

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of Laclede)	
Gas Company for an Accounting Authority Order)	
Authorizing the Company to Defer for Future Recovery)	Case No. GU-2007-0138
the Costs of Complying With the Emergency)	
Amendment to the Commission's Cold Weather Rule)	

**REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF THE COST OF COMPLIANCE WITH
THE PERMANENT AMENDMENT TO THE COLD WEATHER RULE**

COMES NOW Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or "Company") and, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-13.055(14), files this Request for Determination of the Cost of Compliance with the Permanent Amendment to the Cold Weather Rule, and in support thereof states as follows:

1. On December 13, 2005, the Commission issued its Order Approving Emergency Amendment (the "Emergency Amendment"), in which it amended, effective January 1, 2006, Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.055, entitled "Cold Weather Maintenance of Service," and known as the "Cold Weather Rule."

2. On August 11, 2006, the Commission issued its Order of Rulemaking in Case No. GX-2006-0434, effective November 1, 2006, in which it adopted on a permanent basis (the "Permanent Amendment") a number of the provisions that had been placed into effect as part of the Emergency Amendment.

3. In addition to permitting customers to reconnect or maintain service by paying the lesser of 50% or \$500 of preexisting arrears, the Permanent Amendment also sets forth terms explaining how gas utilities should calculate and recover the costs of complying with the Permanent Amendment. *See* 4 CSR 240-13.055(14)(F) and (G). The Permanent Amendment also specifies that gas utilities may calculate and defer costs under the Emergency Amendment

upon the same terms as those set forth in the Permanent Amendment. 4 CSR 240-13.055(14)(F)4.

4. On September 29, 2006, Laclede filed applications for accounting authority orders (“AAOs”) in Case Nos. GU-2007-0137 and GU-2007-0138 to defer for future recovery the costs of complying with the Emergency Amendment and the Permanent Amendment, respectively. The Commission granted both AAOs on December 7, 2006.

5. On October 31, 2006, Laclede filed its Request for Determination of the Cost of Compliance with the Emergency Amendment in Case No. GU-2007-0137. On December 1, 2006, Laclede filed its request for a general rate increase in Case No. GR-2007-0208 (the “Rate Case”). Since Laclede would not begin to recover the costs deferred through the Emergency Amendment AAO until the Rate Case was processed anyway, it was deemed more efficient to determine Laclede’s cost of compliance with the Emergency Amendment in the Rate Case itself, rather than in an additional and separate proceeding. Accordingly, on March 14, 2007, Case No. GU-2007-0137 was consolidated with the Rate Case, and the Rate Case was designated as the lead case. The amount and amortization of the cost of compliance with the Emergency Amendment was agreed upon by the parties and eventually included in the Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement in the Rate Case, which was approved by the Commission on July 19, 2007.

6. However, because the Rate Case was administered before Laclede could determine its costs to comply with the Permanent Amendment for the winter of 2006-07, cost recovery for that winter was not included in the settlement of the Rate Case. Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-13.055(14)(G)2, this filing shall serve as Laclede’s request for determination of the cost of compliance with the Permanent Amendment for the winter of 2006-07. Consistent with the

requirements of 4 CSR 240-13.055(14)(G)2, Laclede has included as Schedule 1 hereto all supporting information required to make a determination of the cost of compliance with the Permanent Amendment, including specific information for each customer account that was extended a cold weather rule agreement during the relevant period. The cost of compliance with the Permanent Amendment has been calculated using the same method that was used to calculate the cost of compliance with the Emergency Amendment in the Rate Case.

7. Since recovery of these costs will not commence until Laclede's next rate case has been processed, in accordance with Rule 13.055(14)(G)2, Laclede believes that the same approach followed for purposes of determining the compliance costs associated with the Emergency Amendment should also be utilized here. Specifically, rather than conduct a separate proceeding to review such costs, Laclede believes that task should be deferred until Laclede's next general rate case proceeding in which all parties will be able to assess and make their recommendations regarding the recovery of such costs. Accordingly, Laclede requests that the Commission defer processing Laclede's request herein until the Company files its next rate case, at which time this case can be consolidated with such rate case.

8. Because this information is customer specific, it is being filed, and should be treated, as highly confidential pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.135, and specifically 2.135(B)(1).

WHEREFORE, Laclede Gas Company respectfully requests that the Commission accept this Request for Determination of the costs of compliance with the Permanent Amendment to the Cold Weather Rule, but defer processing this case until the Company files its next rate case, as proposed herein.

Respectfully requested,

/s/ Michael C. Pendergast

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Request has been duly served on the General Counsel of the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and on the Office of the Public Counsel on this 31st day of October, 2007, by hand-delivery, facsimile, electronic mail, or by placing a copy of such Request, postage prepaid, in the United States mail.

/s/ Gerry Lynch

Gerry Lynch

SCHEDULE 1

(See Excel Document Filed Herewith)