

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

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Verified )	
Application for Authority to Issue and Sell First )	
Mortgage Bonds, Unsecured Debt and Preferred )	
Stock in Connection with a Universal Shelf )	
Registration Statement, to Issue Common Stock and )	<b>Case No. GF-2009-0450</b>
Receive Capital Contributions, to issue or accept )	
Private Placement Securities, and to Enter Into )	
Capital Leases, all in a Total Amount Not to )	
Exceed \$600 Million )	

**STAFF RESPONSE TO ORDER DIRECTING FILING**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) and states as follows:

1. On June 30, 2009, Laclede Gas Company (Laclede or Company) filed its application with the Commission seeking permission to issue some \$600,000,000 in various securities and to pledge its Missouri operating assets as collateral.

2. On July 2, 2009, the Commission issued its Order Directing Filing ordering the Staff to file its Recommendation regarding this matter no later than July 31, 2009.

3. Staff wishes to inform the Commission that it has already issued several data requests and anticipates issuing several more. Because Staff will need time to review Company responses and to determine whether more discovery is needed, Staff requests Commission permission to file a status report on July 31, 2009 informing the Commission when it intends to file its recommendation.

4. Staff notes that Laclede currently has authority to issue financing under the Commission's previous authority granted to the Company in finance case GF-2007-0220. That authority does not expire until February 15, 2010.

WHEREFORE, for the above stated reasons, the Staff respectfully requests the Commission modify its July 2<sup>nd</sup> Order and direct Staff to file a status report no later than July 31, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**

Robert S. Berlin  
Senior Counsel  
Missouri Bar No. 51709

Attorney for the Staff of the  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P. O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 526-7779 (Telephone)  
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)  
email: [bob.berlin@psc.mo.gov](mailto:bob.berlin@psc.mo.gov)

### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 7th day of July 2009.

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**