

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

St. Louis Natural Gas Pipeline, LLC,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>File No. GC-2011-0294</u>
)	
Laclede Gas Company,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

Issue Date: March 22, 2011

Laclede Gas Company
720 Olive St.
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

CERTIFIED MAIL

On March 22, 2011, St. Louis Natural Gas Pipeline, LLC, filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission against Laclede Gas Company, a copy of which is enclosed. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.070 allows the Respondent 30 days from the date of this notice to file an answer or to file notice that the complaint has been satisfied. However, St. Louis Natural Gas, asks the Commission to expedite its treatment of its complaint by shortening the time allowed for Laclede to respond to 15 days.

Aside from a general desire for a prompt resolution that it claims will benefit Laclede's customers and the public, St. Louis Natural Gas' motion for expedited treatment does not specify any other reason for the Commission to require Laclede to file an expedited response. The Commission will endeavor to resolve St. Louis Natural

Gas' complaint quickly, but St. Louis Natural Gas' desire for a prompt resolution does not, by itself, justify a limitation on the right of the respondent to have a reasonable amount of time to prepare an answer or other response.

St. Louis Natural Gas has not offered sufficient justification for the Commission to set aside the response time specified in the regulation and the Commission will not do so. Since the Commission is issuing this notice on March 22, the thirty-day response period will expire on April 21. Laclede's answer or other response is due on that date.

This complaint is a contested case. As required by section 536.067(2)(f), RSMo 2000, the Commission informs the parties that the Commission's provisions governing procedures before the Commission, including provisions relating to discovery are found at Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2. Since St. Louis Natural Gas is not regulated by the Commission, the 60-day notice requirement established by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.020(2) does not apply

As an alternative to the formal evidentiary process, the Commission offers voluntary mediation. Upon a request for mediation, the Commission may suspend the filing date set forth in this order.

BY THE COMMISSION

(S E A L)



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 22nd day of March, 2011.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge