

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

JUN 05 2006

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical, and
Energy Workers Local No. 5-6,

Complainant,

v.

Laclede Gas Company,

Respondent.

Case No. GC-2006-0060

AFFIDAVIT OF JOSEPH SCHULTE

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS)

Joseph Schulte, of lawful age and being first duly sworn, deposes and states:

1. My name is Joseph Schulte. I am a Business Representative of United Steelworkers of America Local Union 11-6, AFL-CIO, formerly known as Paper, Allied-Industrial, Chemical, and Energy Workers Local No. 5-6, AFL-CIO ("Local 11-6").

2. Local 11-6 represents employees in various physical plant job classifications such as production, maintenance, operations, and distributions. These employees include meter readers, service persons and trouble shooters.

3. I was formerly employed at Laclede Gas Company ("Laclede") as a gas man, service person and troubleshooter represented by the union currently known as Local 11-6 for 25 years. I last worked as a service person or troubleshooter in 1991. Thereafter, I went on leave of absence due to my union position and then retired on March 1, 2004.

Exhibit No. 4
Case No(s) GC-2006-0060
Date 5-22-06 Rptr KF

4. Prior to the tariff revisions at issue, Laclede had a long-standing practice of having service workers represented by Local 11-6 conduct full inspections when performing transfers of gas service at residences, known as "turn off/turn ons." These inspections consist of inspecting the meter and every gas appliance in the residence to be sure gas lines are connected and not leaking, valves are turned properly, flues are in proper working order and there is no blockage, carbon build-up or odor of gas that could foreshadow carbon monoxide poisoning or danger of fire or explosion.

5. Laclede also has a long-standing practice of having meter readers conduct visual inspections and be cognizant of gas odors when conducting an annual meter reading.

6. Approximately three years ago, Laclede mandated that all meter readers wear a pocket leak detector that is allegedly substantially more reliable at detecting gas than a trained nose, and can even detect a gas leak from outside of a residence. (Service persons were already checking every residence they entered for leaks with one of two hand-held leak detectors.) I understood that the purpose of this change was to increase safety, in recognition of the fact that, even in the best of circumstances, time alone will cause eventual gas leaks which are difficult to detect without training and a full inspection. The idea was that the device would make a meter reader or service person more likely to detect a problem on a routine call.

7. These long-standing practices, in association with the addition of pocket leak detectors, created a low rate of unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning, gas fires and gas explosions in residences in the geographical areas of St. Louis City and County, St. Charles County, Franklin County and Jefferson County, Missouri.

8. Based on the tariff revisions at issue here, however, Laclede has begun ceasing its long-standing practices of turn off/turn ons and of annual meter reading inspections wherever automatic meter reading devices ("AMR") has been installed by Laclede's subcontractor, Cell Net.

9. Local 11-6 has attempted on numerous occasions, to no avail, to engage Laclede in discussion about its safety concerns arising from Laclede's cessation of turn off/turn ons and of annual meter reading inspections.

10. Local 11-6's concern that Laclede would reduce its vigilance concerning employee, customer and public safety was the primary reason for filing the complaint in this matter.

11. After filing the complaint, Local 11-6 monitored Laclede's actions to determine whether Laclede would actually cease its practices of turn off/turn ons and partial inspections during meter reading. It has done so wherever Cell Net has already installed AMR.

12. We further conducted sampling of Laclede hazard tickets over a five-month period (May 2005—September 2005). A hazard ticket is a form that gas workers (both meter readers and service persons) are required to complete when alerted to a safety hazard at a residence. That sampling, a true and accurate copy of which is attached here as Exhibit 1, reflects numerous, potentially life-threatening problems that were discovered as a result of turn off/turn on inspections.

13. For example, Exhibit 1 lists numerous residences in which the heat exchanger of a furnace carbonized. (*See, e.g.*, entries for May 17, 18, 26, 31; June 3, 7, 22, 30; July 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, 22, 26, 28; August 1, 2, 15, 21, 27; September 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 17,

20) I am personally familiar with the hazards that presents. When a furnace is burning the wrong mixture of gas and air, it burns yellow, rather than blue, creating a black carbon that blocks the chambers of the heat exchanger. This causes flames to float or roll out of the front of the furnace, which creates an immediate fire hazard and can lead to an explosion. I personally found and corrected instances of carbonized heat exchangers when conducting turn off/turn ons.

14. Exhibit 1 also lists numerous residences in which there was a hole in a vent pipe or an improperly fitted vent or flue pipe. (*See, e.g.*, entries for May 7, 14, 20, 26; June 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 21, 23, 25; July 1, 2, 7, 14; August 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 23, 24, 31; September 19, 20, 23) I personally found and corrected instances of improper connections of vent or flue pipe when conducting turn off/turn ons and I am familiar with the hazards that presents. In the course of our investigation into these safety issues over the last few months, a Local 11-6 member took a photograph, a true and accurate copy of which is attached and incorporated here as Exhibit 2. Exhibit 2 represents a flue pipe that has pulled away from the chimney, probably due to normal erosion to the mortar. This allows carbon monoxide to leak into the house, potentially killing all the residents. Exhibit 2 also appears to show a steel seam that has expanded to fit the pipe because of the absence of metal screws to hold it to the pipe, therefore allowing further leaking. In the course of conducting turn off/turn ons, I have also detected heater flues that leaked because they were blocked by bricks or mortar that fell in due to erosion; that leaked because they were blocked by pigeons that roosted on the warm flue top, got dizzy from the carbon monoxide and fell in, then flew into the pipe while trying to escape; and that were blocked or pulled away from the chimney due to roof work or hail damage. In each

case, the leak causes carbon monoxide to pump back into the house, which can quickly and silently kill the residents.

15. Exhibit 1 further reflects appliance connector hazards detected on turn off/turn ons. (*See, e.g.*, entries for May 20; July 19; September 20, 28) I personally found and corrected instances of hazardous appliance connectors when conducting turn off/turn ons and I am familiar with the hazards that presents. For example, I recall a turn off/turn on in Affton where I found a plastic sandwich bag wrapped around a gas stove pipe in the kitchen and held in place by a rubber band, because the former resident had removed the stove. The bag was inflated like a balloon, because it was filled with gas. Moreover, the bag was not gas impermeable, so gas was slowly leaking into the house. If the bag had ruptured, the house would likely have exploded within a few hours. This particular house in Affton was on a crowded and very public street, where school kids and others walked by it. If the house had exploded, it would not only have destroyed the residence with the leak, it would also have caused property damage to the adjacent houses and the house across the street and it would likely have killed any passersby.

16. In the course of our investigation into these safety issues over the last few months, a Local 11-6 member took a photograph, a true and accurate copy of which is attached and incorporated here as Exhibit 3. Exhibit 3 reflects a busted connector for a range or clothes dryer that probably occurred when the former resident removed the appliance while transferring residences. Carbon monoxide leaks through the busted connector into the house.

17. The types of hazards reflected in ¶¶15-16 above are a common occurrence when people are moving appliances out of residences. Left unchecked, the new resident

would likely have been the victim of a gas leak and subsequent fire or explosion.

Employees of Laclede represented by Local 11-6 commonly catch and correct these hazards during turn off/turn ons.

18. Another group of hazards that I commonly observed during turn off/turn ons was delayed ignition ovens, where the pilot does not ignite the burner immediately. The delay of ignition is due to white carbon build up, which causes the oven to fill up with gas. Eventually, an explosion will result.

19. In the course of turn off/turn ons, a service person is likely to detect any leak or other irregularity in Laclede's gas line going into the resident's meter, as well as in the gas line coming out of the meter. Such irregularities occur because of poor installation or normal erosion. Leaks of this sort result in gas seeping through the wall into the residence, another prime source of carbon monoxide poisoning and explosion.

20. Turn off/turn on inspections are also important because they permit the Laclede service person to detect general leaks, either due to the odor of gas or the pocket leak detector.

21. Based on the above-referenced sampling, other reports from the field and the personal knowledge held by me and other representatives of Local 11-6 of substantial and imminent safety risks, we are asking this Commission to issue an immediate order requiring Laclede to reinstate turn off/turn on inspections and conduct all those missed since the policy change in July 2005, subject to modification following a full evidentiary hearing.

22. At this time, Laclede estimates it has installed approximately 210,000 automatic meter reading ("AMR") devices, which includes most of St. Charles County.

See "News 4 Investigates: Automated gas meters," January 27, 2006, at p. 2, a true and accurate copy of which is attached and incorporated here as Exhibit 4. It is our belief that a substantial number of those residents are in imminent danger of carbon monoxide poisoning, gas fire or gas explosion based on leaks caused by AMR installation or failure to conduct turn off/turn ons upon the transfer of service. Residents in the areas where AMR has been installed, who are no longer receiving turn off/turn ons, would be greatly benefited by this return to the status quo.

23. Conversely, the harm to Laclede if required to reinstate turn off/turn ons and conduct missed turn off/turn ons pending a full evidentiary hearing is minimal in comparison with the harm (and financial cost) if a single resident dies as a result of Laclede's failure to conduct a turn off/turn on. This is especially true since Laclede is not ceasing turn off/turn ons until AMR has been installed and Laclede is having AMR installed at the rate of approximately 30,000 meters per month. Accordingly, the number of missed turn off/turn ons is increasing each month, as more AMR devices are installed, but should be relatively minimal to date.

24. Local 11-6's concern for customer and public safety are shared by some or all of the cities and counties served by Laclede, as reflected by the resolutions attached hereto as Exhibits 5-9, all of which are true and accurate copies of public records. Exhibit 5 is a resolution to this effect by the City of St. Louis; Exhibit 6 is a similar resolution by St. Louis County; Exhibit 7 is a similar resolution by Jefferson County; Exhibit 8 is a similar resolution by the City of O'Fallon; Exhibit 9 is a similar resolution by the City of Florissant, as well as a subsequent press release on the subject from Mayor Lowery.

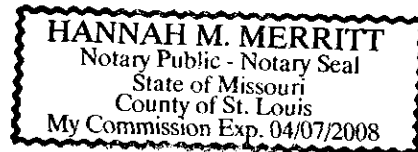
25. I hereby swear and affirm that my statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Joseph A. Schulte
Joseph Schulte

Subscribed and sworn to me this 3rd day of February, 2006.

My Commission Expires:

Hannah M. Merritt
Notary Public



May 2005 Furnaces found.

- 05-05-05: 4544 Athlone 1FL- No flu liner in chimney could cause erosion of brick and collapse of chimney.
- 05-06-05: 201 Wooster- Not enough combustion air in room could cause carbonization of furnace.
- 05-07-05: 1826 San Luis Apt. A- Burners covered with rust. Could cause delayed ignition along with rust has to be from exchanger with could be cracked.
- 05-07-05: 932 Pike- Holes in vent pipe. Carbon Monoxide can leak into residence instead of going up chimney.
- 05-09-05: 4400 McPherson- Delayed ignition. Could cause weakening of heat exchanger and roll out of flames.
- 05-14-05: 4401 Strodmon- Flu has holes. Carbon monoxide leakage.
- 05-16-05: 6311 Cates- Flu liner not installed correctly. Could cause CO problem.
- 05-16-05: 3922 Lexington- Rust on burners
- 05-17-05: 1844 Bahama- Carbonized heat exchanger.
- 05-18-05: 8643 Brookshire Apt B- Not enough combustion air to run appliances.
- 05-18-05: 4220 Gibson- Flames floating out of chamber. Fire hazard
- 05-18-05: 5732 Goodfellow- Burners covered with debris. Could cause a number of hazardous conditions.
- 05-20-05: 5900 Ferris- Delayed ignition and not sealed at chimney. Possible fire hazard and carbon monoxide leaking into house.
- 05-24-05: 12457 Cohasset- Boiler carbonized.
- 05-24-05: 2155 N New Florrisant- Cycling off on high limit and blower will not come on. Could cause weakening of heat exchanger.
- 05-25-05: 13919 Reflection- Carbon monoxide spill switch wired out. If there was CO leaking there would be nothing to detect it.
- 05-26-05: 1631 Sublette- Holes n vent pipe.
- 05-26-05: 12724 Coeur Du Monde Apt 2G- Carbonized heat exchanger.
- 05-26-05: 6932 Bruno Apt C- Reduced vent tee. Could cause improper venting of CO fumes.
- 05-26-05: 4608 Alaska- Holes in vent pipe and bad pilot safety. Could cause leaking CO and bad safety could case furnace to come on and not ignite gas and cause explosion.
- 05-27-05: 1838 Woodbridge- Holes in heat exchanger. Major Co problem causing fumes to leak into house.
- 05-31-05: 628 Geoffrey Apt D- Carbonized heat exchanger.



May 2005 Water Heater Hazards

05-03-05: 2135 Cleveland- Holes in vent pipe. Could cause fumes to leak into house.
05-06-05: 201 Wooster- Not enough combustion air to run appliances. Could cause carbonization problems.
05-07-05: 10057 Lilac- Vent pipe rusted. Could cause leaking CO to enter home.
05-07-05: 932 Pike- Holes in vent pipe.
05-07-05: 1826 San Luis Apt A- No relief pipe could cause hot water to relieve and burn anyone standing nearby.
05-07-05: 9903 Jeffrey- relief pipe reduced.
05-13-03: 6758 Nashville- Button type flex connector. Been known to leak.
05-14-05: 433 Olian- Flu fell out of tee stack. CO venting directly into basement.
05-17-05: 5950 Cote Brillante: Tank leaking water. Could cause tank to collapse causing major problems.
05-17-05: 4833 Calvin- No flu liner.
05-18-05: 8643 Brookshire Apt B- Not enough combustion air to run appliances correctly.
05-19-05: 809 Robert- Wrong pitch on vent pipe.
05-20-05: 3083 Santiago- Vented into furnace flu.
05-20-05: 5900 Ferris: Rust holes in vent pipe.
05-24-05: 4634 Whisper Lake- Holes in vent pipe. 05-24-05: 2155 N New Florissant Apt 18- Spilling CO at diverter.
05-26-05: 1631 Sublette- Holes in vent pipe.
05-27-05: 12499 Lyric Apt 110- spillage at diverter, vent not connected, and no control valve. Multiple hazards.
05-27-05: 1838 Woodbridge- Draft diverter installed wrong.

May 2005 Stove Hazards

05-11-05: 3382 Ashby- No anti-tip device. Could cause stove to tip over.
05-11-05: 9749 Treadway- No anti-tip device
05-11-05: 2904 Endicott- No anti tip device
05-20-05: 1110 Dillon- Flex connector leaking gas into house.

May 2005 Fuel Run Hazards

05-11-05: 3342 Illinois- Fuel runs will not hold pressure.
05-19-05: 9840 Manchester- Will not hold pressure.
05-20-05: 5900 Ferris- Will not hold pressure.
05-23-05: 5 Creekside- Open fuel run.
05-24-05: 3106 Arrow Rock- Leak at flared copper tee.
05-26-05: 4608 Alaska- Will not hold pressure.
05-26-05: 7561 Hoover- Open fuel run.
05-27-05: 7019 Bentley- Open fuel run.

June 2005 Furnace Hazards

- 06-01-05: 1058 Codington- Heat exchanger and burners rusted. Could cause crack in exchanger and delayed ignition.
- 06-01-05: 9762 Lynntown- Holes in vent pipe and short cycling. Holes could cause CO fumes to escape into house and short cycling could cause weakening of heat exchanger.
- 06-01-05: 506 Village Square- Holes in vent pipe causing fumes to escape into residence.
- 06-01-05: 12558 Ardwick Apt C- Roll out switch bypassed, blockage in exchanger and burnt wiring. Switch is safety and it being bypassed has created a fire hazard and for the wiring to be burnt.
- 06-01-05: 11535 Tivoli- Heavy rust on burners. Could cause delayed ignition and weakening of exchanger.
- 06-02-05: 1556 Knollstone- Holes in vent pipe causing CO fumes to escape in residence.
- 06-02-05: 281 Avant- Holes in vent pipe.
- 06-03-05: 5236 Robin- Carbonized heat exchanger. Could cause serious CO problems and delayed ignition.
- 06-03-05: 10419 Royal- Rusted vent pipe. Could cause vent to fall and vent fumes into residence.
- 06-03-05: 10068 Toelle- Flames rolling out of chamber. Could cause fire or electrical problems.
- 06-04-05: 4226 Carrolton Apt B- Rusted burners could cause delayed ignition.
- 06-04-05: 12540 Arwick Apt A- Improper vent size. Could cause unit to vent improperly and vent into house.
- 06-04-05: 6216 Emma- Rust on burners could cause delayed ignition.
- 06-06-05: 9012 Olden- Holes in vent pipe and no flu liner. Could cause CO problems and vent to malfunction.
- 06-06-05: 2140 Geyer- Water on burners. Could cause burners to delay on ignition or electrical short.
- 06-07-05: 2109 Jannette- Holes in vent pipe.
- 06-07-05: 6902 Dale- Carbonized heat exchanger could cause CO problems.
- 06-08-05: 14358 Summerfield Apt 204- Air disturbance. Probably a crack in exchanger causing CO to leak into ducts.
- 06-09-05: 509 West Kirkham- Improper air for combustion. Could cause unit to carbonize.
- 06-13-05: 1203 Santa Fe- No flu liner. Could cause CO venting problems.
- 06-14-05: 9449 Mary Glen Apt F- Carbonized furnace. Could cause CO problem.
- 06-14-05: 1134 Corumba Walk Apt I- Improper venting. Could cause CO problems.
- 06-14-05: 1103 Lousiville Apt 1N- Not vented properly.
- 06-15-05: 21 Vicksburg- Spilling CO fumes into residence.
- 06-15-05: 2908 Maywood- Rust on burners causing delayed ignition. Numerous problems including weakening of heat exchanger.
- 06-16-05: 6120 West Park 1FL- Boiler door not sealed.
- 06-20-05: 602 San Miguel- Cracked heat exchanger causing CO fumes to leak into residence.
- 06-21-05: 12400 Somerset Apt D- Air disturbance in heat exchanger probably caused by crack which allows fumes to escape into residence.
- 06-21-05: 1834 Woodbridge- Vent pipe rusted. Could cause fumes to escape into residence.
- 06-22-05: 766 West Canterbury Apt D- Carbonized exchanger. Could cause CO problems.

06-23-05: 934 N Newstead Apt C- Cracked housing on inducer motor causing fumes to leak into residence.
06-23-05: 411 South Geyer Apt 3B- Vented improperly. Could cause CO problem.
06-25-05: 3147 Texas- Flu pipe improperly installed. Could cause CO problem.
06-25-05: 1002 Coar Apt D- Dirty burners. Could cause delayed ignition.
06-30-05: 1226 Oxford Hills Apt 7- Carbonized exchanger could cause CO problem.
06-30-05: 12255 Chesapeake- Carbonized exchange could cause CO problems.
06-30-05: 733 Bismark- Water dripping on wires. Fire and electrical hazard.

June 2005 Water Heater Hazards

06-02-05: 201 Almenior- Wrong relief valve installed.
06-02-05: 281 Avant- Holes in vent ipe causing CO fumes to escape into residence.
06-02-05: 1556 Knollstone- Holes in vent pipe.
06-03-05: 5236 Robin- Vent not sealed at chimney. Could cause CO to escape into house.
06-04-05: 3945 Utah 2FL- Rust holes in vent pipe.
06-04-05: 2608 Hebert- Holes in vent pipe.
06-04-05: 6212 Emma- Flu pipe split. Could cause CO fumes to escape into residence.
06-07-05: 211 Dogtown Walk- Vent too close to combustable material. Fire hazard
06-07-05: 3408 Oxford- Rust holes in vent pipe causing CO problem.
06-10-05: 4753 Cleveland 1FL- Vent pipe installed improperly. Could cause CO leakage.
06-11-05: 727 Dodridge- Not vented to chimney. Serious Co problem.
06-13-05: 1203 Santa Fe: No flu liner installed. Could cause CO problems.
06-14-05: 4216 Russell- Rust hole in vent pipe and vented improperly. Could cause CO problems.
06-15-05: 2908 Maywood- Flu too close to combustible material. Fire hazard.
06-16-05: 262 Buddie- Spilling CO fumes at unit.
06-16-05: 10353 Beau Jardin Apt 8- Baffle fell on burner. Could cause CO problem.
06-16-05: 12046 Charter House- Cracked flex connector and leak on pilot tubing. Leaking gas into town house.
06-20-05: 602 San Miqual- Vent pipe pulled away from tee. Causing CO gases to vent into residence.
06-21-05: 6916 Colonial Woods Apt 1E- No relief pipe. Could cause customer to get scalded if relief valve relieves.
06-25-05: 1010 N 10th Street Apt A- No t-stat valve. Could cause scalding.
06-25-05: 10214 Renis Garden- No t-stat valve. Could cause scalding.

June 2005 Fuel Run Hazards

- 06-03-05: 816 Indian Hills- Open fuel run down stream from shut off. If customer turns knob gas would leak into residence causing major problems.
- 06-04-05: 12036 Glen Cove- Shut off passing to open fuel run causing live gas to leak into residence.
- 06-04-05: 4027 Humphrey- Flare-fitting cap leaking on copper line causing gas to leak into house.
- 06-04-05: 6216 Emma- Leaks in fuel runs causing gas to leak into house.
- 06-14-05: 2323 Wengler- Open fuel run downstream from shut off.
- 06-18-05: 3840 South Old Highway 94- Flex connector through floor. Could cause leak in line.
- 06-30-05: 9706 Lynntown- Open fuel line down stream from shut off.

