

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

In the Matter of the filing of Laclede Gas     )  
Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in     )  
its 2008-2009 ACA filing.                     )                     Case No. GR-2010-0138

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission in the above-captioned matter and, in response to the tariff filed by Laclede to decrease its PGA for the upcoming winter season season, states:

1.       On October 30, 2009, Laclede Gas Company (Laclede or Company) of St. Louis, Missouri filed a tariff sheet proposed to become effective November 17, 2009.

2.       The tariff sheet was filed to reflect scheduled changes in Laclede's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of an estimated change in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season and changes in the Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) factor.

3.       On November 3, 2009, Laclede filed a substitute tariff sheet after discovering that certain information was inadvertently included in the determination of the new PGA factors. Laclede is unique among Missouri natural-gas companies in that it defines its Winter Season as November through April.

4.       The effects of these changes from this filing will reduce Laclede's PGA rate on November 17, 2008, from \$0.83163 per therm to \$0.65238 per therm. This represents a decrease of \$0.17925 per therm.

5.       This rate change should be granted only on an interim, subject to refund status, pending final Commission decisions in ACA Case Nos. GR-2005-0203, GR-2006-0288, GR-2008-0140, GR-2008-0387 and GR-2010-0138.

6. Due to the limited time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factor represented in this filing, the Procurement Analysis Department (PAD) has requested authorization to submit its results and recommendations regarding the information included in this ACA filing to the Commission on or before December 31, 2010.

7. The Staff has reviewed this PGA filing and has determined that it was calculated in conformance with Laclede's PGA Clause.

8. Staff is of the opinion that good cause for approval of these tariff sheets 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.

WHEREFORE, the Staff recommends that the Commission approve Laclede's requested tariff change to lower its PGA rate be effective on November 16, 2006, interim, subject to refund basis only pending review of the prudence of Laclede's gas purchasing practices.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Lera L. Shemwell**

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## **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 5th day of November, 2009.

**/s/ Lera Shemwell**