

DFC 0 2 2005

## Notice of Ex Parte Contact

Missouri Public Service Commission

TO:

Data Center

All Parties in Case No. GE/2005-0405

FROM:

Chairman Jeff Davis

DATE:

December 2, 2005



On November 28, 2005 I received the attached letter from Marcia Jones regarding Laclede Gas. The Commission is currently considering the issues discussed in this document in cases GE-2005-0405, which is a contested cases. In contested cases, the Commission is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

Although communications from members of the public and members of the legislature are always welcome, those communications must be made known to all parties to a contested case so that those parties have the opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4.020(8)), when a communication (either oral or written) occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to each member of the Commission and the parties to the case. The report shall identify the person(s) who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the circumstances which resulted in the communication, the substance of the communication, and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, I submit this report pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments contained therein.

ce: Commissioners

Executive Director Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

General Counsel

212 Millwell Drive

Maryland Heights, MO 63043-2512

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November 21, 2005

Mr. Jeff Davis, Chairman Missouri Public Service Commission Governor Office Building P.O. Box 360 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Re:

Laclede Gas Company

Relief from obligations

Dear Mr. Davis:

Attached is a copy of Resolution 2005-825, urging the Commission to reject the request by Laclede Gas Company for relief from its obligations to Missouri consumers. This resolution was unanimously passed by the Maryland Heights City Council at their regular meeting of November 17.

Sincerely

Marcia L. Jones, CMC/MRCC

City Clerk

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2005-825**

## A RESOLUTION URGING THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO REJECT THE REQUEST BY LACLEDE GAS COMPANY FOR RELIEF FROM ITS OBLIGATIONS TO MISSOURI CONSUMERS

WHEREAS, Laclede Gas Company is the sole provider of natural gas service to both residential and commercial consumers within the City of Maryland Heights, Missouri as well as to the overall community of St. Louis County; and

WHEREAS, there have been various explosions within St. Louis County which were caused by faulty natural gas facilities; and

WHEREAS, Laclede Gas employees have frequently detected potentially dangerous gas appliances while making safety inspections, annual reads, testing of meters, etc., and

WHEREAS, Laclede Gas Company has recently requested that the Missouri Public Service Commission relieve the Company of some of its obligations to conduct inspections, perform meter sampling, etc., and

WHEREAS, these proposed changes will negatively affect the safety of consumers, their homes and businesses within the City of Maryland Heights, Missouri and the overall community of St. Louis County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Maryland Heights, Missouri as follows:

RESOLVED, that the City Council urges the Missouri Public Service Commission to reject the request by Laclede Gas Company for relief from its obligations to Missouri consumers.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is directed to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the Missouri Public Service Commission.

, PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2005.

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Mayor/Presiding Officer

ATTEST: