

LACLEDE GAS COMPANY
720 OLIVE STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63101

AREA CODE 314
342-0532

MICHAEL C. PENDERGAST
ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL

December 4, 1995

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. David L. Rauch
Executive Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: Case No. EM-96-149

Dear Mr. Rauch:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Laclede Gas Company please find the original and fourteen copies of the Application for Intervention in the above-referenced cause. Please see that this filing is brought to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel.

Please file-stamp the additional copy of such filing and return the same in the pre-addressed, stamped envelope provided.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,


Michael C. Pendergast

MCP:dv

Enclosures

cc: Parties of record

FILED

DEC 5 1995

MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the matter of the Application)
of Union Electric Company for an)
order authorizing: (1) certain)
merger transactions involving)
Union Electric Company; (2) the)
transfer of certain Assets, Real)
Estate, Leased Property, Easements)
and Contractual Agreements to)
Central Illinois Public Service)
Company; and (3) in connection)
therewith, certain other related)
transactions.)

Case No. EM-96-149

FILED

DEC 5 - 1995

MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

APPLICATION FOR INTERVENTION

Comes Now Laclede Gas Company, by and through its
counsel, pursuant to Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110 of the Public
Service Commission of Missouri (the "Commission"), and in
support of its Application to Intervene respectfully states
as follows:

1. The exact legal name of the applicant is Laclede
Gas Company ("Laclede"), and its principal place of business
is located at 720 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

2. The names, titles and addresses of the persons to
whom correspondence, communications, orders and decisions in
this matter are to be sent are as follows:

Mr. Kenneth J. Neises
Senior Vice President-Gas Supply &
Regulatory Affairs
Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive Street, Room 1514
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Mr. Michael C. Pendergast
Assistant General Counsel
Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive Street, Room 1520
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

3. Laclede is a natural gas distribution company, subject to the Commission's jurisdiction, which operates as a retail distributor and transporter of natural gas in the City of St. Louis and the Missouri Counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, Madison, Iron, Butler and Franklin. More than one-half million residential, commercial and industrial gas users in Missouri rely on Laclede for reasonably priced, dependable supplies of natural gas.

4. On November 7, 1995, Union Electric Company ("UE") filed an application with the Commission requesting an Order authorizing certain merger transactions involving UE, the transfer of certain assets, real estate, leased property, easements and contractual agreements, and other transactions involving the proposed merger by and between UE and Central Illinois Public Service Company ("CIPSCO"). By Order and Notice dated November 15, 1995, the Commission directed any party wishing to intervene in this case to file an application requesting intervention no later than the close of business December 15, 1995.

5. A large majority of Laclede's customers, and Laclede itself, are also customers of UE. As both a customer and competitor of UE, Laclede has a substantial and direct interest in the scope, nature and terms of the proposed transactions, including the effect of the transactions on UE's rates, terms and conditions of providing electric service.

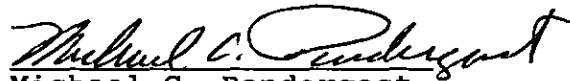
6. In light of the foregoing, it is clear that Laclede's interest is different than that of the general public. Laclede's interest, therefore, cannot be adequately represented by any other party to this proceeding.

7. Until Laclede has had an opportunity to fully review the Application submitted by UE and the materials furnished by UE in support thereof, it cannot take a position in support or opposition to the relief requested in the Application.

WHEREFORE, having stated the grounds for intervention and interest in this proceeding, Laclede requests that the Commission grant Laclede leave to intervene as a party and thereby entitle Laclede to have notice and to appear at the taking of testimony, to produce and cross-examine witnesses, and to be heard in person or by counsel in any argument in these proceedings, and in all other respects to be made a party to these proceedings.

DATED at St. Louis, Missouri this 3rd day of December, 1995.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael C. Pendergast
Assistant General Counsel
Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive Street, Room 1520
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
(314) 342-0532

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Michael C. Pendergast, Assistant General Counsel for Laclede Gas Company, hereby certifies that the foregoing Application for Intervention in Case No. EM-96-149 has been duly served upon the Office of the Public Counsel and Union Electric Company by placing a copy thereof in the United States mail, postage prepaid, on this 3rd day of December, 1995


Michael C. Pendergast

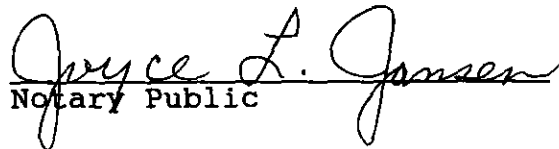
STATE OF MISSOURI)
) SS.
CITY OF ST. LOUIS)

Kenneth J. Neises, being first duly sworn, on his oath and in his capacity as Senior Vice President-Gas Supply & Regulatory Affairs for Laclede Gas Company, states that he: (1) is authorized to execute on behalf of Laclede Gas Company this Application for Intervention; and (2) has knowledge of the matter stated in such Application and that said matters are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.



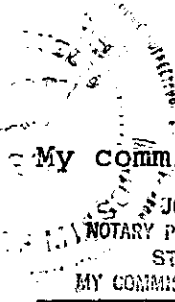
Kenneth J. Neises

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of December, 1995.



Notary Public

My commission expires:


JOYCE E. JANSEN
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF MISSOURI
ST. LOUIS COUNTY
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JULY 2, 1997