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

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Filing of Revised Tariffs to Increase its Annual Revenues for Natural Gas

Case No. GR-2013-0171

## **APPLICATION TO INTERVENE**

COMES NOW Wal-Mart Stores East, L.P. and Sam's East, Inc. (collectively referred to

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as "Walmart") pursuant to 4 C.S.R. 240-2.075 and applies to intervene herein. In support thereof, Walmart respectfully states as follows:

1. Walmart is a large commercial customer of Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede").

Walmart owns numerous retail facilities in Laclede's service territory.

2. Correspondence or communications regarding this application, including service

of all notices and orders of this Commission, should be addressed to:

David L. Woodsmall Woodsmall Law Office 807 Winston Court Jefferson City, MO 65101 Voice: (573) 797-0005 Fax: (573) 635-7523 E-mail: david.woodsmall@woodsmalllaw.com

3. On December 21, 2012, Laclede gas filed for a \$58.4 million rate increase. Walmart is interested in and, may now or in the future, be affected by the relief sought by Laclede. Walmart's interest is direct, immediate, unique, different from that of the general public, and will not or cannot adequately be represented by any other party. Therefore, it will aid the Commission and protect and advance the public interest that Walmart be permitted to intervene in this proceeding to protect its interest. 4. For purposes of 4 CSR 240-2.075(2), Walmart states that it is opposed to discriminatory pricing of gas and related utility services, is opposed to increases that are not reasonable and are not related to prudent costs that are incurred by the utility in providing utility service, and is opposed to a utility being permitted to earn what may be an unreasonably high rate of return. Walmart is unable to state its position relating to the relief sought by Laclede and is continuing to review Laclede's filing and reserves the right to take positions on specific issues as this case proceeds.

WHEREFORE, Walmart prays: (a) that it be permitted to intervene herein and be made a party hereto with all rights to have notice of and participate in hearings, to present evidence, cross-examine witnesses, file briefs and participate in argument, should any be had; and (b) for all other needful and proper relief appropriate in the premises.

Respectfully submitted,

## WOODSMALL LAW OFFICE

/s/ David Woodsmall David L. Woodsmall Mo. Bar #40747 807 Winston Court Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 797-0005 Facsimile (573) 635-7523 Internet: david.woodsmall@woodsmalllaw.com

ATTORNEY FOR WAL-MART STORES EAST, L.P., AND SAM'S EAST, INC.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing pleading has been served by electronic means on all parties of record as reflected in the records maintained by the Secretary of the Commission through the EFIS system.

<u>/s/ David Woodsmall</u> David Woodsmall

Dated: January 14, 2013