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March 2, 2001

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

FILED³

MAR 02 2001

RE: Case No. GR-99-315

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Pursuant to the First Amended Partial Stipulation and Agreement (the agreement) in Case No. GR-99-315 filed on September 3, 1999, Laclede Gas Company and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (the parties) are herein reporting to the Commission the status of the weather normalization project. The agreement specified that the parties inform the Commission semi-annually on the status of this weather normalization project.

As reported to the Commission in its March 3, 2000 status report, the parties and the participants contacted Professor Thomas McKee, PhD. From the Colorado Climate Center of Colorado State University, regarding consultation on the project, and Dr. McKee agreed to contribute to the project. On April 13, 2000, the parties and the participants met with Dr. McKee at the offices of Laclede Gas Company in St. Louis. St. Louis area participants included AmerenUE and the St. Louis County Water Company. Representatives from the Office of Public Counsel and Kansas City Power & Light Company were also in attendance.

At this meeting, Dr. McKee explained the focus of projects he is currently engaged in for other parties, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). As part of that work, Dr. McKee plans to study the effects of the 1996 instrumentation change (the installation of the ASOS thermometer) at the St. Louis International Airport. He described some of the investigative methodologies he planned to utilize in this study. He stated that this part of his work fit very well with the goal of the weather normalization project to resolve appropriate temperature data. Other goals of the project were discussed with him such as the need to determine the appropriate methodology, period, or other criteria necessary for weather normalization, as well as the need to address the effects of urbanization and seasonal differences.

On the last status report date, September 6, 2000, Dr. McKee was working on the study and had agreed to address as many of the issues as possible. He provided a report on his findings in December of 2000. To date, the parties are in the process of evaluating the results contained in Dr. McKee's report which was entitled "Climate Data Continuity with ASOS."

The parties will need time to fully evaluate the above report, and will inform the Commission of the results of their efforts as soon as reasonably possible. In addition, the parties will continue to file semi-annual status reports until the analysis is complete.

Sincerely yours,



Cliff Snodgrass
Senior Counsel
Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission

CES:sw
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

**Service List for
Case No. GR-99-315
Revised: March 2, 2001 (SW)**

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