

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office in  
Jefferson City on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of  
February, 2011.

In the Matter of the Verified Application of )  
Laclede Gas Company for an Order Establishing )  
Replacement Requirements for the Final Phase )  
Of its Soft Copper Service Line Replacement )  
Program Previously Approved Pursuant to Case )  
No. GO-99-155. )

**File No. GS-2008-0038**

**ORDER ACCEPTING STAFF'S STATUS REPORT AND DIRECTING  
FURTHER RESPONSE**

Issue Date: February 4, 2011

Effective Date: February 4, 2011

This case concerns Laclede Gas Company's ongoing efforts to replace its existing soft copper service lines. On December 14, 2010, Staff reported that since 1999, Laclede has replaced over 81,000 copper service lines. Laclede has nearly completed the replacement program, but has thus far been unable to replace service lines at twelve addresses at which the company has a record of the existence of a soft copper service line, but where no structure remains.

Laclede has been able to discover the location of seven of those service lines and reports they will be properly abandoned by April 1, 2011. Laclede has been unable to determine the exact location of the remaining five service lines and it does not know whether those lines continue to exist. Those five lines may have been abandoned years ago, with no existing record of that abandonment. Laclede believes those five remaining service lines may be located within a one or two block length along the main, but those

mains are under pavement and it will be difficult to strip the cover off the mains to locate the service lines, or determine that the lines no longer exist.

Staff recommends the Commission order Laclede to conduct leak surveys over the twelve remaining copper service lines before April 1, 2011, and annually thereafter over the mains to which the five unlocated service lines may be attached, until all the service lines are properly located and abandoned. Staff further indicates it will provide the Commission with an end-of-program update and any necessary recommendations no later than April 30, 2011.

More than ten days have passed since Staff filed its status report and no party has responded to that report. The Commission will adopt the recommendations offered by Staff.

#### **THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. Laclede Gas Company shall conduct a leak survey between now and April 1, 2011, over the seven copper service lines where it knows their location or approximate location.
2. Laclede Gas Company shall conduct a leak survey between now and April 1, 2011, over the main for a 1-2 block length at the five main sections where copper service lines may exist, but where their location cannot be determined. Laclede Gas Company shall conduct such a leak survey each year until it determines the location and proper abandonment of such service lines.
3. Staff shall provide the Commission with an end-of-program update and any necessary recommendations no later than April 30, 2011.

4. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



Steven C. Reed  
Secretary

(S E A L)

Clayton, Chm., Davis, Jarrett, Gunn,  
and Kenney, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge