

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
JEFFERSON CITY  
February 9, 1999**

**CASE NO: GR-99-315**

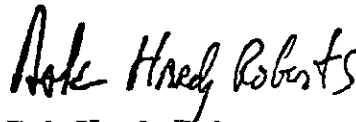
**Office of the Public Counsel**  
P.O. Box 7800  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**General Counsel**  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**Gerald T. McNeive, Jr.**  
Laclede Gas Company  
720 Olive Street  
St. Louis, MO 63101

**Enclosed find certified copy of ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).**

**Sincerely,**



**Dale Hardy Roberts  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

**Uncertified Copy:**

**To the mayor of each city in the Company's service area  
To the county commission of each city in the Company's service area**

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 9th  
day of February, 1999.

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Tariff        )  
to Revise Natural Gas Rate Schedules.                ) Case No. GR-99-315

**SUSPENSION ORDER AND NOTICE**

On January 26, 1999, Laclede Gas Company (Company) submitted to the Commission tariffs reflecting increased rates for natural gas service provided to customers in the Missouri service area of the Company. The proposed tariffs were assigned tariff number 9900536 and bear a requested effective date of February 26, 1999. The proposed tariffs are designed to produce an annual increase of approximately 6.1 percent (\$30.5 million) in the Company's revenues.

To allow sufficient time to study the effect of the proposed tariffs and to determine if they are just, reasonable and in the public interest, the Commission will suspend the proposed tariffs for a period of 120 days plus an additional six months beyond the requested effective date, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

The Commission will schedule the hearing dates in this order to ensure this matter is heard as expeditiously as possible. Additionally, establishment of the hearing dates will allow for notice to be sent to customers. Company shall give notice to customers as directed in the ordered paragraphs below.

The Records Department of the Commission should serve a copy of this order upon the mayor of each city and the county commission of each county in the Company's service area. In addition, the Information Office shall send notice of this order to the publisher of each newspaper located in the counties in which the Company provides service, as listed in the newspaper directory of the current Official Manual of the State of Missouri, and to the members of the General Assembly representing the Missouri area served by the Company.

Any proper entity desiring to intervene in this proceeding shall file its application to intervene as ordered herein.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That all proposed tariff sheets submitted on January 26, 1999, by Laclede Gas Company for the purpose of increasing rates for natural gas service are hereby suspended for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days from February 26, 1999, to June 26, 1999.

2. That the tariffs suspended in ordered paragraph 1 are hereby suspended an additional six (6) months beyond June 26, 1999 to December 26, 1999, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

3. That anyone wishing to intervene shall file an application to intervene no later than March 1, 1999, with:

Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission  
Post Office Box 360  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Copies of the application to intervene should be sent to:

Gerald T. McNeive, Jr.  
Senior Vice President - Finance  
and General Counsel  
Laclede Gas Company  
720 Olive Street  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

and

Office of the Public Counsel  
Post Office Box 7800  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

4. That an evidentiary hearing is hereby scheduled for this case beginning August 9, 1999, to continue through August 13, 1999. The hearing will commence at 9:00 a.m. on August 9, 1999, and be held in the Commission's hearing room, fifth floor, Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Any person(s) with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

5. That Laclede Gas Company shall notify each affected customer of the hearings scheduled in this case by either a notice on or accompanying a bill, or in a separate notice, at least ten (10) days but not more than forty-five (45) days prior to the first day of the hearings, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. The notice shall be in the following form:

#### NOTICE

Laclede Gas Company has filed revised tariffs with the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) which would

increase Company's Missouri jurisdictional annual gross revenues by approximately 6.1 percent. For the average residential customer, the proposed increase would be approximately \$3.37 a month.

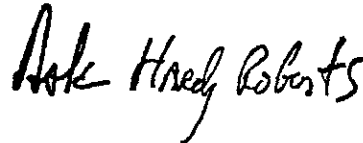
An evidentiary hearing has been set before the PSC, beginning at 9:00 a.m., August 9, 1999, in the PSC's hearing room on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. If you wish to comment or secure information, you may contact the Office of the Public Counsel, Post Office Box 7800, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone (573) 751-4857.

If any person has special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

6. That the Records Department and Information Office of the Commission shall serve a copy of this order and provide notice as described in this order.

7. That this order shall become effective on February 19, 1999.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



**Dale Hardy Roberts**  
**Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

( S E A L )

Lumpe, Ch., Crumpton, Drainer,  
Murray, and Schemenauer, CC.,  
concur.

Dippell, Senior Regulatory Law Judge

ALJ/Sec'y: Dyppell / Pope  
2-2 GR-99-315  
Date Circulated CASE NO.  
2-3-99 (date)  
Lumpe, Chair  
Crumpton, Commissioner  
Murray, Commissioner  
Schemenauer, Commissioner  
Drainer, Vice-Chair  
2-9  
Agenda Date  
Action taken: 5-0 AS  
Must Vote Not Later Than \_\_\_\_\_

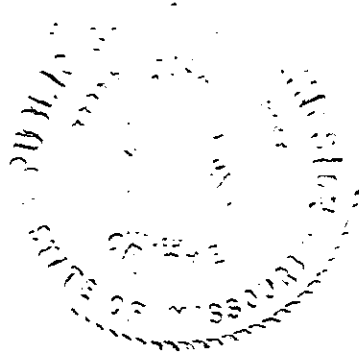
STATE OF MISSOURI  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and

I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson  
City,

Missouri, this 9TH day of FEBRUARY, 1999.



Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge