

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Thomas E. LeCuru,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. GC-2007-0372</u>
)	
Laclede Gas Company,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER GRANTING STAFF'S REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO
FILE RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: May 23, 2007

Effective Date: May 23, 2007

Thomas E. LeCuru filed a formal complaint against Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede") on April 3, 2007.¹ On April 5, 2007, the Commission notified Laclede of the complaint and allowed it thirty days in which to answer as provided by 4 CSR 240-2.070(7). The following day, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.070(10), the Commission ordered its Staff to commence an investigation of Mr. LeCuru's formal complaint and to file a report concerning the results of its investigation no later than two weeks after Laclede filed its answer to the complaint.

Laclede timely filed its answer to Mr. LeCuru's complaint on May 7. Thus, Staff's report and recommendation were due two weeks later, on May 21. On May 21, Staff filed a Request for Additional Time to File. In this pleading, Staff avers that Laclede is attempting

¹ All dates specified in this order refer to the calendar year 2007.

to resolve this case with Mr. LeCuru and that they have been discussing a possible settlement. For those reasons, Staff proposes to file its report and recommendation by June 15 if the case has not settled before then.

Since Staff's request is authorized by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.050(3)(A) and "the law favors settlements and compromises based upon valid considerations,"² the Commission finds the request to be reasonable under the circumstances and will grant it.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Staff's Request for Additional Time to File is granted. Assuming the case does not settle before then, Staff shall file a report concerning the results of its investigation of Thomas E. LeCuru's formal complaint against Laclede Gas Company by no later than June 15, 2007.

2. This order shall become effective on May 23, 2007.

BY THE COMMISSION



Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Benjamin H. Lane, Regulatory Law
Judge, by delegation of authority
under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 23rd day of May, 2007.

² *Miners' & Farmers' Bank of Aurora v. American Bonding Co.*, 186 S.W. 1139, 1140 (Mo. App. S.D. 1916). See also *Sanger v. Yellow Cab Co.*, 486 S.W.2d 477, 481 (Mo. banc 1972) (internal quotation marks omitted) ("The law favors settlements fairly made.")