

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of Missouri Gas Energy and Its)
Tariff Filing to Implement a General Rate) Case No. GR-2009-0355
Increase for Natural Gas Service)

In the Matter of The Empire District Gas)
Company of Joplin, Missouri for Authority)
to File Tariffs Increasing Rates for Gas) Case No. GR-2009-0434
Service Provided to Customers in the)
Missouri Service Area of the Company)

In the Matter of Laclede Gas Company's)
Tariff to Revise Natural Gas Rate Schedules) Case No. GR-2010-0171

In the Matter of Atmos Energy Corporation's)
Tariff Revision Designed to Implement a) Case No. GR-2010-0192
General Rate Increase for Natural Gas Service)
in the Missouri Service Area of the Company)

NOTICE REGARDING EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Issue Date: January 8, 2010

On January 8, 2010, this Commissioner and my Chief of Staff, Richard Moore, participated in a conference with Lera Shemwell (Staff Counsel Division - PSC) and Janice Fischer (Energy – Federal Issues, Policy Analysis - PSC). We discussed the Missouri Gas Energy press release issued on January 7, 2010, asking customers along the I-35 corridor to lower their thermostat settings in order to relieve pressure on its gas delivery system. Due to the possible significant threat to the health, safety and property of MGE customers, we discussed capacity of the distribution system and safety related issues related to this event.

During a later communication on January 8, 2009, I instructed the PSC Staff to keep us informed regarding the status of the threat with the MGE distribution system. Further, I instructed Staff to contact all Missouri local gas distribution companies to determine if any critical issues exist

with their distribution systems because of the heightened demand due to the extremely cold weather and report their findings to my office.

Although neither staff nor we consider these communications to be directly related to any pending case, out of an abundance of caution, we are filing this notice and the e-mail communications associated with this directive in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert M. Clayton III
Chairman



Richard W. Moore
Chief of Staff to Chairman Clayton

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
On this 8th day of January, 2010.

Moore, Richard

From: Shemwell, Lera
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 11:24 AM
To: Moore, Richard; Fischer, Janis; Sommerer, David
Cc: Clayton, Robert
Subject: RE: natural gas supply, pressure and emergency funding

Ameren reports no problems and good pressure but they are monitoring closely.

Lera Shemwell

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From: Moore, Richard
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 11:11 AM
To: Shemwell, Lera; Fischer, Janis; Sommerer, David
Cc: Clayton, Robert
Subject: FW: natural gas supply, pressure and emergency funding

Please keep me informed regarding the status of the threat to the MGE system.

Also, please immediately contact all Missouri LDCs and determine if any critical issues exist with their distribution systems because of the heightened demand due to the extremely cold weather and let me know the results.

Richard
Richard W. Moore
Chief of Staff / Personal Advisor to Chairman Clayton
Missouri Public Service Commission
(573) 526-4887

1/8/2010

Moore, Richard

From: Sommerer, David
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 2:34 PM
To: Moore, Richard; Fischer, Janis; Shemwell, Lera
Cc: Clayton, Robert; Schallenberg, Bob; Jenkins, Lesa*; Leonberger, Bob
Subject: FW: natural gas supply, pressure and emergency funding

Here are the responses we have from the seven LDCs under the PSC's jurisdiction of rate regulation:

Missouri Gas Energy (MGE) - as of Friday morning, MGE considered the pressures adequate on the constrained line, but the News Release regarding the I-35 corridor from Liberty to Cameron remains in effect for Saturday. MGE indicated it would be monitoring Saturday due to continued cold weather.

AmerenUE - no critical issues, all their pipeline suppliers are ok.

Empire District Gas (EDG) - no critical issues.

Laclede Gas Company (LGC) - Have encountered some OFOs, system alerts, etc. on some pipes which have not presented major issues to Laclede. Also, Laclede has limited their transportation customers to their nominations (DSQs) and interrupted sales to interruptible customers starting yesterday, which is not out of the ordinary for cold weather.

Missouri Gas Utility (MGU) - The only issue they have encountered, is on their newer expansion system in the south. In Warsaw, Missouri, they have had to relight approximately 8 to 10 pilot lights to due the difference between inlet pressures at the town border stations and low pressures at the customer premises. This issue was described as due to the relatively few customers occurring on the start-up system in Warsaw. MGU was responding by adding Methanol to the system to help dry the natural gas and lowering the pressure at the town border station.

Atmos Energy Corporation (AEC) - Atmos has no critical issues. They are running their propane air plant at partial capacity and can ramp the plant up if necessary.

Southern Missouri Natural Gas (SMNG) - No problems reported by SMNG.

From: Sommerer, David
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 11:51 AM
To: Moore, Richard; Shemwell, Lera; Fischer, Janis
Cc: Clayton, Robert; Schallenberg, Bob; Jenkins, Lesa*
Subject: RE: natural gas supply, pressure and emergency funding

We are in the proces of contacting each LDC by phone and should have the status within the hour.

From: Moore, Richard
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2010 11:11 AM
To: Shemwell, Lera; Fischer, Janis; Sommerer, David
Cc: Clayton, Robert
Subject: FW: natural gas supply, pressure and emergency funding

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1/8/2010

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