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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 4th
day of September, 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 August 21, 1997, carrying an effective date of September 5, 1997. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect a change in the Company's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of the initiation of two refunds and carryover balances remaining from a previous refund distribution. The effect of these changes will be to decrease annualized revenues by approximately \$688,300. The impact on a typical residential space heating customer using 30 therms of natural gas in the month of September will be a decrease of \$0.03, or 0.1%.

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 September 5, 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 September 5, 1997, interim subject to refund.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the tariff sheet submitted on August 21, 1997, by Laclede Gas Company of St. Louis, Missouri, is approved on an interim basis, subject to refund, to become effective on September 5, 1997. The tariff sheet approved is:

P.S.C. MO. No. 5 Consolidated
One Hundred and Sixty-Ninth Revised Sheet No. 29 CANCELLING One Hundred and Sixty-Eighth Revised Sheet No. 29

2. That this order shall become effective September 5, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION



Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Lumpe, Chm., Crumpton, Drainer, and Murray, C., Concur
ALJ: Derque