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Missouri Public Service Commission

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October 10, 2000

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> 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

RE: Case No. GO-2000-394 - In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's Experimental Price Stabilization Fund.

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,

Thomas R. Schwarz, Jr.

Deputy General Counsel

(573) 751-5239

(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

Enclosure

cc: Counsel of Record

____Exhibit No.

Case No(s). GR 200

Date 2 - 13 (1)3 Rptr 45

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's)	
Experimental Price Stabilization Fund.)	Case No. GO-2000-394

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Comes now the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") and for its recommendation in the above-captioned Case states:

- 1. On July 7, 2000, Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede") filed a verified application for certain temporary revisions to its Price Stabilization Program ("PSP") for the second year of that program. The filing was made to address concerns about the status of the program in light of upward movements in the market price of natural gas since March of this year.
- 2. After considerable discussions among the Staff, Laclede and the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC"), the parties filed a Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement on September 1, 2000, which provided for relaxing for this year the PSP provisions that require Laclede to procure price protection for 70% of its flowing natural gas supplies.
- The Commission approved the Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement on September
 28, 2000. Laclede made a compliance filing on October 5, 2000 ("October 5 filing").
- 4. The Staff has reviewed the October 5 filing, and is of the opinion that the filing implements the agreement of the parties, and complies with the Commission order. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the October 5 tariff filing.

WHEREFORE, in light of the foregoing, the Staff recommends to the Commission that it forthwith approve Laclede's October 5, 2000, tariff filing in accord with the Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement, and with this the Commission's Order.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

Thomas R. Schwarz, Jr. Deputy General Counsel Missouri Bar No. 29645

Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission P. O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 751-5239 (Telephone) (573) 751-9285 (Fax)

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 10th day of October, 2000.

Thomas R Schwar Jr.

Service List for Case No. GO-2000-394

Revised: September 21, 2000 (SW)

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