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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 4th
day of April, 2000.

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company regarding)
an Incident at 688 Meramec Station Road,) Case No. GS-99-371
Valley Park, Missouri, on February 22, 1999.)

ORDER CLOSING CASE

On March 2, 1999, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed a Motion to Open Docket with respect to an apparent gas explosion and fire at a single-family residence located at 688 Meramec Station Road in Valley Park, Missouri, on February 22, 1999. Staff stated in its motion that Laclede Gas Company (Laclede) is a gas corporation subject to Commission jurisdiction under Sections 386.020(18) and 386.020(42), RSMo Supp. 1998, and that Laclede provides natural gas service to that address. On March 8, 1999, the Commission by order established this case and directed Staff to file its Incident Report on or before July 6, 1999.

On July 6, 1999, Staff filed its Motion to File Report and Order Response. Together with this motion, Staff filed its Incident Report as previously ordered, certifying that the Report had been served on Laclede and on the Public Counsel. On July 7, 1999, the Commission ordered Laclede to respond within 30 days. Thereafter, Laclede filed its Response to Staff's Recommendations on August 6, 1999.

On October 27, 1999, Staff having made no reply to Laclede's response, the Commission by Order directed Staff to file its reply on or before November 5, 1999, and to advise the Commission of the status of this matter. Staff filed a memorandum on October 29, 1999, and Laclede filed its Supplemental Response on November 1, 1999. In its memorandum, Staff advised the Commission that it had recommended two changes to Laclede's operating procedures and that Laclede had agreed to one and rejected the other. Staff also advised that it was waiting for the results of additional soil tests and that it would, if necessary, file comments with respect to those tests in this case. In its Supplemental Response, Laclede advised that agreement had been reached with Staff concerning both recommendations.

On December 20, 1999, it was necessary to issue a Notice of Correction, directing the parties to disregard an order erroneously issued bearing the number of this case.

On February 23, 2000, Staff filed its Motion to Close Case. Attached thereto was a second Staff memorandum, advising that Laclede had complied in all respects with Staff's recommendations and that the soil test results had been reviewed. Staff's recommendations are intended to reduce the likelihood of such an incident in the future. Laclede has fully implemented Staff's recommendations.

No further action is expected in this case and it may now be closed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That this case shall be closed.

2. That this order shall become effective on April 14, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts".

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

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

Thompson, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge.