

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

In the matter of Laclede Gas Company's) Case No. GR-2002-356
tariff to revise natural gas rate schedules.

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES A. BUSCH

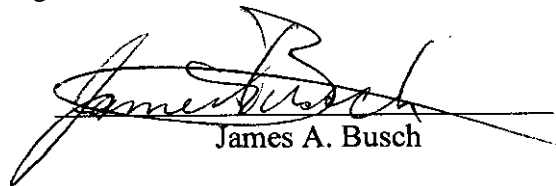
STATE OF MISSOURI)

ss

COUNTY OF COLE)

James A. Busch, of lawful age and being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. My name is James A. Busch. I am the Public Utility Economist for the Office of the Public Counsel.
2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my direct testimony consisting of pages 1 through 10 and Schedules JAB-1 through JAB-3.
3. I hereby swear and affirm that my statements contained in the attached testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.


James A. Busch

Subscribed and sworn to me this 20th day of June, 2002.

KATHLEEN HARRISON
Notary Public - State of Missouri
County of Cole
My Commission expires Jan. 31, 2006

C =
Kathleen Harrison, Notary Public

My commission expires January 31, 2006.