

**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 Meter Reader )  
Fails to Send Readings of Actual Usage. )

**Case No. GT-2008-0374**  
Tariff No. YG-2008-0690

**STAFF RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COUNSEL’S MOTION**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) and for its Response, states as follows:

1. In its tariff filing cover letter to the Commission dated May 19, 2008, Laclede stated “...the purpose of the revised tariff sheets is to clarify the procedures the Company will use to address instances in which a customer’s meter has stopped or failed to register or provide readings of actual usage.” Laclede submitted these tariff revisions with a September 16, 2008 effective date.

2. On May 28, 2008, the Office of Public Counsel filed its *Motion To Suspend Tariff Filing And Request For An Evidentiary Hearing* regarding Laclede’s proposed tariff revision.

3. On May 29, 2008, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Filing* allowing interested parties to respond to Public Counsel’s motion no later than June 9, 2008.

4. Based on Staff’s initial conversations with Laclede regarding these revisions, the Company had 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 among the parties, if possible. Staff believes the parties should be accorded this period of time to discuss the tariff revisions and to determine whether the parties can reach an agreement, before any decision is made to suspend the tariff or to schedule an evidentiary hearing. Accordingly, the Staff proposes

to file its recommendation regarding Tariff No. YG-2008-0690 not later than September 2, 2008.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the Staff recommends the Commission not suspend the tariff, not order an evidentiary hearing, and direct Staff to file its recommendation in this matter not later than September 2, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**

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### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2008.

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**