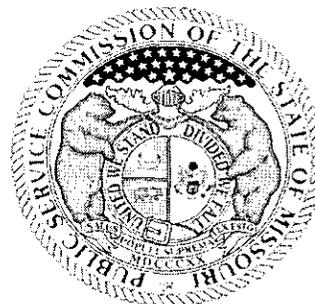


## Notice of *Ex Parte* Contact

TO: Data Center  
All Parties to Case Nos. GC-2006-0313  
GC-2006-0060  
GC-2006-0390

FROM: Nancy Dippell *ND*  
Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge

DATE: June 1, 2006



On June 1, 2006, I received the attached Resolution from the Fire Board of West Overland EMS & Fire Protection District. The Commission is currently considering issues discussed in the Resolution in Case Nos. GC-2006-0313, GC-2006-0060, and GC-2006-0390, which are contested cases. In contested cases, the Commission is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law; that is, to avoid off-the-record discussions going to the merits of the contested case.

Although communications from members of the public are always welcome, those communications must be made known to all parties to a contested case so that those parties have an opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4.020(8)), when a communication (either oral or written) concerning a contested case occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or Law Judge who received the communication must prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to each member of the Commission and to the parties to the case. The report shall identify the person or persons who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the circumstances which resulted in the communication, the substance of the communication, and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, I submit this report pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to these cases will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments contained therein.

Attachment

cc: Commissioners  
Executive Director  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge  
General Counsel

**RESOLUTION THAT THE FIRE BOARD OF WEST OVERLAND EMS & FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OPPOSES THE CHANGES THAT LACLEDE GAS HAS SOUGHT BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, Laclede Gas Company is the provider of natural gas for both residential and commercial consumers in the Fire Board of West Overland EMS & Fire Protection District, and

**WHEREAS**, Laclede Gas Company has a monopoly on providing said natural gas service to consumers in the Fire Board of of West Overland EMS & Fire Protection District, and

**WHEREAS**, Laclede Gas Company has recently requested that Missouri Public Service Commission relieve Laclede Gas Company of some of its obligations to conduct safety inspections, perform meter sampling, perform annual meter reads, perform inspections after meter changes, and install meter reading devices with trained personnel, and

**WHEREAS**, these proposed changes may harm consumers by reducing safety inspections, reducing the frequency of the use of leak detection devices with trained personnel, and

**WHEREAS**, these proposed changes may harm consumers by reducing safety inspections, reducing the frequency of the use of leak detection devices at consumers' residences or facilities, and reducing opportunities for early detection of hazards and preventive maintenance, and

**WHEREAS** these proposed changes will mean a loss of jobs to Laclede Gas Company employees who are residents of the Fire Board of West Overland EMS & Fire Protection District, and

**NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Fire Board of West Overland EMS & Fire Protection District opposes the regulatory changes that Laclede Gas has sought before the Missouri Public Service Commission and urges the Missouri Public Service Commission Laclede Gas Company's requests for relief from obligations to consumers. Accordingly, the Fire Board directs that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Missouri Public Service Commission care of:

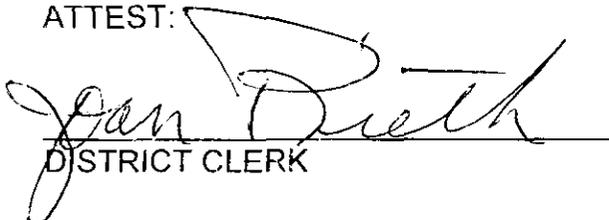
Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge Nancy Dippell  
Governor Office Building  
200 Madison Street  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

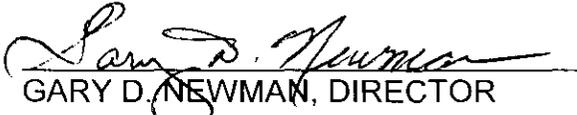
Read and adopted this 26 day of May, 2006.

  
DOLORES C. DIRIE, DIRECTOR

  
DANIEL P. O'CONNOR, DIRECTOR

ATTEST:

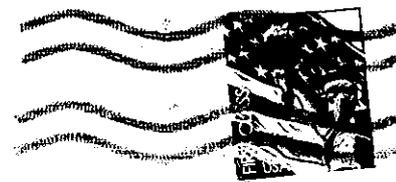
  
DISTRICT CLERK

  
GARY D. NEWMAN, DIRECTOR

**WEST OVERLAND EMS AND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
10789 MIDLAND BOULEVARD  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63114

ST LOUIS MO 631

08 MAY 2006 PM 10 L



*Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge Nancy Dippell*  
*Governor Office Building*  
*200 Madison Street*  
*P.O. Box 360*  
*Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360*

65102+0360

