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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

HEARING

February 10, 2003

Jefferson City, Missouri

Volume 2

In the Matter of Laclede Gas)
Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment) Case No.
Tariff Revisions to be Reviewed in) GR-2001-387
Its 2000-2001 Actual Cost Adjustment)
In the Matter of Laclede Gas)
Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment) Case No.
Factors to be Reviewed in Its) GR-2000-622
1999-2000 Actual Cost Adjustment)

BEFORE:

MORRIS L. WOODRUFF, Presiding
SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.

REPORTED BY:
TRACY L. CAVE, CSR, CCR
ASSOCIATED COURT REPORTERS

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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FOR: Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

1 JUDGE WOODRUFF: This is Case No.
2 GR-2001-387, which is in the matter of Laclede Gas Company's
3 purchased gas adjustment tariff revisions to be reviewed in
4 its 2000-2001 actual cost adjustment. It's also
5 consolidated with GR-2000-622, which is also Laclede's PGA
6 for 1999-2000.

7 Let's begin by taking entries of appearance
8 beginning with Staff.

9 MR. BATES: Good morning, your Honor. My name
10 is Bruce Bates. I represent the Staff of the Missouri
11 Public Service Commission. My address is Post Office Box
12 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.

14 And for Laclede?

15 MR. PENDERGAST: Good morning, your Honor.
16 Michael C. Pendergast and Rick Zucker appearing on behalf of
17 Laclede Gas Company. My business address is 720 Olive
18 Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

19 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.

20 And for Public Counsel?

21 MR. MICHEEL: Douglas E. Micheel appearing on
22 behalf of the Office of Public Counsel and the public.
23 P.O. Box 7800, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-7800.

24 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.

25 Now, before we begin with anything else, there

1 was a motion for request for continuance of hearing filed on
2 Friday based on your illness, Mr. Pendergast. Do you wish
3 to renew that motion today?

4 MR. PENDERGAST: Your Honor, I'm obviously
5 here today.

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And you do not look well,
7 so --

8 MR. PENDERGAST: Yeah. And I do not feel as
9 badly as I did on Friday. I am still not 100 percent. I do
10 want to express my appreciation to the other parties, the
11 Staff and the Public Counsel, for agreeing to that
12 continuance on such short notice.

13 I could muddle through it if it were necessary
14 to go ahead and muddle through today. My concern would be
15 that I might give what I've got to others. But if there is
16 a desire to continue the proceedings, I am here and,
17 otherwise, if the Commission's inclined to grant the
18 continuance, you know, I would appreciate that as well.

19 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Public Counsel or
20 Staff, do you have any response?

21 MR. MICHEEL: We supported the continuance. I
22 don't want what Mr. Pendergast has, at least his illness.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Mr. Bates?

24 MR. BATES: I agree with Mr. Micheel.

25 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. I'm inclined to go

1 ahead and grant the continuance. And I'll make a statement
2 on the record that you do look ill, Mr. Pendergast. And I
3 appreciate you coming in and being a trooper today and
4 coming in.

5 MR. PENDERGAST: Thank you, your Honor.

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And I was not here on Friday
7 either, but as you can probably hear in my voice, I've been
8 fighting some stuff too, so I will go ahead and grant the
9 continuance.

10 I think the motion talked about continuing
11 until tomorrow or until Thursday. I'm inclined to just let
12 it go until Thursday. Does anyone have a problem with that?

13 MR. MICHEEL: The only complicating matter
14 that I see is I believe we also have a prehearing scheduled
15 in the Panhandle Eastern --

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That's on Tuesday.

17 MR. MICHEEL: Is that on Tuesday?

18 MR. ZUCKER: The oral argument.

19 MR. MICHEEL: The oral argument. I'm sorry.
20 I knew I had something that conflicted. The oral argument
21 with respect to the Catch-Up/Keep-Up. And I think I'm the
22 person who's required to do that for our office.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And I assume, Mr. Pendergast,
24 you'll do doing that for Laclede, I assume.

25 MR. PENDERGAST: Actually Mr. Swaengen will

1 be.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I was aware of that conflict
3 and it will be in this room, as a matter of fact, at 2:30 I
4 believe on Thursday, which would mean that we would have to
5 adjourn this hearing at 2:30 to allow that to go on. And it
6 sounds like it might take the rest of the day, so we'd
7 probably have to finish this on Friday.

8 Looking at the testimony, it doesn't look like
9 it's going to take more than a day and a half to do this
10 hearing. Does anyone think that would be a problem?

11 MR. PENDERGAST: Speaking on behalf of
12 Laclede, your Honor, I would imagine that we would have
13 probably at most about three hours of cross for
14 Mr. Sommerer.

15 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Mr. Bates?

16 MR. BATES: Could you hold just a second?

17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Sure.

18 MR. BATES: About four hours combined for both
19 Laclede witnesses.

20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Mr. Micheel?

21 MR. MICHEEL: It's hard for me to tell, your
22 Honor, because I don't know what the Staff is going to ask
23 and that could shorten what I'm going to do, but I obviously
24 have questions.

25 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Sure. It sounds like a day

1 and a half would probably be able do it or actually a little
2 bit more than a day and a half if we started at 8:30 on
3 Thursday and went until 2:30 and then we'd have Friday
4 available. Anybody see any problems with that?

5 I certainly don't want to have to go beyond
6 Friday and I don't want to have to go until ten o'clock on
7 Friday either. I see nods of agreement out there, so --

8 MR. BATES: Yeah. I hate to -- I know the
9 Commission in the past has sometimes been upset when
10 hearings have gone longer than the parties have thought they
11 might. And I certainly don't want to guarantee anything,
12 but I'm sure I speak for everyone that we'll do everything
13 we can to finish by close of business on Friday.

14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. All right then. I'll
15 go ahead and grant the motion -- the request for continuance
16 of the hearing. We'll reconvene at 8:30 on Thursday.

17 (HEARING ADJOURNED.)

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