

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Tariff) **Case No. GR-2007-0208**
to Revise Natural Gas Rate Schedules.) Tariff No. YG-2007-0384

In the Matter of the Application of Laclede Gas)
Company for an Accounting Authority Order)
Authorizing the Company to Defer for Future) **Case No. GU-2007-0137**
Recovery the Costs of Complying With the)
Emergency Amendment to the Commission's)
Cold Weather Rule.)

ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES

Issue Date: March 14, 2007

Effective Date: March 14, 2007

On March 8, 2007, Laclede Gas Company filed a motion to consolidate the above-captioned cases. Case No. GR-2007-0208 is Laclede's tariff filing proposing to increase rates for natural gas service. Case No. GU-2007-0137 concerns Laclede's application for an accounting authority order (AAO).

In support of the motion, Laclede relates that in December 2006 the Commission issued an AAO in GU-2007-0137 which granted Laclede authority to defer for future recovery the costs incurred by the Company to comply with the emergency amendment to the Commission's Cold Weather Rule. Laclede states that the costs being deferred in connection with the AAO relate to the same winter period that is also included in the test year being used to establish rates in the rate case. Laclede submits that as a result of this overlap, the two cases are pending actions that "involve related questions of law and fact" within the meaning of 4 CSR 240-2.110(3). Laclede believes that the cases should be consolidated so that such costs can be reviewed and their recovery addressed in the

testimony and hearings to be held in the rate case, thus allowing the parties to use their resources more efficiently by avoiding separate proceedings for the two cases.

Laclede states that none of the other parties object to the consolidation, including a waiver of the requirement for a separate proceeding under the provisions of 4 CSR 240-13.055(14)G.2.

Commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.110(3) allows the Commission to consolidate pending actions involving related questions of law or fact. The Commission has considered Laclede's Motion to Consolidate Cases and finds that the issues in GU-2007-0137 and GR-2007-0208 are related and that it is reasonable to consolidate the cases for all purposes. Case No. GR-2007-0208 shall be designated as the lead case and hereafter, all pleadings filed in the consolidated case shall be filed only in GR-2007-0208.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Case Nos. GR-2007-0208 and GU-2007-0137 are consolidated. Case No. GR-2007-0208 is designated as the lead case.
2. This order shall become effective on March 14, 2007.

(S E A L)

BY THE COMMISSION



Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

Nancy Dippell, Deputy Chief Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 14th day of March, 2007.