

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 26th day of
May, 2011.

In the Matter of the Verified Application of)
Laclede Gas Company for an Order Establishing)
Replacement Requirements for the Final Phase)
of its Soft Copper Service Line Replacement)
Program Previously Approved Pursuant to Case)
No. GO-99-155.)

File No. GS-2008-0038

ORDER ACCEPTING STAFF'S REPORT AND CLOSING CASE

Issue Date: May 26, 2011

Effective Date: June 4, 2011

This case concerns Laclede Gas Company's ongoing efforts to replace its soft copper service lines. On April 25, 2011, Staff reported that since 1999, Laclede has replaced over 81,000 copper service lines, including lines at eight of twelve addresses at which the company had reported the possible existence of a soft copper service line, but where no structure remains.

Laclede has been unable to determine the exact location of the remaining four service lines and it does not know whether those lines continue to exist. Those four lines may have been abandoned years ago, with no existing record of that abandonment. Laclede believes the remaining service lines may be located within a one or two block length along particular mains, but those mains are under pavement and it will be difficult to strip the cover off the mains to locate the service lines, or determine that the lines no longer exist.

Staff recommends that the Commission order Laclede to conduct annual leak surveys over the four remaining main sections where the copper service lines may exist until Laclede determines the location and proper abandonment of those lines, or until the company can verify that the lines have been properly abandoned. Staff also recommends that the Commission order Laclede to submit annual updates to the Staff regarding the results of the annual leak surveys and to notify Staff of any unusual leak survey results. Finally, Staff advises the Commission to close this file.

More than ten days have passed since Staff filed its status report and no party has responded to that report. The Commission will adopt the recommendations offered by Staff.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Laclede Gas Company shall continue to conduct annual leak surveys over the four remaining main sections where a copper service line may exist, but where their exact location cannot be determined. The annual leak surveys shall continue until Laclede determines the location and proper abandonment of the lines, or until company records can verify that the copper service lines have been abandoned.

2. Laclede Gas Company shall submit annual updates to Staff regarding the results of the annual leak survey, or verifying that the four remaining possible copper service lines have been abandoned. The annual updates shall be submitted to Staff no later than April 30 of each year. Staff shall review the results of these annual leak surveys when submitted and shall continue to review leak survey results and the status of the verification process during Staff's annual pipeline safety inspections of Laclede.

3. Staff shall notify the Commission if any unusual leak survey results are reported.

4. This order shall become effective on June 4, 2011.

5. This file shall be closed on June 5, 2011.

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Gunn, Chm., Clayton, Davis, Jarrett,
and Kenney, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge