

LACLEDE GAS COMPANY
720 OLIVE STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63101

AREA CODE 314
342-0532

MICHAEL C. PENDERGAST
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT
ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL

August 8, 2000

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
Harry S Truman Building
301 W. High Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

FILED²

AUG 09 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

RE: Case No. GF-2000-843

Dear Mr. Roberts:

On behalf of Laclede Gas Company, I have enclosed for filing the original and eight copies of a Response to Staff Recommendation. Please see that this filing is brought to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel.

Please file-stamp the additional copy of this Response to Staff Recommendation and return the same in the pre-addressed, stamped envelope provided.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,


Michael C. Pendergast

MCP:kg

cc: Office of the Public Counsel

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

AUG 09 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Case No. GF-2000-843

In the matter of the Application of LACLEDE GAS)
COMPANY for an order authorizing LACLEDE GAS)
COMPANY, to issue and sell First Mortgage Bonds,)
Unsecured Debt and authorized but unissued Common)
Stock of the Company in a total amount not to exceed)
\$350,000,000 together with certain rights to accompany)
the Common Stock and any additional shares of Common)
Stock as may be required by the exercise of such rights; all)
pursuant to a Universal Shelf Registration Statement.)

RESPONSE TO STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or "Company") and for its

Response to Staff Recommendation in the above captioned case, states as follows:

1. On July 31, 2000, the Staff of the Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri ("Staff") filed its Recommendation in this case. In its filing, the Staff recommended that the Verified Application filed by Laclede on June 23, 2000, be approved by the Commission subject to two conditions.

2. This is to advise the Commission that Laclede has no objection to the two conditions proposed by the Staff in its Recommendation. Laclede would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Staff for its very prompt review of the Company's Application and its efforts to submit its Recommendation in this case well in advance of the due date established by the Commission.

Wherefore, for the foregoing reasons, Laclede respectfully requests that the
Commission take note of this Response.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael C. Pendergast".

Michael C. Pendergast #31763
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Assistant Vice President and
Associate General Counsel
Laclede Gas Company
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Michael C. Pendergast, Assistant Vice President and Associate General Counsel for Laclede Gas Company, hereby certifies that the foregoing Response to Staff Recommendation has been duly served upon the General Counsel of the Staff of the Public Service Commission, Office of the Public Counsel and all parties of record to this proceeding by placing a copy thereof in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or by hand delivery, on this 8th day of August, 2000.

Handwritten signature of Michael C. Pendergast in cursive script.