

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

Stanley Lewis,)	
)	
	Complainants,)
v.)	Case No. GC-2007-0267
)	
Laclede Gas Company,)	
	Respondent.)

LACLEDE GAS COMPANY’S MOTION TO FILE ANSWER OUT OF TIME

COMES NOW Laclede Gas Company (“Laclede” or “Company”) and files this motion seeking permission to file its answer to the complaint in this case out of time, and in support thereof, Laclede states as follows:

1. Pursuant to the Commission’s January 17, 2007 Notice of Complaint, Laclede’s answer in the above captioned case was due on Friday, February 16, 2007. Laclede drafted the answer ahead of this schedule, but inadvertently failed to file the pleading on time. Laclede did not realize this error until Staff Attorney Robert Berlin telephoned this morning to inquire about Laclede’s answer.
2. Laclede avers that the answer filed contemporaneously herewith is only one business day late, and that no party is prejudiced by this late filing. Staff attorney Berlin has stated that he has no objection to Laclede filing its answer today.
3. Laclede apologizes for any inconvenience caused by this omission.

WHEREFORE, Laclede respectfully requests that the Commission permit Laclede to file its answer to the complaint in this case today, which is one business day out of time.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rick Zucker

Rick Zucker

Missouri Bar No. 49211

Assistant General Counsel-Regulatory

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing pleading has been duly served upon the Complainant, the General Counsel of the Staff of the Public Service Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel by email, facsimile, or by regular mail, postage prepaid, on this 20th day of February, 2007.

/s/ Gerry Lynch

Gerry Lynch