# STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JEFFERSON CITY April 5, 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.

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 ) Case No. GO-2000-394

Experimental Price Stabilization Fund. ) Tariff No. 200100987

## ORDER APPROVING TARIFF SHEET FILED IN COMPLIANCE WITH COMMISSION ORDER

On February 13, 2001, the Commission issued an Order Modifying the Experimental Price Stabilization Program. In that order, the Commission directed Laclede Gas Company (Laclede) to file a tariff revision shortening the 90-day window to 60 days, and implementing Laclede's offer to supplement the fund with \$4 million of its own funds.

Laclede filed its proposed Tariff Sheet No. 28-e on February 23, 2001. On March 15, 2001, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed a Motion to Suspend and a Memorandum, recommending that the Commission suspend Laclede's tariff sheet. Staff stated that the tariff sheet was not in compliance with the Commission's February 13, 2001, order. Laclede filed its response to Staff's Motion to Suspend on March 21, 2001.

On March 22, 2001, the Commission issued an order rejecting Laclede's proposed Tariff Sheet No. 28-e. The Commission determined that the tariff as filed went beyond the Commission's February 13, 2001, order, and should be rejected. The Commission noted that the proposed tariff included a provision that purports to preclude the

Commission from ever reviewing this matter in a future Actual Cost Adjustment proceeding. The Commission also indicated that should Laclede refile its proposed Tariff Sheet No. 28-e without the problematic language, that the Commission would be inclined to approve the tariff on an expedited basis to become effective in less than 30 days.

On March 27, 2001, Laclede filed its revised Tariff Sheet No. 28-e and a Motion for Expedited Treatment. The revised tariff sheet had an effective date of April 26, 2001, but the company requested that the tariff sheet become effective by April 6, 2001, or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable.

On March 29, 2001, the Commission issued an Order Directing Filing, instructing Staff to address whether the proposed tariff, filed March 27, 2001, complies with the Commission's Order Modifying the Experimental Price Stabilization Program and the Order Rejecting Tariff. Staff was instructed to file its recommendation and memorandum no later than March 30, 2001. On that date, Staff filed a Motion for Extension of Time, indicating that Staff and Laclede have reached an agreement in principle concerning the tariff language to comply with the Commission's order. Staff stated that it expects that when the parties have agreed on the new tariff language, that Laclede will withdraw the proposed tariff and substitute the agreed-upon language. Staff requested an extension of time until April 4, 2001, to either file its recommendation on the substituted tariff, or to file its recommendation on the current proposed tariff language.

On April 2, 2001, Laclede filed a substitute tariff sheet. On the same date, Staff filed its Recommendation. Staff states that it has reviewed the tariff and recommends that the Commission approve it. Staff also suggests that the Commission grant Laclede's Motion for Expedited Treatment pursuant to Section 391.140(11), RSMo 2000, and permit the proposed substitute tariff to become effective on less than 30 days' notice. Staff recommends that the Commission approve Laclede's proposed substitute tariff sheet to become effective for service on and after April 6, 2001.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed Tariff Sheet No. 28-e, filed March 27, 2001, and finds that it is in compliance with the Commission's Order Modifying the Experimental Price Stabilization Program and the Order Rejecting Tariff. In addition, the Commission determines that good cause exists to allow the proposed tariff to become effective on less than 30 days' notice.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the proposed tariff sheet filed by Laclede Gas Company on April 2, 2001, and assigned Tariff No. 200100987, is approved, to become effective on April 6, 2001. The approved tariff is:

#### P.S.C. MO. No. 5 Consolidated

4th Revised Sheet No. 28-e, Canceling Third Revised Sheet No. 28-e

2. That this order shall become effective on April 6, 2001.

BY THE COMMISSION

(SEAL)

Dale Hardy Roberts Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 5th day of April, 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 5th day of April 2001.

**Dale Hardy Roberts** 

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge