

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

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's)	
Tariffs to Revise Natural Gas Rate)	<u>Case No. GR-2010-0171</u>
Schedules.)	

**STAFF'S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION'S
ORDER DIRECTING FILING**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through the Chief Staff Counsel, and for its Response states as follows:

1. On June 24, 2010, the Commission directed the parties to file, by Noon on June 30, 2010, suggestions for supplying evidence in support of the facts on which Staff and Laclede rely, with respect to Staff's Motion to Add Parties, filed on May 4, 2010, and Laclede's opposition to that motion.

2. Staff suggests that the evidence in question should be adduced during the evidentiary hearing in this matter, now set to begin on August 2, 2010, because there is not now sufficient time to prepare for and convene a separate hearing on the issues raised by Staff's motion. Staff further notes that much of the evidence on which it relies is already contained on pages 38 through 54 within Staff's May 10, 2010, Revenue Requirement Cost of Service Report previously prepared and filed in this matter.

3. Should the Commission adopt Staff's suggestion, it should order the parties to prepare and submit appropriate testimony, to the extent that such evidence is not included in the testimony already filed. Staff suggests that direct testimony on Staff's motion could be filed on July 16, 2010, along with surrebuttal

testimony in the case-in-chief; and rebuttal could be filed ten days later, on July 26, 2010.

4. Staff understands that an Oral Argument is set for July 9, 2010, on the legal issues raised by Staff's motion. That argument should go forward. The parties will certainly know by then what facts they rely on and can argue them accordingly.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will adopt Staff's suggestions set out herein and order that evidence for and against its Motion to Add Parties shall be presented during the evidentiary hearing now set to begin on August 2, 2010, and that the Commission will direct the parties to prepare and file appropriate testimony, direct to be due on July 16, 2010, and rebuttal to be due on July 26, 2010; and grant such other and further relief as is just in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Kevin A. Thompson
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served, either electronically or by hand delivery or by First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, on this **30th day of June, 2010**, on the parties of record as set out on the official Service List maintained by the Data Center of the Missouri Public Service Commission for this case.

s/ Kevin A. Thompson