

FISCHER & DORITY
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

James M. Fischer
Larry W. DORITY

Attorneys at Law
Regulatory & Governmental Consultants

101 Madison, Suite 400
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Telephone: (573) 636-6758
Fax: (573) 636-0383

August 26, 2002

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, Suite 100
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

FILED²

AUG 26 2002

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

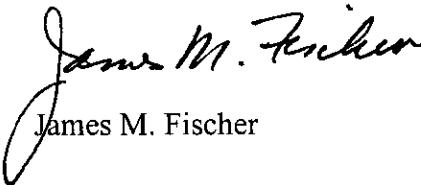
RE: *In the Matter of the Tariff Filing of Laclede Gas Company*, Case No. GA-2003-0032.

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced matter is an original and eight (8) copies of Laclede Gas Company's Response To Proposed Procedural Schedule And Motion For Expedited Treatment.

Copies of the foregoing have been hand-delivered or mailed this date to counsel for all parties of record. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


James M. Fischer

Enclosures

cc: Office of the Public Counsel
General Counsel
Richard Brownlee

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

FILED²
AUG 26 2002
**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

In the Matter of the Tariff Filing of)
Laclede Gas Company)

Case No. GT-2003-0032

**RESPONSE TO PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
AND MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT**

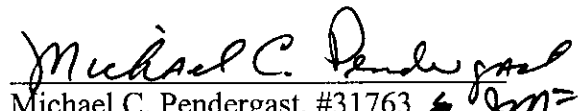
COMES NOW Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or "Company"), and for its Response to Proposed Procedural Schedule and Motion for Expedited Treatment, states as follows:

1. On August 1, 2002, Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or "Company") filed its proposed gas aggregation tariffs (the "Tariffs") for approval by the Missouri Public Service Commission pursuant to Section 393.190.1 RSMo 2002.
2. On August 15, 2002, the Commission directed the parties to file individual or joint proposed procedural schedules on or before August 26, 2002.
3. On August 26, 2002, the Commission Staff filed its Proposed Procedural Schedule in the referenced case.
4. Laclede concurs with the procedural schedule as filed by Staff. However, because the schedule provides for only one round of testimony, Laclede reserves the right to request the opportunity to present live rebuttal testimony at the hearing, in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.130(8). Laclede explicitly reserves this right because, when direct testimony is filed on September 20, 2002, all parties (other than Laclede) will be able to respond to Laclede's Tariffs, which have been on file since August 1, 2002. However, without a chance to offer live rebuttal testimony, Laclede will not have an equal

opportunity to respond to the positions of these parties, which positions will be unknown to Laclede until the filing of direct testimony on September 20.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Laclede Gas Company respectfully requests that the Commission accept its Response to Staff's Proposed Procedural Schedule.

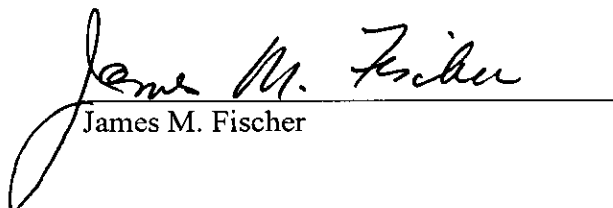
Respectfully Submitted,


Michael C. Pendergast, #31763 *zjm*
Vice President & Associate General Counsel
Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive Street, Room 1520
St. Louis, MO 63101
Telephone: (314) 342-0532
Facsimile: (314) 421-1979
E-mail:mpendergast@lacledegas.com

Rick Zucker, #49211
Assistant General Counsel-Regulatory
Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive Street, Room 1524
St. Louis, MO 63101
Telephone: (314) 342-0533
Facsimile: (314) 421-1979
E-mail: rzucker@lacledegas.com

Certificate of Service

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Response was served on all parties to the case on this 26th day of August, 2002 by hand-delivery or by placing a copy of such Application, postage prepaid, in the United States mail.


James M. Fischer