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November 14, 2001

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Director, Utility Operations
ROBERT SCHALLENBERG
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Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

FILED²

NOV 14 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

RE: Case No. GR-2001-387

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and eight (8) conformed copies of a **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce H. Bates
Associate General Counsel
(573) 751-7434
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

BHB/lb
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

NOV 14 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's)
Purchased Gas Adjustment Tariff)
Revisions to be Reviewed in Its 2000-)
2001 Actual Cost Adjustment.)

Case No. GR-2001-387

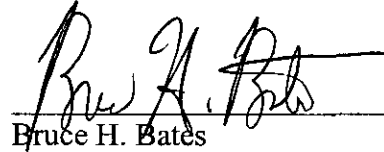
STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff") and for its
Recommendation states:

In the attached *Memorandum*, which is labeled *Appendix A*, the Staff recommends that
the Missouri Public Service Commission issue an order approving Laclede Gas Company's
proposed tariff sheet P.S.C. MO. No. 5 Consolidated, One Hundred and Eighty-Sixth Revised
Sheet No. 29, Canceling One Hundred and Eighty-Fifth Revised Sheet No. 29, interim subject to
refund, for the reasons stated therein.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

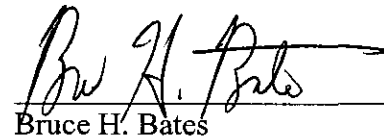


Bruce H. Bates
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Missouri Bar No. 35442

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel or parties of record as shown on the attached service list this 14th day of November 2001.



Bruce H. Bates

MEMORANDUM

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File,
Case No. GR-2001-387, File No. 200200345, Laclede Gas Company

FROM: *James A. Gray*
James A. Gray, Energy Department – Tariffs/Rate Design

Wanda T. Ward 11/9/01
Energy Department/Date

Thomas R. Schwarz Jr. 11/14/01
General Counsel's Office/Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation for Laclede Gas Company's Scheduled Winter Season PGA Filing.

DATE: November 9, 2001

On November 2, 2001, Laclede Gas Company (Laclede or Company) of St. Louis, Missouri filed a tariff sheet proposed to become effective November 19, 2001. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect scheduled changes in Laclede's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of changes in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season. The winter season includes the months of November through March. This tariff filing reflects changes in the Regular Purchased Gas Adjustment (RPGA) Factors, Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) Factors, and Refund Adjustment (RA) Factors. Additionally, the L. P. Gas Service PGA factors will decrease.

The net effect of these changes will decrease the firm PGA factor for the 2001-2002 winter season to \$0.41250 per therm from a scheduled 2001 summer season total PGA of \$0.67739. The effect of the proposed rate on a typical residential heating customer for the winter season is a decrease of approximately \$235 or 30% when compared with the rates currently in effect.

Case No. GR-2001-387, under which this change was filed, was established to track the Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in its 2000-2001 ACA filing. Case No. GR-2000-622 was established to track the Company's PGA factors to be reviewed in its 1999-2000 ACA filing. Interim subject to refund status should be maintained pending final Commission decisions in Case Nos. GR-2000-622 and GR-2001-387.

Because of the short time available to review the documentation supporting the ACA factors represented in this filing, the Procurement Analysis Department (PAD) has requested permission to submit its results and recommendations regarding information included in this ACA filing to the Commission on or before February 28, 2002.

MO PSC Case No. GR-2001-387

OFFICIAL CASE FILE MEMORANDUM

PAGE 2 OF 2

The Commission's Energy Department - Tariffs/Rate Design Staff (Staff) has reviewed this filing and has determined that it was calculated in conformance with Laclede's PGA Clause. Staff is of the opinion that good cause for approval of this tariff sheet on less than thirty days notice is demonstrated by Laclede's Commission-approved PGA clause allowing for ten (10) business days notice for PGA change filings. Therefore, Staff recommends that the following tariff sheet be approved, interim subject to refund:

P.S.C. MO. No. 5 Consolidated

One Hundred and Eighty-Sixth Revised Sheet No. 29,

Canceling One Hundred and Eighty-Fifth Revised Sheet No. 29

Copies: Director - Utility Operations Division
 Director - Utility Services Division
 General Counsel
 Manager - Financial Analysis Department
 Manager - Procurement Analysis Department
 Manager - Energy Department
 Michael Cline, Director – Tariff and Rate
 Administration (Laclede)
 Michael Pendergast, Assistant Vice President –
 Associate General Counsel (Laclede)
 Mark Comley, Attorney (Newman, Comley & Ruth P.C.)
 Office of the Public Counsel

Service List for
Case No. GR-2001-387
Verified: November 14, 2001 (lb)

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