### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE's Application for Authority to File Tariffs Increasing Rates for Electric Service Provided to Customers in the Company's Missouri Service Area

Case No. ER-2007-0002

## APPLICATION TO INTERVENE OF LACLEDE GAS COMPANY

**COMES NOW** Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or "Company") and pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.075 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure files its Application to Intervene. In support of its Application, Laclede respectfully states as follows:

1. Laclede is a gas corporation and public utility incorporated under the laws of the state of Missouri, with its principal office located at 720 Olive Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101. Laclede is engaged in the business of distributing and selling natural gas to customers in the City of St. Louis and the Counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Crawford, Jefferson, Franklin, Iron, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, Madison and Butler in Eastern Missouri, subject to the jurisdiction of the Missouri Public Service Commission (the "Commission"). Laclede is a Missouri corporation and a Certificate of Good Standing from the Missouri Secretary of State, which certificate was submitted as an Exhibit to Laclede's Application in Case No. GM-2001-342, remains current and correct, and is incorporated herein by reference.

2. Communications in regard to this Application should be addressed to:

Michael C. Pendergast Vice President-Associate General Counsel Laclede Gas Company 720 Olive Street, Room 1520 St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 342-0532 mpendergast@lacledegas.com

3. Laclede has no pending actions or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court that involve customer service or rates.

4. Laclede is current on its annual report and assessment fee obligations to the Commission, and no such report or assessment fee is overdue.

5. On July 10, 2006, Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE ("AmerenUE") filed tariff sheets implementing a general rate increase for retail electric service customers in its Missouri service area. As a local natural gas distribution company that provides gas sales and other related services in competition with the services provided by AmerenUE, and as a customer of AmerenUE, Laclede has a direct interest in the matters addressed by AmerenUE's filing. Such interest is different from that of the general public and may be adversely affected by a final order arising from this case. Laclede would note that the Commission has consistently recognized this interest in other cases involving AmerenUE's rates. *See e.g. Re: Union Electric Company*, Case Nos. EC-2002-1, EO-96-15; EM-96-149; EO-85-17, ER-85-160, *Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission v. Union Electric Company*, Case No. EC-87-115.

6. Until Laclede has had an opportunity to more fully evaluate the testimony and recommendations presented in this case, it is unable to take a position on the relief sought in this proceeding.

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WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Laclede Gas Company respectfully requests

that the Commission issue its order granting Laclede's Application to Intervene and permitting

Laclede to intervene and participate as a party in all respects in this proceeding.

Respectfully requested,

### /s/ Michael C. Pendergast

Michael C. Pendergast #31763 Vice President and Associate General Counsel Rick Zucker #49211 Assistant General Counsel

Laclede Gas Company 720 Olive Street, Room 1520 St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 342-0532 Phone (314) 421-1979 Fax mpendergast@lacledegas.com rzucker@lacledegas.com

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Application to Intervene of Laclede Gas Company has been duly served upon the parties listed in the Commission's July 11, 2006 Order Directing Notice, Suspending Tariff, Setting Hearings, and Directing Filings by email, facsimile, by placing a copy thereof in the United States mail, postage prepaid, or by hand delivery, on this 28th day of July, 2006.

<u>/s/ Rick Zucker</u> Rick Zucker

#### **VERIFICATION**

STATE OF MISSOURI ) ) SS. CITY OF ST. LOUIS

I, Michael C. Pendergast, being first duly sworn, verify that I am an officer and an attorney for Laclede Gas Company. I am licensed to practice law in the State of Missouri and have been authorized to file the foregoing Application to Intervene, which is correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Michael C. Pendergast

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28th day of July, 2006.

Karen A. Justicie

KAREN A. ZURLIENE NOTARY PUBLIC - NOTARY SEAL STATE OF MISSOURI, CITY OF ST. LOUIS MY COMMISSION EXPIRES FEBRUARY 18, 2008

My Commission expires: February 18, 2008