

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY**

July 11, 2000

CASE NO: GO-2000-394

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Michael C. Pendergast/Thomas M. Byrne
Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive Street, Room 1520
St. Louis, MO 63101

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Hardy Roberts", written over a horizontal line.

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's)
Experimental Price Stabilization Fund.) Case No. GO-2000-394

ORDER DIRECTING FILING

On December 29, 1999, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed a motion requesting that the Commission open a case in connection with the Experimental Price Stabilization Fund (PSP) of Laclede Gas Company (Laclede). Staff stated that opening a case would facilitate Staff in its monitoring of the PSP program. The Commission issued an Order Opening Case and Directing Notice on January 11, 2000. On February 1, 2000, the Commission issued an Order Directing Reports, in which it directed Laclede to provide Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) with a report of the transactions under the PSP through December 31, 1999. The Commission also directed Laclede to file the next report on or before May 1, 2000, and quarterly thereafter.

On July 7, 2000, Laclede filed a Verified Application for Authorization to Implement Temporary Revisions to Price Stabilization Program. Along with the Application, Laclede filed a Motion for Expedited Treatment. In its motion, Laclede claims the temporary revisions are designed to provide Laclede with the "additional resources and flexibility required to obtain meaningful price protection for its customers in advance of the upcoming winter heating

season." Specifically, Laclede requests the Commission act on its request by August 1, 2000.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.808(16) provides: "[p]arties shall be allowed not more than ten (10) days from the date of filing in which to respond to any pleading unless otherwise ordered by the commission." Because of the impracticability of allowing parties until July 17, 2000, to respond to Laclede's motion, the Commission will set July 14, 2000, as the last day on which interested parties may respond to Laclede's Verified Application. Furthermore, the Commission will benefit from Staff's examination of the issues raised in Laclede's Verified Application and will direct the Staff to file either a recommendation and memorandum or a pleading requesting a hearing on or before July 21, 2000.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That all interested parties shall have until July 14, 2000, to respond to Laclede Gas Company's Verified Application for Authorization to Implement Temporary Revisions to Price Stabilization Program.

2. That Staff shall file either a recommendation and memorandum or a pleading requesting a hearing on or before July 21, 2000, regarding Laclede Gas Company's Verified Application.

3. That this order shall become effective on July 11, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

(S E A L)

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

Vicky Ruth, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 11th day of July, 2000.

**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 11th day of July 2000.



Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge