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August 4, 2003

FILED³

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Executive Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360



RE: In the Matter of the Tariff Filing of Laclede Gas Company - Case No. GT-2003-0032 Tariff No. JG-2003-0048

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find the original plus eight (8) copies of MSBA Reply to the Responses of Staff and Public Counsel filed on behalf of in the above-captioned matter.

If you have any questions concerning the enclosed, please give me a call. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

HENDREN AND ANDRAE, L.L.C.

Richard S. Brownlee, III

RSB\sa
Enclosures
Public Counsel
General Counsel
All Counsel of Record
James Cherrington
Louie R. Ervin
Robert McWilliams

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Tariff Filing of Laclede Gas Company

Case No. GT-2003-0032

AUG 0 4 2003

SaMissouri Public

MSBA REPLY TO THE RESPONSES OF STAFF AND PUBLIC

COUNSEL

COMES NOW Missouri School Boards' Association ("MSBA") and for its Reply to the Responses of Staff and Public Counsel states as follows:

- 1. MSBA has serious concerns over the responses filed by Staff and Public Counsel. The issues raised in the tariff filed by Laclede have been discussed between the various parties for a period of at least one (1) year prior to the actual tariff filing. As such, no one should express surprise regarding the issues raised in the Laclede tariff.
- 2. All parties must recognize and remember that the entire program is experimental in natural and one that has been mandated by the Missouri Legislature. As such, the parties and the Commission should view the proposal as experimental, limited in time, and one that is unlikely to set long term utility practices in the State of Missouri.
- 3. It is the best information and belief of MSBA that the experimental natural gas aggregation program contemplated in the Laclede tariff filing will fail due to lack of time to implement the program if the tariff is not approved by the Commission by August 15, 2003.

WHEREFORE, MSBA request approval of the Laclede tariff as herein outlined.

Respectfully submitted,

HENDREN AND ANDRAE, LLC

Richard S. Brownlee, III

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing has been mailed or and-delivered to the following on this 4^{th} day of August, 2003:

Mike Pendergast 720 Olive Street St. Louis, MO 63101

Office of Public Counsel P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City MO 65102

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