

1 STATE OF MISSOURI
2 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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5 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
6 Public Hearing
7 June 12, 2007
8 St. Charles, Missouri
9 Volume 7
10 In the Matter of)
Laclede Gas Company) Case No. GR-2007-0208, et al.
11 Company's Tariff to)
Revise Gas Rate)
12 Schedules.)
13
14 COLLEEN M. DALE, Presiding,
DEPUTY CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
15 CONNIE MURRAY,
LINWARD "LIN" APPLING,
16 COMMISSIONERS
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19 REPORTED BY: Sheila Field, CCR NO. 1226
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1 APPEARANCES:

2 Laclede Gas Counsel:

3 Mr. Rick Zucker

4 Mr. Michael Pendergast

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6 Office of the Public Counsel:

7 Mr. Michael Dandino

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9 Public Service Commission Staff:

10 Mr. Gregg Ochoa

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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 JUDGE DALE: We are here today, June 12, 2007
3 in Case No. GR-2007-0280 in the matter of Laclede Gas
4 Company's Tariff to revise natural gas rate schedules.
5 My name is Colleen Dale. I'm the regulatory law judge
6 handling this hearing. With me is Commissioner Appling
7 who may or may not have questions for you after you
8 come up to testify. I see that Commissioner Murray is
9 joining us also.

10 When you come up to speak, please keep in
11 mind that we are here to have your comments. We're not
12 here to answer questions, but hopefully, Mr. Graham,
13 who is the only person signed up to testify will have
14 already had his questions answered. So come on up.

15 JERRY GRAHAM,
16 after being first duly sworn to tell the truth
17 testifies as follows:

18 JUDGE DALE: Thank you. Could you please say
19 and spell your name for the court reporter.

20 MR. GRAHAM: Jerry, J-E-R-R-Y Graham,
21 G-R-A-H-A-M.

22 JUDGE DALE: Thank you. Please go ahead.

23 MR. GRAHAM: I -- what I have to say is very
24 short. I understand they have to make money, the
25 company does. I live on a fixed income, Social

1 Security, pension check from Boeing. That's all I have
2 coming in. As we was talking in the back, you know,
3 when you're on a fixed income, you've got to watch your
4 money so much. If you go on billing, at the end of the
5 year, you've got to come up with the money, if you do,
6 there goes Christmas.

7 So I try to pay my bills, you know, every day
8 or every month so I don't have that problem. The only
9 thing I can say, I live on a fixed income. I don't
10 have that much extra money. I hope the company can
11 find some way to cut costs.

12 I mean, I'm down to the -- groceries going
13 up. A gallon of milk is \$3 a gallon for 2 percent. I
14 guess I'm going to have to start buying powdered milk.
15 Go back to that.

16 So that's all I have to say, not too much.
17 Do you have any questions?

18 COMMISSIONER APPLING: How you doing,
19 Mr. Graham?

20 MR. GRAHAM: Good.

21 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Good. Do you live in
22 the City of St. Charles?

23 MR. GRAHAM: No, sir, I don't. I live in
24 St. Charles County.

25 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Okay. All right.

1 What do you average, if you don't mind, you don't have
2 to share, what do your average bills run per month,
3 your bills, you know, electric, gas bills.

4 MR. GRAHAM: Oh, I would not -- I would give
5 you the figures, but I don't have that off the top of
6 my head.

7 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Okay. I had -- just
8 trying to get a fix on it because the fixed income is
9 one of the things that we listened to a lot and we --
10 the company listens to that a lot, too. But I was just
11 trying to get a feel for what your bills run a month,
12 but that's fine.

13 MR. GRAHAM: I can get that -- I don't have
14 any problem sharing that with you. The only thing I
15 can say, is that years ago, I bought a high efficiency
16 furnace, 98 or 99 percent efficient. And yes, it saves
17 me a little bit on gas, but the thing of it is, it
18 sounds silly, it don't put out hot air. My -- me and
19 the company and I have gone round and around, the one
20 that installed it. My furnace inside my house is not
21 hot like the old furnace used to be that had the
22 burners in it.

23 Mine's got a spark plug in it and a stainless
24 steel thing. It puts out heat, but it runs almost
25 constantly to keep the temperature, but it never gets

1 the inside of the house hot.

2 But it saves money. It saves maybe five or
3 six dollars a month in the gas bill, if I keep it
4 turned down.

5 COMMISSIONER APPLING: All right.

6 MR. GRAHAM: I did try that.

7 COMMISSIONER APPLING: What brand do you
8 have?

9 MR. GRAHAM: I knew you'd ask me that and I
10 can't think right this second.

11 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Is it a heat pump
12 or --

13 MR. GRAHAM: No, no. It's not a heat pump.

14 COMMISSIONER APPLING: That's okay. No
15 problem. Don't worry about it. I was just trying to
16 assess the possibility of what you have.

17 MR. GRAHAM: It's one that's got the big
18 stainless steel tank on the inside that fires with a
19 spark plug. I can't think of the name of it right
20 offhand. And, you know, that was when I was working
21 and I paid so much money for that. That was \$3,000 for
22 a furnace. It was a lot of money, but I was working at
23 the time and it was no problem.

24 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Right.

25 MR. GRAHAM: Those days are over.

1 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Well, Mr. Graham,
2 thank you very much for coming in. We thank you for
3 your comments and if there's anything else you can
4 think of, you're certainly welcome to send it to us and
5 we will consider what you have to say. Thank you.

6 MR. GRAHAM: Thank you very much. Did
7 anybody else have any questions?

8 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: I have some questions.
9 Do you have any complaints or are you satisfied with
10 the quality of the service that you receive from
11 Laclede?

12 MR. GRAHAM: Yeah. I have nothing about --
13 no complaints about the service. They came out and
14 put -- I think they removed the copper line and put a
15 plastic line in. They went through the whole
16 subdivision in St. Charles Hills and they, I guess,
17 they went through the whole subdivision and did that
18 because of the cracking in the piping because of the
19 freezing in the ground and everything else. I'm glad
20 they did it. It was for my benefit, as well as theirs.

21 I have no complaints about that. I have had
22 various gas leaks and they've come and taken care of it
23 and everything. I have no complaints about your
24 service. I thank you for your time.

25 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Thank you.

1 JUDGE DALE: Before we adjourn, I would like
2 to go ahead and take entries of appearance for those
3 counsel on record who wish to do so.

4 MR. DANDINO: Michael Dandino. Office of the
5 Public Counsel, Post Office Box 2230, Jefferson City,
6 Missouri 65102, representing the Office of Public
7 Counsel and the public.

8 JUDGE DALE: Thank you.

9 MR. ZUCKER: Rick Zucker and Mike Pendergast,
10 representing Laclede Gas Company. 720 Olive Street,
11 St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

12 JUDGE DALE: Is there anyone else here you
13 would like to enter an appearance?

14 MS. FAITH: Sally Faith, representing the
15 District 15, St. Charles County. My address is 1726
16 Muegge Road, St Charles. 63303.

17 JUDGE DALE: Do you have any comments you
18 wish to make before we close the hearing?

19 MS. FAITH: No, I don't. I came to observe,
20 to listen, to see what people were questioning and
21 asking and that was my purpose.

22 JUDGE DALE: Thank you. Is there anything
23 else before we adjourn? Seeing nothing, then we will
24 adjourn and go off the record.

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