

FILED²

OCT 23 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Resolution 150

GR-2001-629

WHEREAS, Laclede Gas Company has filed revised gas service tariff sheets with the Missouri Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, Laclede Gas Company is reporting that if granted the tariff would increase the Company's Missouri annual gross revenues by approximately 5 percent for the average residential customer; and

WHEREAS, The Missouri Public Service Commission set **only 2 local public hearings on Wednesday, October 17, 2001, on the same day**, to receive customer comments on Laclede's application for a rate increase; and

~~**WHEREAS**, One of the hearings was held in North County and one hearing was held in West County but none were held in the City of St. Louis; and~~

WHEREAS, The Citizens of the City of St. Louis were hit very hard with the significant increase in cost of gas service for heating their homes during the winter of 2000-2001 so much so that many citizens are still paying off their heating bills from last winter; and

WHEREAS, The City of St. Louis in an attempt to help our Citizens set up a special fund to help them with the high cost of heating their homes with gas; and

WHEREAS, This fund was only a drop in the bucket and could not help most of those who needed help; and

WHEREAS, An evidentiary hearing has been set before the Public Service Commission at **8:30 a.m., December 17-21, 2001 and January 3-4, 2002**, if necessary, in the Commission's hearing room on the 3rd floor of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Most of the Citizens of St. Louis will not be able to make the evidentiary hearing in Jefferson City and the Citizens of the City of St. Louis should have been afforded a better opportunity to attend public hearings for comments by holding at least two additional hearings in the City of St. Louis on different days and if afforded this opportunity the Citizens would have voiced their strong opposition against an increase in their gas bill; and

WHEREAS, The proposed increase by Laclede Gas Company will place an additional burden on the hardworking Citizens of the City of St. Louis and perhaps leave some without an adequate heat source for the winter of 2001-2002; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the Public Counsel was established in the state of Missouri to represent the interest of utility customers in proceeding before and appeals from the Missouri Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Missouri Public Service Commission regulates the rates and service of investor-owner electric, natural gas, telephone, water, sewer and steam heat utilities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, This Honorable Board while sitting in session go on record as opposing the requested increase by Laclede Gas Company and asking the Missouri Public Service Commission to oppose and/or deny the request made by Laclede Gas Company.

BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, This Honorable Board instruct the Clerk of the Board of Aldermen to send a copy of this Resolution to Ms. Martha S. Hogerty, the Missouri Public Counsel and to the Missouri Public Service Commission members.

Introduced this 19th day of October 2001 by:

The Honorable Sharon Tyus, Alderwoman 20th Ward

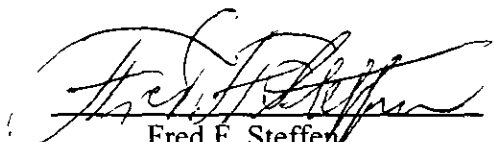
The Honorable Irene J. Smith, Alderwoman 1st Ward

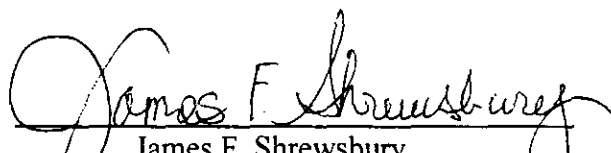
The Honorable Terry Kennedy, Alderman 18th Ward

The Honorable Irving Clay, Jr., Alderman 26th Ward

The Honorable Gregory Carter, Alderman 27th Ward

Adopted this the 19th day of October, 2001 as attested by:


Fred F. Steffery
Clerk, Board of Aldermen


James F. Shrewsbury
Vice-President, Board of Aldermen