

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  LACLEDE ENERGY RESOURCES, INC.	DOCKET NO. CGP-02-2
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**ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION AND ISSUING CERTIFICATE TO PROVIDE  
LARGE VOLUME SERVICE**

(Issued April 26, 2002)

On March 8, 2002, Laclede Energy Resources, Inc. (Laclede), filed an application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas provider (CNGP) with the Utilities Board (Board). The Board's rules at 199 IAC 2.2(18) and 19.14 establish the filing requirements for the issuance of a certificate. Subrule 19.14(4) states that an applicant will be notified when its application is complete and the 90-day review period begins. The application was identified as Docket No. CGP-02-2. On March 18, 2002, the Board notified Laclede that the application was complete and the 90-day review period had begun. On April 1, 2002, Laclede filed its annual report information for the period ending December 31, 2001, as required by 199 IAC 19.14(5)"c."

Laclede is a Missouri corporation and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Laclede Investment LLC, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Laclede Group, Inc. Laclede is a corporation in good standing in the state of Missouri. Laclede accepts orders for gas supplies only in Missouri and therefore only conducts business in

interstate commerce and so pursuant to Iowa Code § 490.1501(2)"f" and "k" is not required to have a certificate from the Iowa Secretary of State. Laclede has no affiliates providing natural gas service in Iowa.

Iowa Code § 476.87 requires that a competitive natural gas provider or aggregator must reasonably demonstrate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services it proposes to offer. The Board in 199 IAC 2.2(18) and 19.14 established the filing requirements for a CNGP to obtain a certificate. These requirements contain the information determined by the Board to be necessary to review the managerial, technical, and financial abilities of the applicant.

Laclede's application contains the professional background information for its principal managerial and technical personnel. It appears that Laclede's staff possesses extensive knowledge of and experience in various areas of the natural gas industry including marketing of natural gas service. Laclede indicated that it intends to only serve large volume customers in Iowa and did not file the financial and operational information required for a certificate to serve small volume customers. Additionally, Laclede expressed its commitment to comply with all applicable conditions of certification contained in 199 IAC 19.14(5) and (6). Laclede also acknowledged that failure to comply with all applicable conditions may result in the revocation of its certificate.

Based on a review of Laclede's application, the Board finds that Laclede has reasonably demonstrated that it possesses the appropriate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services it proposes to offer. The Board finds that Laclede's application complies with the filing requirements of Board rules and that Laclede will be issued a CNGP certificate to provide service to large volume customers as defined in 199 IAC 19.14(1). The Board finds that no additional conditions should be placed on the certificate. To provide service to small volume customers, Laclede will need to file an application to amend its certificate and the information required by 199 IAC 2.2(18) and 19.14(6).

Concurrently with the issuance of this order, the Board will issue a certificate to provide service to large volume customers, identified as Certificate No. G-0014, to Laclede. Laclede will be subject to the reporting requirements contained in 199 IAC 19.14(5)"c," once the certificate is issued.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1 The application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas service provider to serve large volume customers in Iowa filed by Laclede Energy Resources, Inc., on March 8, 2002, is approved.

2. Laclede Energy Resources, Inc., shall comply with the filing requirements of 199 IAC 19.14(5).

3. Certificate No. G-0014 shall be issued to Laclede Energy Resources,  
Inc.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2002.