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STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 3rd  
day of June, 1997.

In the matter of Laclede Gas Company's tariff     )  
sheets to be reviewed in its 1996-1997 Actual     )  
Cost Adjustment.     )     Case No. GR-97-222

ORDER APPROVING INTERIM RATES

Laclede Gas Company (Laclede or Company) of St. Louis, Missouri, submitted a tariff sheet to the Commission on May 23, 1997, carrying an effective date of June 9, 1997. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect a change in the Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of terminating refund factors implemented on June 6, 1996. The effect of these changes will be to increase annualized revenues by approximately \$1.4 million. The impact on a typical residential space heating customer using 36 therms of natural gas in the month of June will be an increase of \$0.05, or 0.2%.

The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum stating that the change in Laclede's PGA was calculated in conformance with the Company's approved PGA Clause and recommends that the Commission approve the tariff sheet to become effective on June 9, 1997. Staff stated that Laclede's PGA Clause allows for ten (10) business days notice for filings reflecting PGA changes. Staff recommended that the tariff sheet be approved on an interim basis, subject to refund, until the Commission makes its final determinations in Case Nos. GR-97-222 and GR-96-181.

The Commission has reviewed the tariff sheet and Staff's recommendation, and finds that the tariff conforms with Laclede's Commission-approved PGA Clause and is therefore reasonable. After considering Staff's recommendation, and for good cause shown pursuant to Section 393.140(11), RSMo 1994, the Commission is of the opinion that the proposed tariff sheet should be approved to become effective on and after the requested effective date of June 9, 1997, interim subject to refund.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

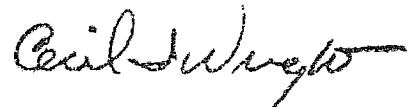
1. That the tariff sheet submitted on May 23, 1997, by Laclede Gas Company of St. Louis, Missouri, is approved on an interim basis, subject to refund, to become effective on June 9, 1997. The tariff sheet approved is:

P.S.C. MO. No. 5 Consolidated

One Hundred and Sixty-Seventh Revised Sheet No. 29 CANCELLING One Hundred and Sixty-Sixth. Revised Sheet No. 29

2. That this order shall become effective June 9, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION



Cecil I. Wright  
Executive Secretary

( S E A L )

Zobrist, Chm., Drainer, and Murray, CC., Concur.  
Crumpton, C., Dissent.  
ALJ: Derque