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

In the Matter of the Verified Application and	)	
Petition of Laclede Gas Company to Change its	)	Case No. GO-2008-0351
Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge	)	

## RESPONSE TO ORDER AND MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT

COMES NOW Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or "Company") and files this Response to Order and Motion for Expedited Treatment, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.080(16), and in support thereof, states as follows:

- 1. On April 25, 2008, Laclede filed its Verified Application and Petition and a Tariff Sheet to increase its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge ("ISRS"), pursuant to Sections 393.1009, 393.1012 and 393.1015 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri and Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.265 (the "ISRS Rule").
- 2. On June 12, 2008, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), filed its Memorandum and Recommendation in which it recommended that the Commission approve Laclede's ISRS filing, in the amount originally proposed by the Company in its filing ("Staff Recommendation").
- 3. On that same date, the Commission issued its Order directing any party wishing to respond to Staff's filing to do so by June 23, 2008.
- 4. Pursuant to paragraph 22 of the Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement filed on July 9, 2007, and approved by the Commission on July 19, 2007 in Case No. GR-2007-0208 (the "Stipulation"), the parties agreed to work towards implementation of the Company's ISRS filings as soon as reasonably possible. To that end, Laclede

respectfully requests that the Commission approve the Company's ISRS Application and Tariff as soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than June 19, 2008.

- 5. Since this request is based on the Stipulation, which was signed by all of the parties to this case and approved by the Commission, harm will be avoided, and the intent of the parties and the Commission will be served, by Commission approval of the ISRS Application and Tariff as soon as reasonably practicable. Therefore, Laclede respectfully requests that the Commission approve the ISRS Application and Tariff as soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than June 19, 2008. Laclede states that there will be no negative effect on Laclede's customers or the general public if the Commission acts on or before the date requested.
- 6. Consistent with the agreement in Case No. GR-2007-0208, counsel for the Commission Staff and USW Local 11-6 have already advised counsel for Laclede that they have no objection to the relief requested herein. A copy of this pleading was also sent to the Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers and the Office of the Public Counsel. However, counsel for Laclede has not yet been able to obtain a response from those parties.
- 7. This pleading was filed as soon as it could have been following yesterday's filing of the Staff Recommendation.

**WHEREFORE**, for the foregoing reasons, Laclede Gas Company respectfully requests that the Commission approve the ISRS Application and Tariff as soon as reasonably practicable, but no later than June 19, 2008. Laclede further requests that the Commission direct the remaining parties to respond to this request in sufficient time to accommodate this proposed approval date.

## Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Michael C. Pendergast</u> Michael C. Pendergast # 31763 Vice President & Associate General Counsel Rick E. Zucker #49211 **Assistant General Counsel** 

Laclede Gas Company 720 Olive Street, Room 1520 St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 342-0532 (telephone) E-mail:mpendergast@lacledegas.com

ATTORNEYS FOR LACLEDE GAS COMPANY