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STATE OF MISSOURI

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Prehearing Conference

October 22, 2001
Jefferson City, Missouri
Volume 4

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

KEITH THORNBURG, Presiding,
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.

REPORTED BY:

MELINDA ADOLPHSON, CSR
ASSOCIATED COURT REPORTERS, INC.

ASSOCIATED COURT REPORTERS, INC.
(573) 636-7551 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102
(573) 442-3600 COLUMBIA, MO 65201

1 APPEARANCES:

2 MICHAEL C. PENDERGAST, Attorney at Law
3 GERALD T. McNEIVE, JR, Attorney at Law
4 720 Olive Street
St. Louis, MO 63101
314-342-0532

5 AND

6 JAMES SWEARENGEN, Attorney at Law
7 GARY DUFFY, Attorney at Law
8 Brydon, Swearengen & England, P.C.
312 E. Capitol Avenue
9 P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-635-7166

10 FOR: Laclede Gas Company.

11 THOMAS M. BYRNE, Attorney at Law
12 1901 Chouteau Avenue
13 St. Louis, MO 63103
314-544-2237

14 FOR: Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE.

15 LISA C. LANGENECKERT, Attorney at Law
16 Law Offices of Robert Johnson
17 720 Olive Street, 24th Floor
St. Louis, MO 63101
314-345-6441

18 FOR: Missouri Energy Group: Barnes-Jewish
19 Hospital, Daimler Chrysler Corp.,
20 Emerson Electric, SSM, St. John's
Mercy.

21 DIANA M. VUYLSTEKE, Attorney at Law
22 Bryan Cave
23 211 N. Broadway, Suite 3600
St. Louis, MO 63102
314-259-2000

24 FOR: Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers.

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1 CONT'D APPEARANCES:

2 LERA SHEMWELL, Associate Counsel
3 ROBERT FRANSON, Legal Counsel
4 ERIC ANDERSON, Legal Counsel
5 DAVID MEYER, Legal Counsel
6 VICTORIA KIZITO, Legal Counsel
 Governor Office Building
 P.O. Box 360
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 573-751-3234

7 FOR: Staff of the Missouri Public Service
8 Commission.

9 DOUGLAS E. MICHEEL, Senior Public Counsel
10 Governor Office Building
11 P.O. Box 7800
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 573-751-3234

12 FOR: Office of the Public Counsel and the
13 Public.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUDGE THORNBURG: We're convening a
3 prehearing conference today, and the conferences
4 will continue all this week. And this is In the
5 Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Tariff to Revise
6 Natural Gas Rate Schedules. The case number is
7 Case No. GR-2001-629. There's a tariff file number
8 of 200101125 associated with this case.

9 On September 4, 2001, the Commission
10 issued an order in another case joining these two
11 cases. And the style of that second case is In the
12 Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Tariff for Weather
13 Normalization Clause, Case No. GT-2001-662. And
14 there's also a tariff filing associated with that
15 case. It's tariff number 200101074.

16 I did an order in that case on the 12th
17 day of October that joined all the parties in both
18 cases. We had, I think, one intervention that
19 hadn't been dealt with, so I just dealt it with it
20 by joining each of the parties in both cases.

21 And then also the procedural schedule was
22 modified slightly to allow for the filing of
23 testimony associated with the second case, with
24 those dates coinciding with the procedural schedule
25 set in the original rate case.

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1 At this time we'll taken entries of
2 appearance. I'll begin with Laclede Gas Company.
3 MR. PENDERGAST: Thank you, your Honor.
4 Appearing on behalf of Laclede Gas Company, Michael
5 Pendergast, Gerald McNeive, Junior, and Joseph
6 Clennon. Our business address is 720 Olive Street,
7 St. Louis, Missouri 63101. We also have outside
8 counsel with us, Mr. Swearengen, James Swearengen,
9 and Mr. Gary Duffy, with Brydon, Swearengen and
10 England.
11 JUDGE THORNBURG: Thank you very much.
12 And on behalf of Staff?
13 MS. SHEMWELL: Good morning and thank you,
14 your Honor. I'm Lera Shemwell, representing the
15 Staff of the Commission, also David Meyer, Victoria
16 Kizito, Robert Franson and Eric Anderson, Post
17 Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
18 JUDGE THORNBURG: Thank you very much.
19 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.
20 JUDGE THORNBURG: And for the Office of
21 Public Counsel?
22 MR. MICHEEL: Douglas E. Micheel,
23 appearing on behalf of the Office of the Public
24 Counsel and the Public, P.O. Box 7800,
25 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-7800.

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1 JUDGE THORNBURG: And for the Missouri
2 Energy Group?

3 MS. LANGENECKERT: Lisa C. Langeneckert,
4 appearing on behalf of the Missouri Energy Group,
5 Law Office of Robert Johnson, 720 Olive Street,
6 24th Floor, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

7 JUDGE THORNBURG: Thank you.

8 Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers?

9 MS. VUYLSTEKE: Diana M. Vuylsteke, Bryan
10 Cave, 211 North Broadway, Suite 3600, St. Louis,
11 Missouri 63102.

12 JUDGE THORNBURG: And then for the Paper,
13 Allied Chemical Workers Local No. 5 and 6, and I
14 think we've got some other names here.

15 Yes, sir?

16 MR. SCHULTE: I'm appearing on behalf of
17 James Bond for PACE Local 5-6. My name is Joe
18 Schulte, and our address is 7750 Olive Street,
19 St. Louis, Missouri 63130.

20 JUDGE THORNBURG: And for my education,
21 what's the shorthand reference that everybody is
22 using for your group?

23 MR. SCHULTE: Pardon?

24 JUDGE THORNBURG: How do the parties refer
25 to your group?

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1 MR. SCHULTE: Gas workers.

2 JUDGE THORNBURG: Gas workers. Okay.

3 Thank you.

4 Is there anyone I've overlooked?

5 MR. BYRNE: Yes.

6 JUDGE THORNBURG: Yes, sir?

7 MR. BYRNE: I'm Thomas M. Byrne, appearing

8 on behalf of Union Electric Company, doing business

9 as AmerenUE. My address is 1901 Chouteau Avenue,

10 St. Louis Missouri, 63103.

11 JUDGE THORNBURG: Thank you, Mr. Byrne.

12 Sorry I overlooked you.

13 Is there anyone else?

14 Does anyone have any particular matters

15 for me this morning?

16 Hearing none, one thing I'll mention, and

17 a couple of parties have asked about this, but the

18 hearing room across the way is available if you-all

19 want to spread out today. And I'll get the door

20 unlocked, this back entrance, and if the parties

21 want to use that, it's available. I know you-all

22 have a lot to discuss this week.

23 And I didn't set start times for the rest

24 of the week. I'll leave that up to you-all to

25 discuss what time in the morning you want to take

1 up. Let Joann know when you're completed with the
2 room each day so she can lock it up for you. And
3 then when you finish for the week, you might --
4 well, Joann can let me know up front.

5 I haven't done one of these rate cases
6 yet. I will let you know that I tend to like and
7 appreciate more detailed statements of issues. And
8 depending on what I get, I may ask for more detail,
9 if it's not detailed enough. That way I have some
10 assurance I don't overlook something that the
11 parties want the Commission to address. It's
12 helpful to me and to the Commissioners.

13 Are there any other questions?

14 Hearing none, we'll be adjourned for the
15 formal part of the hearing. Thank you.

16 WHEREUPON, the on-the-record portion of
17 the prehearing conference was concluded.

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