

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

In the Matter of the Verified Application and)
Petition of Laclede Gas Company to Change) **File No. GO-2015-0178**
Its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge) **Tariff No. YG-2015-0252**
In its Laclede Gas Service Territory)

In the Matter of the Application of Missouri Gas)
Energy, an Operating Unit of Laclede Gas Company,) **File No. GO-2015-0179**
For Approval to Change its Infrastructure System) **Tariff No. YG-2015-0255**
Replacement Surcharge)

ORDER SETTING JOINT EVIDENTIARY HEARING

Issue Date: April 10, 2015

Effective Date: April 10, 2015

On January 30, 2015, Missouri Gas Energy (“MGE”), an operating unit of Laclede Gas Company (“Laclede”), filed a Verified Application and Petition to Change its Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge (“ISRS”) (File No. GO-2015-0179). That same day, Laclede also filed an application requesting authority to change the ISRS for its Laclede Gas Service Territory (File No. GO-2015-0178). By law, the Commission must issue orders on MGE’s and Laclede’s applications no later than May 30.

On March 19, the Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”) filed a motion requesting the Commission reject or deny Laclede’s application in File No. GO-2015-0178 or set the matter for hearing. The Commission scheduled an evidentiary hearing on Laclede’s ISRS for April 20. The Commission also issued an order setting the procedural schedule.

On April 10, OPC filed a motion seeking the Commission’s denial of certain ISRS costs filed by MGE in File No. GO-2015-0179. OPC is questioning the lawfulness of MGE’s inclusion of costs incurred after MGE filed its application. OPC states that it, “...raises these same issues in the Laclede Gas Company ISRS case, Case No. GO-2015-0178, and a

procedural schedule has been set and testimony filed.... For this reason, Public Counsel asks the Commission to delay a ruling on this motion until after the Commission addresses this issue in the Laclede case since the argument raised herein is identical in both cases.”

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110(3) states that:

When pending actions involve related questions of law or fact, the commission may order a joint hearing of any or all the matters at issue, and may make other orders concerning cases before it to avoid unnecessary costs or delay.

Due to the May 30 operation of law date in both matters, it will cause an unnecessary delay to postpone addressing OPC’s motion on MGE’s ISRS application until after the Commission issues an order on Laclede’s ISRS application. Since the issue of whether a utility can seek cost recovery through the ISRS for plant costs incurred and/or documented after the filing of the application is currently set to be addressed at hearing on April 20 in File No. GO-2015-0178, the Commission will order a joint hearing to also address OPC’s motion concerning MGE’s ISRS application in File No. GO-2015-0179.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. A joint evidentiary hearing is scheduled for April 20, 2015, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in File Nos. GO-2015-0178 and GO-2015-0179. The hearing will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. The Commission will address all relevant issues presented by the parties.

2. The hearing will be held in a building that meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person requiring additional accommodations to participate in the hearing shall call the Missouri Public Service Commission’s Hotline at 800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

3. The parties in File No. GO-2015-0179 shall comply with the procedural schedule in File No. GO-2015-0178, as issued by the Commission on its April 8, 2015, *Order Granting Motion for Extension of Time to File Direct Testimony* in File No. GO-2015-0178.

4. The parties in File No. GO-2015-0179 may file testimony no later than April 14, 2015.

5. This order shall be effective when issued.

BY THE COMMISSION



Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary



Kim S. Burton, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 10th day of April, 2015.