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

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment for 2004-2005	)	Case No. GR-2005-0203
In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment for 2005-2006	)	Case No. GR-2006-0288

## LACLEDE GAS COMPANY'S AMENDMENT TO MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT AND REQUEST TO HAVE MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION AND/OR CLARIFICATION PLACED ON THE COMMISSION'S AGENDA FOR DECISION

**COMES NOW** Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or the "Company") pursuant to 4 CSR 240.2.080(16), and in support of its Amendment to Motion for Expedited Treatment and Request that Motions for Reconsideration and/or Clarification be Placed on the Commission's May 21, 2009 Agenda for Decision, respectfully states as follows:

- 1. On May 20, 2009, Laclede filed a Motion for Expedited Treatment. In its Motion, Laclede requested that the Commission place on its May 21, 2009, Agenda for decision the Motions for Reconsideration and/or Clarification that had been filed by the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC") on May 1, 2009 and May 4, 2009, respectively, (hereinafter "Motions"). Laclede made its filing after being advised by the Regulatory Law Judge assigned to this case that the Motions had not been placed on the Commission's Agenda because Staff had not yet filed its reply to the two and half page response that Laclede had previously submitted in connection with the Motions.
- 2. As stated in its Motion, Laclede did not believe this constituted a reasonable basis for deferring final consideration of the Motions. In support of that proposition, Laclede noted that a response to a motion for reconsideration is not even contemplated by the Commission's rules, that no one had formally requested the

opportunity to file such a reply, and that no purpose would be served by a reply that has nothing to respond to but a two and half page pleading which simply indicated that nothing new had been raised in the Motions that had not already been thoroughly presented to and considered by the Commission. In fact, Laclede stated that the primary effect of deferring consideration of these Motions would be to potentially eliminate the opportunity to have such Motions ruled upon by the same commissioners who have gained a detailed knowledge of the issues underlying them over the past six months.

- 3. Since Laclede's Motion was filed, it has been advised by Staff counsel that it never requested the opportunity to file a reply; a circumstance that begs anew the question of why final consideration of these Motions has been delayed. Nevertheless, the Staff has now filed a Reply and, as anticipated by Laclede, it raises nothing of substance that has not already been thoroughly argued and considered by the Commission. In light of these considerations, Laclede accordingly amends its Motion to Expedite to request that these Motions now be placed on the Commission's May 27, 2009 Agenda for final decision.
- 4. Finally, Laclede would submit that OPC's opposition to the Laclede Motion for Expedited Treatment is meritless. Far from being in the early stages of discovery, the earliest of these two cases has been subject to discovery for several years now. Moreover, the issue that has arisen regarding Staff's right to obtain access to certain information has been litigated for nearly six months. Under these circumstances, to suggest that it makes more sense for someone unfamiliar with this extensive record to rule upon these motions is, to be charitable, nonsensical.

WHEREFORE, Laclede respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Motion for Expedited Treatment and place these matters on its May 27, 2009 Agenda for decision and that the Commission thereupon deny the Motions for Reconsiderations and/or Clarification submitted by Staff and OPC for the reasons stated herein.

Respectfully submitted,

## /s/ Michael C. Pendergast

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing pleading has been duly served upon the General Counsel of the Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel by email or United States mail, postage prepaid, on this 22nd day of May, 2009.

/s/ Gerry Lynch

Gerry Lynch