

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

In the Matter of Class Action Claims by)	
Missouri Natural Gas Distribution)	
Companies In the NYMEX Natural Gas)	Case No. GO-2006-0449
Lawsuit)	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Commission and for its Recommendation that this case may be closed states as follows:

1. On May 25, 2006, the Commission issued its Show Cause Order in this case requiring Missouri local distribution companies to notify the Commission whether they had engaged in trades on the NYMEX that would qualify them to participate in a class action case in the Federal District Court for Southern New York.

2. The action was originally filed on August 18, 2003, on behalf of a class of traders in NYMEX natural gas futures and options contracts who claimed to have been damaged by manipulation of the price of NYMEX natural gas cash futures and options contracts by reporting inaccurate, misleading and false trading information to trade publications like *Platts* and *IFERC*.

3. The Plaintiffs filed this lawsuit on behalf of all persons who purchased, sold or settled natural gas contracts on the NYMEX between June 1, 1999 and December 31, 2002.

4. The lawsuit is pending in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, *In Re Natural Gas Commodity Litigation*, Master File No. 03 CV 6186 (VM).

5. As a result of the Commission's Show Cause Order, Missouri's natural gas distribution companies made filings to report whether they qualified as potential claimants in this action.

6. Only Laclede Gas Company determined that it might qualify as a claimant and notified the Commission that it would present a claim.

7. This case may be closed. Laclede, however, should be directed to immediately inform the Commission of any proceeds that it receives as a result of this class action settlement.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell

Lera L. Shemwell
Deputy General Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 43792

Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-7431 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)
E-mail: lera.shemwell@psc.mo.gov

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or emailed to all counsel of record this 21st day of August, 2006.

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell