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November 21, 2001

FILED³

NOV 21 2001

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Executive Secretary
Public Service Commission
Governor State Office Building
Jefferson City, MO

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

HAND DELIVERY

RE: Case Nos. GR-2001-629 and GT-2001-662

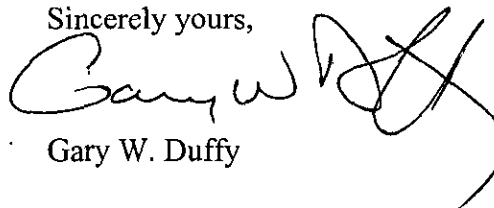
Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced proceeding please find an original and eight copies of a "Motion for Expedited Approval of Tariff Sheets on Less Than Thirty Days' Notice of Waiver of Ten Day Effective Date Period."

Also enclosed please find an original and three copies of tariff sheets which bear an issue date of November 21, 2001 and an effective date of December 1, 2001. These tariffs are the subject of the "Motion for Expedited Approval" and are identical in content to the specimen tariff sheets attached to the Stipulation and Agreement which was filed on November 16, 2001. These are essentially "compliance" tariffs being filed early to accommodate any order approving the Stipulation and Agreement that may be issued by the Commission in accordance with the request of the parties that the tariffs become effective December 1, 2001.

If you have any questions, please give me a call or contact Mr. Pendergast in St. Louis.

Sincerely yours,



Gary W. Duffy

Enclosures
cc w/encl:

Office of Public Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
Lisa C. Langeneckert
Jan Bond
Mike Pendergast

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200200403

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED³
NOV 21 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of Laclede Gas)
Company's Tariff to Revise Natural) Case No. GR-2001-629
Gas Rate Schedules.)

In the Matter of Laclede Gas)
Company's Tariff for a Weather) Case No. GT-2001-662
Normalization Clause)

**MOTION FOR EXPEDITED APPROVAL OF TARIFF SHEETS
ON LESS THAN THIRTY DAYS' NOTICE AND NOTICE OF WAIVER OF TEN
DAY EFFECTIVE DATE PERIOD**

COMES NOW Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede" or "Company"), pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.065(2) and 4 CSR 240-2.080(17) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, and in support of its Motion for Expedited Approval of Tariff Sheets on Less than Thirty Days' Notice and Notice of Waiver of Ten Day Effective Date Period, states as follows:

1. On May 18, 2001, Laclede Gas Company submitted to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") revised tariff sheets reflecting increased rates for gas service provided to customers in its Missouri service area. The proposed tariff sheets contained a requested effective date of June 18, 2001 and were designed to produce an annual increase of approximately 5.0 percent (\$39.8 Million) in charges for gas service. By subsequent Orders, the Commission suspended the proposed tariff sheets, granted interventions, and established a procedural schedule.

2. In accordance with that procedural schedule, a prehearing conference was held beginning October 22, 2001, which was attended by all of the Parties to this case,

including Laclede, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"); the Office of the Public Counsel ("Public Counsel"); the Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers Local 5-6, AFL-CIO; Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE; the Missouri Energy Group (Barnes-Jewish Hospital, DaimlerChrysler Corporation, Emerson Electric Company, SSM HealthCare, and St. John's Mercy Health Care); and the Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers (Adam's Mark Hotels, Alcoa Foil Products, Anheuser-Busch Companies Inc., The Boeing Company, Ford Motor Company, General Motors Corporation, Hussmann Refrigeration, Mallinckrodt, Inc., MEMC Electronic Materials Inc., Monsanto Company, Proctor & Gamble Manufacturing Company and Ralston Purina Company).

3. As a result of lengthy discussions both during and subsequent to the prehearing conference, all of the Parties to this case reached a Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement ("Stipulation") recommending a resolution of all of the issues in this case, which Stipulation was subsequently filed with the Commission on November 16, 2001. Among other things, the Stipulation recommends that certain changes be made to the Company's rate schedules, tariff sheets and rules for providing service, effective December 1, 2001, all of which are attached to the Stipulation as Attachment 1.

4. In accordance with that recommendation, Laclede has contemporaneously filed with this Motion tariff sheets which are identical in content to the specimen tariff sheets attached to the Stipulation. Although the tariff sheets contain a thirty day effective date, Laclede respectfully requests that the Commission approve them on an expedited basis for service rendered on and after December 1, 2001 consistent with the Parties' recommendation in the Stipulation.

5. Laclede submits that such action is consistent with both the “good cause” standard for approving tariffs on less than thirty days’ notice as well as the standards for granting expedited treatment as set forth in 4 CSR 240-2.080(17). Specifically, pursuant to subsection (C) of 4 CSR 240-2.080(17), Laclede would note that it filed this Motion as soon as possible after the Stipulation recommending the approval of the tariffs was agreed upon and filed with the Commission. Laclede also submits that such action is consistent with the interests of the Company and its customers, as contemplated by subsection (B) of 4 CSR 240-2.080(17). Although the Stipulation recommends an overall increase of approximately 2%, such an increase will be dwarfed by the impact on customer bills of the recent 30% decrease in rates resulting from the Commission’s approval several days ago of the Company’ winter PGA filing. At the same time, however, timely approval of the Stipulation and the revised tariff sheets filed by the proposed date would:

- provide the Company with additional financial resources that are necessary now to maintain reliable and dependable service to its customers;
- prevent a significant erosion of the financial considerations underlying the Stipulation under which Laclede agreed to a significantly lower overall increase in exchange for having the increase implemented by December 1, 2001;
- permit implementation of tariffs reflecting the terms of the Commission’s recent Emergency Amendment to the Cold Weather Rule; and

- permit the timely evaluation and development of new customer programs, including a new Weatherization Program for low income customers and a fixed bill option for the Company's customers in advance of the next winter heating season.

6. For all of these reasons, as well as others set forth in the Stipulation, Laclede believes that there is good cause for the expedited relief requested herein. In the event the Commission determines that the Stipulation filed in this case should be approved, Laclede accordingly requests that the Commission grant this Motion at the same time and in the same Order approving such Stipulation so that the tariff sheets filed on this date may become effective for service rendered on and after December 1, 2001.

7. Laclede has transmitted this Motion to counsel for the other Parties. While no other party has acquiesced in the specific reasons given by Laclede in support of this Motion, they have all indicated that they have no objection to the Commission granting the relief requested in this Motion, subject to Staff's final review and recommendation that the revised tariff sheets filed on this date are indeed identical to those set forth in Attachment 1 to the Stipulation. Counsel for the other Parties have also authorized the undersigned to clarify that, consistent with the waiver language contained in paragraph 16 of the Stipulation, all Parties have waived any requirement for a ten day effective date period following any Commission approval of the Stipulation in its entirety.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Laclede Gas Company respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Motion for Expedited Approval of Tariff Sheets

on Less than Thirty Days' Notice and take notice of the Parties' waiver of the ten day effective date period.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael C. Pendergast by GWT

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was either hand delivered or deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, first class postage prepaid, to the following list of counsel in this proceeding this 21st day of November, 2001.

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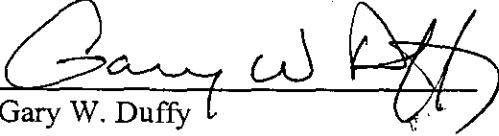
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