

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
November 15, 2001**

CASE NO: GR-2001-387

Office of the Public Counsel
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720 Olive Street
St. Louis, MO 63101

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Newman, Comley & Ruth P.C.
601 Monroe Street, Suite 301
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's	)	<u>Case No. GR-2001-387</u>
Purchased Gas Adjustment Tariff Revisions to be	)	Tariff No. 200200345
Reviewed in Its 2000-2001 Actual Cost Adjustment.	)	

ORDER APPROVING INTERIM RATES

Laclede Gas Company filed a tariff sheet with the Commission on November 2, 2001, carrying an effective date of November 19, 2001. The tariff sheet reflects scheduled changes in Laclede's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season. The winter heating season includes the months of November through March.

On November 14, 2001, the Staff of the Commission filed its Memorandum and Recommendation. Staff recommends that Laclede's proposed tariff sheet be approved for service on and after November 19, 2001, as an interim rate, subject to refund. Staff further advises the Commission that Laclede has shown good cause such that its tariff sheet should be approved on less than 30 days' notice.

The net effect of the changes made by the tariff will decrease Laclede's firm PGA factor for the 2001-2002 winter season from \$0.67739 per therm to \$0.41250 per therm.

Staff states that Laclede's proposed PGA factor changes were calculated in conformity with Laclede's PGA clause. Staff further states that Laclede's PGA clause allows for ten business days' notice for filings reflecting PGA changes and that, under the circumstances, good cause exists to approve the proposed tariff sheet on less than

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30 days' notice. Staff recommends that the Commission approve the tariff sheet to become effective November 19, 2001, on an interim basis, subject to refund, pending a final Commission decision in Laclede's ACA cases, Case No. GR-2000-622 and GR-2001-387. Staff also requests that the Commission's Procurement Analysis Department be given the time necessary to conduct its audit of the ACA period and submit its results and recommendations regarding this ACA filing on or before February 28, 2002.

The Commission has reviewed the proposed tariff sheet and Staff's Memorandum and Recommendation. The Commission finds that the tariff sheet conforms to the company's Commission-approved PGA Clause and is therefore reasonable. After considering Staff's recommendation, and for good cause shown pursuant to Section 393.140(11), RSMo 2000, the Commission concludes that the proposed tariff sheet should be approved to become effective on and after the requested effective date of November 19, 2001, interim subject to refund.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the proposed tariff sheet filed on November 2, 2001, by Laclede Gas Company, is approved on an interim basis, subject to refund, for service rendered on and after November 19, 2001. The tariff sheet approved is:

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

2. That the Commission's Procurement Analysis Department shall submit its results and recommendations regarding this ACA filing on or before February 28, 2002.

3. That this order shall become effective on November 19, 2001.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

(SEAL)

Morris L. Woodruff, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 15th day of November, 2001.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and
I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,
Missouri, this 15th day of Nov. 2001.





Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge