

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
March 14, 2001**

CASE NO: GO-2000-394

Office of the Public Counsel
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Michael C. Pendergast
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, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**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 ADOPTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On February 13, 2001, the Commission issued its Order Modifying the Experimental Price Stabilization Program, directing the parties to file, no later than March 7, 2001, a proposed procedural schedule to address whether the Experimental Price Stabilization Program should be continued for a fourth year. On March 7, 2001, the parties filed a joint proposed procedural schedule.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed procedural schedule and finds that it is appropriate for this case. The Commission will apply the conditions set out below to the procedural schedule in this case.

(A) The Commission will require the prefiling of testimony as defined in 4 CSR 240-2.130. All parties shall comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line-numbered pages. The practice of prefiling testimony is designed to give parties notice of the claims, contentions and evidence in issue and to avoid unnecessary objections and delays in the proceedings caused by allegations of unfair surprise at the hearing.

(B) Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.130(15), testimony and schedules shall not be filed under seal and treated as proprietary or highly

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confidential unless the Commission has first established a protective order. Any testimony or schedule filed without a protective order first being established shall be considered public information.

(C) The parties shall agree upon and the Staff shall file a list of the issues to be heard, the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing and the order in which they shall be called, and the order of cross-examination for each witness. The Commission will view any issue not contained in this list of issues as uncontested and not requiring resolution.

(D) Each party shall file a statement of its position on each disputed issue. Such statement shall be simple and concise, and shall not contain argument about why the party believes its position to be the correct one.

(E) The Commission's general policy provides for the filing of the transcript within two weeks after the hearing. If any party seeks to expedite the filing of the transcript, such request shall be tendered in writing to the regulatory law judge at least five days prior to the date of the hearing.

(F) All pleadings, briefs and amendments shall be filed in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.080. Briefs shall follow the same list of issues as filed in the case and shall set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission.

(G) All parties are required to bring an adequate number of copies of exhibits that they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing. If an exhibit has been prefiled, only three copies of the

exhibit are necessary for the court reporter. If an exhibit has not been prefiled, the party offering it should bring, in addition to the three copies for the court reporter, copies for the five Commissioners, the regulatory law judge, and all counsel.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the following procedural schedule is adopted, subject to the conditions discussed above.

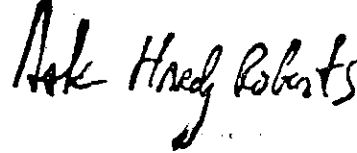
<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
All parties' direct testimony	July 10, 2001 4:00 p.m.
Prehearing conference	August 16, 2001 10:00 a.m.
All parties' rebuttal testimony	September 7, 2001 4:00 p.m.
All parties' surrebuttal testimony	October 12, 2001 4:00 p.m.
List of Issues	October 18, 2001 4:00 p.m.
Position statements	October 25, 2001 4:00 p.m.
Evidentiary Hearing	November 8-9, 2001 8:30 a.m.

2. That the prehearing conference will be held in Room 305 and the evidentiary hearing will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If any person needs additional accommodations to participate, please call the Public Service Commis-

sion's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the prehearing conference or hearing.

3. That this order shall become effective on March 24, 2001.

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)

Vicky Ruth, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 14th day of March, 2001.

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 14th day of March 2001.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and fluid.

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge