Notice of Ex Parte Contact

TO:

Data Center

All Parties in Case No. GE-2005-0405

FROM:

Chairman Jeff Davis

DATE:

December 12, 2005



On October 12, 2005, I received the attached letter from Suzanne Pratl 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, I 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

St. Louis County Council

1st District HAZEL M. ERBY

2nd District
KATHLEEN KELLY BURKETT

3rd District SKIP MANGE

4th District MICHAEL E. O'MARA

5th District KURT S. ODENWALD

6th District JOHN CAMPISI

7th District GREGORY F. QUINN



JOHN CAMPISI Chairman

KURT S. ODENWALD Vice Chairman

SUZANNE R. PRATL Administrative Director

> 314 / 615-5432 FAX 615-7890

October 5, 2005

Mr. Jeff Davis, Chairman Missouri Public Service Commission Governor Office Building 200 Madison St. P,.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: St. Louis County Council Resolution #4869

Dear Chairman Davis:

The St. Louis County Council adopted Resolution #4869 at its regular meeting on Tuesday, October 4, 2005. The Resolution adopted by the Council urges the Missouri Public Service Commission to reject the request by Laclede Gas Company for relief from its obligations to Missouri consumers.

Very truly yours,

Suzanne R. Pratl

Administrative Director

SRP:cp Enclosure

| STATE OF MISSOURI |) |
|-------------------|-------------|
| ST. LOUIS COUNTY |) |
| ORDINANCE NO. | |
| BILL NO. | |
| RESOLUTION NO. | <u>4869</u> |
| OTHER: | |
| | |

I, SUZANNE RICHEDA PRATL, County Clerk in and for said County, hereby certify the attached document(s) identified above to be a true copy of records on file in the Office of the County Clerk.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County at Office in Clayton, this <u>5th</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2005.

SUZANNE RICHEDA PRATL COUNTY CLERK

JEANETTE O. HOC

Deputy County Clerks

| RESOLUTION NO. | 4869 | 2005 |
|--------------------------|--------|------|
| Introduced by Councilman | O'Mara | |

RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, Laclede Gas Company has a monopoly on providing said natural gas service to consumers in St. Louis County; and WHEREAS, there have been various explosions in St. Louis County 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 County;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The County Council urges the Missouri Public Service Commission to reject the request by Laclede Gas Company for relief from its obligations to Missouri consumers.

SECTION 2. The Administrative Director shall send a certified copy of this resolution to the Missouri Public Service Commission.

ADOPTED.

ATTEST:

UTY ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

BATHLE,) 4 2005

AIRMAN, COUNTY COUNCE

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