11:6	record 3:2 4:6
incorrect 3:13	legal 3:14	notice 8:21 9:17	powers 10:20	5:3 7:2 8:7
indicate 6:13	lesser 10:12	10:25	preferably 7:24	11:17,20,24,25
information	Let's 8:15		preference 4:18	reflect 6:22
4:21	list 4:24	0	prefiled 4:15	regular 4:11
issue 10:8	little 5:13 6:25	O 3:1	preliminary 4:8	Regulatory 1:19
issues 6:3	live 4:16,20	obviously 5:16	present 12:6	3:8
т	LLC 1:24 12:5	Office 4:7	Presiding 1:19	remedy 10:15
$\frac{\mathbf{J}}{\mathbf{L}}$	look 6:11	okay 3:18 6:6	principle 6:3	11:3
Jean 1:23 12:3		7:9,17 8:14	prior 9:18	REPORTED
12:15	M		`	
	1	1	1	1

	I	1	1	
1:23	simply 4:24	7:18 8:2 11:4	7:23	5
Reporter 12:1,4	situation 9:2	third 7:23	weeks 5:20 6:13	50 10:13
Reporting 1:24	South 2:3 3:25	thought 7:9 8:11	7:13,18 8:1	573.751.4140
12:5	speak 7:3	three 8:1	went 6:1	2:8
representing	Spire 3:23 5:25	Tiger 1:24 12:4	Whitney 2:6 4:4	2.0
3:12 5:18	9:2,10 10:3	time 3:4 5:14,21	willing 7:12	6
request 10:7,21	St 2:3 3:25	5:24 7:6 10:14	work 8:4	63301 2:3 4:1
require 10:21	staff 2:6,8 4:2,4	10:25 11:9	works 6:19 8:5	640 1:23 12:3,15
requiring 10:18	4:9,23 6:16	12:7,11	9:19	65102-0360 2:7
resolution 10:9	8:23 9:4 11:22	today 3:2,16,20	write 11:11	
resolve 6:3	staff's 9:5	5:12,20 6:23		7
resolved 6:9,21	start 5:18	8:1 11:16	X	
7:16	state 1:1 11:8	town 7:21		8
respondent 1:17	12:5	transcript 1:5	Y	800 2:6
3:6 9:14	states 10:10	12:11	Yeah 5:15	9
rest 11:21	Stenotype 12:9	true 12:10	year 11:21	
result 6:2	12:11	two 6:12 7:18	Z	9 4:10 950 11:2
review 6:7	Street 2:3,6 3:25			95011:2
right 3:21 4:13	4:5	U	0	
7:3	strong 4:18	unanimous 9:23		
room 5:4	submit 10:25	understand 5:7	1	
RPR 12:3	sufficient 7:18	6:10 10:22	1 1:9	
rule 10:9,15	suggest 6:12	undertaking	13.045 10:10	
11:5,8	suitable 4:19	9:17	13th 7:22	
rules 8:7	Suite 2:6	update 5:24		
	sure 6:5 8:23	usage 10:14	2	
S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	suspect 9:7	usually 4:11	2 1:7 3:3	
S 2:1 3:1		utility 10:12,16	2:30 3:3	
schedule 4:10,23		V	200 2:6 4:5	
5:1,11 6:12,15	take 6:11	v 1:15 3:5	2018 1:7 3:3	
6:18,22 7:5,15	talk 4:20 5:4,25	Volume 1:9	23rd 7:25 8:18	
7:20 8:19,22	9:8 11:22	volume 1.9	9:18 10:3	
9:8,9,10,15,21	talked 6:4	W	240-13.045	
9:24	talking 4:22	want 4:14,20 7:2	11:13	
schedules 4:12	tell 11:1 terms 6:24	7:11 8:6,11	3	
see 5:10		wants 6:5	314.288.8723	
SENIOR 1:19 service 1:2 2:8	testimony 4:15 4:17,20	way 10:24	2:4	
10:17 11:3	Thank 3:21 4:2	we'll 3:9 6:20	360 2:7	
set 3:4 12:8	11:14,24	9:24		
set 12.8 settle 8:25	thereof 12:8	we're 3:2 7:12	4	
settlement 6:6	thing 8:6 10:6	9:7,8,16 11:16	4 11:10,13	
sheet 12:8	things 4:25 6:14	11:19,23	4:30 11:23	
similar 10:14	think 5:13 7:14	we've 6:8	423 2:3 3:25	
		week 5:11 7:22		
L	1	1	I	1