

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Tariff Filing)	
to Allow Estimated Billing Whenever an Automatic)	<u>Case No. GT-2008-0374</u>
Meter Reader Fails to Send Readings of Actual Usage.)	Tariff No. YG-2008-0690

ORDER SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

Issue Date: June 10, 2008

Effective Date: June 10, 2008

On May 19, 2008, Laclede Gas Company filed a proposed tariff revision to allow Laclede to estimate the usage on a customer's natural gas bill whenever an automatic meter reader (AMR) fails to transmit an actual reading. The revision also contains notice requirements in the event Laclede's meter or AMR is defective. The tariff filing bears a September 16, 2008 effective date. On May 28, 2008, the Office of the Public Counsel filed a motion to suspend the tariff and a request for an evidentiary hearing. The Commission directed Laclede to respond no later than June 9, 2008, and allowed other interested parties to respond by that date as well.

Laclede filed its response on June 9, 2008. Laclede requests that the Commission schedule a prehearing conference.

On June 9, 2008, the Staff of the Commission also responded to Public Counsel's motion. Staff notes that, based on Staff's initial conversations with Laclede regarding the tariff revisions, the Company submitted an effective date of September 16, 2008, so the parties would have sufficient time to discuss this matter and to resolve any remaining issues, if possible. Staff believes that before any decision is made to suspend

the tariff or schedule an evidentiary hearing, the parties should be accorded time to discuss the revisions and to determine whether they can reach an agreement. Staff proposes to file its recommendation regarding Tariff No. YG-2008-0690 not later than September 2, 2008. Staff recommends that the Commission not suspend the tariff or order an evidentiary hearing, but direct Staff to file its recommendation no later than September 2, 2008.

The Commission has considered Public Counsel's motion and the responses of Laclede and Staff. Inasmuch as the tariff's proposed effective date is September 16, 2008, the Commission does not find it necessary to suspend the tariff at this time. The Commission will set a prehearing conference and establish a date for the filing of a status report.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. A prehearing conference shall be held on June 25, 2008, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Governor Office Building, Room 305, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone needing additional accommodations to participate should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the prehearing conference.

2. The parties shall file a status report no later than July 9, 2008.

3. This order shall become effective on June 10, 2008.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Nancy Dippell, Deputy Chief Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 10th day of June, 2008.