STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



At a Session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 14th day of February, 1995.

In the matter of the application of Laclede)
Gas Company, a Missouri corporation, for an)
order and certificate of convenience and)
necessity authorizing it to engage in the)
distribution, transmission and transportation)
of natural gas, and to construct, install,)
acquire, own, operate, control, manage and)
maintain a natural gas distribution system)
in the Town of Weldon Spring Heights in St.)
Charles County, Missouri.

CASE NO. GA-95-167

ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

On November 17, 1994, Laclede Gas Company (Laclede or Applicant) filed an application with the Commission requesting a certificate of convenience and necessity to serve the Town of Weldon Spring Heights (Town), Missouri with natural gas. Laclede is a Missouri corporation in the business of retail distribution and transportation of natural gas, and a public utility subject to Commission jurisdiction. Laclede serves customers in the City of St. Louis and in St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, Madison, Iron, Butler, and Franklin counties in Missouri.

Laclede serves all the unincorporated areas of St. Charles County, Missouri, including areas directly adjacent to the Town. Applicant wishes Commission approval to engage in retail distribution and transportation of natural gas in the incorporated Town of Weldon Spring Heights (Town), in St. Charles County. Applicant states that no other public utility or governmental body is currently providing natural gas in the proposed service area. The Town enacted Ordinances 1993-1 and 1993-2

granting Laclede a twenty-year franchise on natural gas distribution in the Town; the ordinances were ratified by public vote in June of 1993.

The Commission issued an Order and Notice on November 21, 1994, directing interested parties to intervene on or before December 21, 1994. The notice stated that if no one filed an application to intervene or a motion for hearing the Applicant would be allowed to submit evidence in support of its application by verified statement. No applications to intervene or motions for hearing were filed.

On February 9, 1995, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed its memorandum recommending the grant of a certificate of convenience and necessity for Laclede to provide natural gas service to the Town. Staff stated that it is in agreement with Laclede's current tariffed extension policy, and that 28 of the 37 homeowners in Weldon Spring Heights have committed to receiving natural gas service. Laclede proposes to serve the Town pursuant to its current, Commission-approved tariff schedule. Staff stated that Laclede will need to install approximately 5,050 feet of 2" plastic main in order to provide service, and that funds for that extension will be internally generated.

Upon review of the application and Staff's recommendation, the Commission finds that providing a reliable source of natural gas to the Town of Weldon Spring Heights is in the public interest, and that Laclede's proposal for providing that service is reasonable. The Commission is of the opinion that Laclede's application should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Laclede Gas Company be granted a certificate of convenience and necessity to construct, install, own, operate, control, manage, and maintain a gas system for the public in the Town of Weldon Spring Heights in St. Charles County, Missouri.

- 2. That Laclede Gas Company shall perform all service line and main extensions in accordance with its current tariff.
- 3. That Laclede Gas Company shall provide service to the Town of Weldon Spring Heights pursuant to its current, Commission-approved tariff.
- 4. That nothing in this order shall be considered a finding regarding the reasonableness of the expenditures involved, nor of the value for ratemaking purposes of any properties constructed in the extension of service to Weldon Spring Heights.
- 5. That this order shall become effective on February 24, 1995.

BY THE COMMISSION

David L. Rauch
Executive Secretary

(SEAL)

Mueller, Chm., McClure, and Crumpton, CC., Concur. Perkins and Kinchcloe, CC., Absent.