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**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a Session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 18th
day of January, 2000.

| | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Dennis O. Allen, |) | |
| |) | |
| Complainant, |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | <u>Case No. GC-2000-336</u> |
| |) | |
| Laclede Gas Company, |) | |
| |) | |
| Respondent. |) | |

ORDER DISMISSING CASE

On November 22, 1999, Dennis O. Allen (Allen) filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) against Laclede Gas Company (Laclede).

Allen stated in his complaint that he was a former customer of Laclede's and that in January of 1995, he moved from his residence. (Allen does not reveal in what city or town he resided when he was one of Laclede's customers.) Thus, Allen continued, he called Laclede and made an appointment with that gas company to meet with Allen at his residence for a final meter reading. However, Allen stated, he did not appear for the meeting and left town owing Laclede money. (Again, Allen does not reveal the date when he left the residence.) Some time later, Allen stated, he contacted Laclede and found out that he owed the gas company \$321.53. Allen stated that he paid \$202 on the account but

alleges that any balance is for charges after he left the premises. Allen is requesting that the balance of about \$125 be stricken from his account.

The Commission issued its Notice of Complaint on November 29, 1999, providing 30 days for Laclede to file an answer, or, in the alternative, to file a request for mediation.

On December 29, 1999, Laclede filed its answer, admitting some of Allen's allegations and denying others.

On January 4, 2000, Allen filed notice of dismissal pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.116, which states, in part:

An applicant or complainant may voluntarily dismiss an application or complaint without an order of the commission at any time before prepared testimony has been filed or oral evidence has been offered by filing a notice of dismissal with the commission and serving a copy on all parties. . . .

There has been no prepared testimony filed or oral evidence offered in this case. Thus, the Commission will dismiss this case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Complaint filed on November 22, 1999, by Dennis O. Allen against Laclede Gas Company is dismissed.

2. That this order shall become effective on January 28, 2000.

3. That this case may be closed on January 31, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

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

Hopkins, Senior Regulatory Law Judge