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November 9, 2000

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Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Case No. GR-2000-622

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and eight (8) conformed copies of a **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert V. Franson
Assistant General Counsel
(573) 751-6651
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

RVF:sw
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

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

FILED²

NOV 09 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the matter of Laclede Gas Company's)
Purchased Gas Adjustment factors to be)
reviewed in its 1999-2000 Actual Cost)
Adjustment.)

Case No. GR-2000-622

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

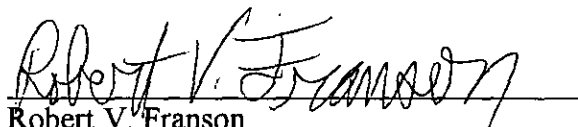
COMES NOW the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission
("Commission") in the above-captioned matter and for its recommendation states as follows:

1. Laclede Gas Company ("Company") filed a tariff sheet on October 31, 2000, proposed to be effective November 15, 2000. The filing was made to reflect changes in Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment ("PGA") factors for the upcoming winter season.
2. Staff has reviewed the proposed tariff sheet, and recommends that it be approved effective November 15, 2000. The recommendation of the Gas Department – Tariffs/Rate Design Staff is attached as Attachment A hereto. Staff notes that good cause has been shown pursuant to §393.140 (11) RSMo to permit the tariff to become effective on less than thirty days notice. Staff also recommends that the rates be interim, subject to refund.

WHEREFORE, the Staff recommends that the Commission approve the proposed tariff sheet.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

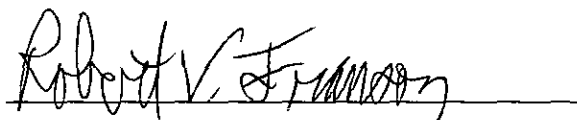


Robert V. Franson
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Missouri Bar No. 34643

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 9th day of November, 2000.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File,
Case No. GR-2000-622, File No. 200100500, Laclede Gas Company

FROM: Henry Warren, Gas Department - Tariffs/Rate Design
Wes Hendrix 11-9-00 *Thomas R. Schwann Jr. 11/9/00*
Utility Operations Division/Date General Counsel's Office/Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation for Laclede Gas Company's scheduled Winter
Season PGA Filing.

DATE: November 9, 2000

On October 31, 2000 Laclede Gas Company (Laclede or Company) of St. Louis, Missouri filed a tariff sheet proposed to become effective November 15, 2000. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect scheduled changes in Laclede's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season. The winter season includes the months of November through March. Additionally, this tariff filing reflects changes in the Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) and Refund factors.

These changes will increase the firm PGA factor for the 2000-2001 winter season to \$0.66311 per therm from an unscheduled 2000 summer season firm PGA factor of \$0.52702 per therm.

Case No. GR-2000-622, under which this change was filed, was established to track the Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in its 1999-2000 ACA filing. Final Commission decisions in Laclede's ACA Case Nos. GR-99-316, GR-98-297, GR-97-222 for the 1998-1999, 1997-1998, and 1996-1997 ACA periods respectively, are still pending. Interim subject to refund status should be maintained pending final Commission decisions in Case Nos. GR-97-222, GR-98-297, GR-99-316, and GR-2000-622.

Because of the short time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factor represented in this filing, the Procurement Analysis Department (PAD) has requested permission to submit its results and recommendations regarding information included in this ACA filing to the Commission on or before December 1, 2001.

The Commission's Gas Department - Tariffs/Rate Design Staff (Staff) has reviewed this filing and has determined that it was calculated in conformance with Laclede's PGA Clause. Staff is of the opinion that good cause for approval of this tariff sheet on less than thirty days notice is demonstrated by Laclede's Commission-approved PGA clause allowing for ten (10) business days notice for PGA change filings. Therefore, Staff recommends that the following tariff sheet be approved, interim subject to refund:

P.S.C. MO. No. 5 Consolidated
One Hundred and Eighty-Second Revised Sheet No. 29 CANCELLING One Hundred and Eighty-First Revised Sheet No. 29

MO PSC Case No. GR-2000-622
OFFICIAL CASE FILE MEMORANDUM
PAGE 2 OF 2

Copies: Director - Utility Operations Division
 Director - Research and Public Affairs Division
 Director - Utility Services Division
 General Counsel
 Manager - Financial Analysis Department
 Manager - Procurement Analysis Department
 Manager - Gas Department
 Mike Cline, Manager - Tariff and Rate Administration (Laclede)
 Mike Pendergast, Attorney (Laclede)
 Robert Johnson, Attorney (Peper, Martin, Jensen, Maichel, &
 Hetlage)
 Office of the Public Counsel

**Service List for
Case No. GR-2000-622
November 9, 2000**

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