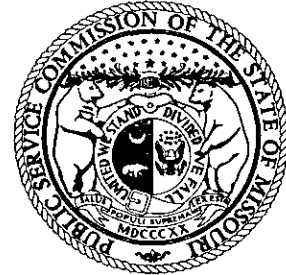


Notice of *Ex Parte* Contact

TO: Data Center
All Parties in Case No. GE-2005-0405

FROM: Chairman Jeff Davis
Commissioner Connie Murray
Commissioner Steve Gaw
Commissioner Robert Clayton
Commissioner Lin Appling



DATE: December 1, 2005

On November 21, 2005 we received the attached letter from James Shrewsbury regarding Laclede Gas. The Commission is currently considering the issues discussed in this document in case GE-2005-0405, which is a contested case. In contested cases, the Commission is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

Although communications from members of the public and members of the legislature are always welcome, those communications must be made known to all parties to a contested case so that those parties have the opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4.020(8)), when a communication (either oral or written) occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to each member of the Commission and the parties to the case. The report shall identify the person(s) 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, we submit this report pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments contained therein.

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



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF ST. LOUIS
MISSOURI**

**JAMES F. SHREWSBURY
PRESIDENT**

**ROOM 232, CITY HALL
1200 MARKET STREET
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63103-2873
(314) 622-4114**

November 16, 2005

Mr. Jeff Davis, Chairman
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Davis:

Enclosed is a resolution passed by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen. This resolution passed unanimously. We certainly hope you will seriously consider its content,

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or need any additional information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Shrewsbury", written over the typed name.

James F. Shrewsbury
Aldermanic President

Enclosure

RESOLUTION NUMBER 165

Whereas, Laclede Gas Company is the provider of natural gas for both residential and commercial consumers in St. Louis; and

Whereas, Laclede Gas Company has a monopoly on providing said natural gas service to consumers in St. Louis City; and

Whereas, Laclede Gas Company has, in the past, been more focused on customer service, as demonstrated by its safety inspections, annual reads, testing of meters, etc.; and

Whereas, There have been various explosions in St. Louis City, which were caused by faulty natural gas facilities; and

Whereas, Laclede Gas employees have frequently detected potentially dangerous gas appliances while making safety inspections, annual reads, testing of meters, etc.; and

Whereas, Laclede Gas Company has recently requested that the Missouri Public Service Commission relieve Laclede Gas Company of some of its obligations to conduct inspections, perform meter sampling, etc.; and

Whereas, these proposed changes will harm consumers by reducing annual inspections, increasing the frequency of estimated readings, etc.; and

Whereas, these proposed changes will negatively affect the safety of consumers, their homes and businesses and the overall community of St. Louis City,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen that we oppose the regulatory changes that Laclede Gas has sought before the Missouri Public Service Commission and we direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to further prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the sponsor.

Introduced on the 21st day of October 2005 by:

Honorable James F. Shrewsbury, President of the Board of Aldermen

Adopted this 21st day of October 2005, as attested by:

Patrick J. Connaghan
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

James F. Shrewsbury
President, Board of Aldermen