July 2005 Furnace Hazards

07-01-05: 5410 Michigan 2FL- Vent installed improperly.
07-01-05: 5223 Beacon- Pilot tubing leaking causing gas to leak into residence.
07-01-05: 1434 Willow Brook- Flames floating out of carbonized heat exchanger. CO hazard.
07-02-05: 175 Duquette- Rust holes in vent pipe. Could cause CO fumes to leak into residence.
07-02-05: 10570 Emerald Ridge- Flames floating out of carbonized exchanger. CO and fire hazard.
07-02-05: 5841 Cabanne Apt G- Carbonized in heat exchanger and flames rolling out. CO and fire hazard.
07-02-05: 1280 Marquis Apt 1- Air disturbance in chamber. Could be crack in exchanger cause CO fumes to escape into residence.
07-05-05: 1643 Meyer- Rusted and carbonized chamber. Could cause Co problems.
07-06-05: 14338 Summerfield Apt 103- Flames floating out of chamber. Fire hazard.
07-06-05: 1226 Oxford Hills Apt 4- Baffle fell on burner. CO hazard.
07-06-05: 2703 Limit Apt E- 2 right cells carbonized. Co hazard.
07-07-05: 5305 5th Street- Carbonized chambers. CO hazard.
07-07-05: 607 Thunderbird Apt 1B- Holes in vent pipe causing fumes to escape into residence.
07-09-05: 12615 Markaire- Flames burning under burners. Fire hazard
07-09-05: 10165 Cabana Apt J- Flu rusted. Could create Co problem.
07-18-05: 8310 Midland- Cracked heat exchanger causing CO fumes to leak into residence.
07-12-05: 4258 Carrolton Apt A- Carbonized chamber in heat exchanger. CO hazard.
07-14-05: 9507 Madelaine Manor- Flu pipe has holes and vent pipe not installed correctly. Could cause fumes to enter home.
07-15-05: 11164 Estrada- Chambers rusted and have standing water in them. CO and delayed ignition hazard.
07-16-05: 5762 Terry apt 1E- Leak at pilot tubing causing gas to leak into residence.
07-22-05: 342 Impala- Flames floating out of chamber causing a fire hazard.
07-25-05: 1309 Henriette Hills- Blower motor locked up. Could cause unit to incur too much heat.
07-25-05: 12442 Ardwick- Cracked heat exchanger. CO fumes leaking into residence.
07-26-05: 2141 Seven Pines- Carbonized chamber. CO hazard.
07-27-05: 806 Teson- Cracked heat exchanger causing CO fumes to escape into residence.
07-28-05: 3510 Dix- Flames floating out of chamber causing a fire hazard.

July 2005 Water Heater Hazards

07-05-05: 5026 Bulwer- Two draft hoods installed. Could cause CO problem.
07-06-05: 14338 Summerfield- Flames floating out of burner area. Fire hazard.
07-12-05: 1209 Scott- Flu pipe not connected causing raw CO fumes to leak into residence.
07-16-05: 978 Dawnview- Rust holes in vent pipe. Could cause CO fumes to leak into residence.
07-18-05: 8310 Midland- No relief pipe. Could cause scalding in relief valve activates.
07-19-05: 7324 Colgate- Chimney blocked. Could cause CO hazard.

07-20-05: 10729 Margate Hall- Vent pipe rusted out. Could cause fumes to leak into residence.
07-20-05 ; 1314 Warrior Song Way- No relief pipe. Could cause scalding if relief valve activates.
07-21-05: 1508 Tivoli- Vent pipe too close to combustible material. Fire hazard.
07-21-05: 12836 Haverton- Not enough combustible air to run appliances. CO hazard.
07-27-05: 7520 Ahern- Rust holes in vent pipe could cause CO fumes to leak into residence.
07-27-05: 52 Arbor Village Apt C- Button type flex connector.
07-28-05: 502 Angelique- Gas leak at t-stat causing raw gas to leak into residence.
07-28-05: 365 Pralle- Reduced relief pipe. Could cause block if valve activates.
07-29-05: 4517 Fair 1FL- Needs flu liner. Could cause CO problems.

July 2005 Fuel Run Hazards

07-01-05: 5223 Beacon- Open fuel run downstream from shut off.
07-01-05: 2834 S Jefferson- Leaking fuel run allowing gas to enter residence.
07-02-05: 3624 Brown Rd- Open fuel run down stream from shut off.
07-02-05: 22 Jefferson- Open fuel run downstream from shut off valve.
07-05-05: 1004 PoconoTrail- Two flexes hooked together. Possible leak hazard.
07-14-05: 3338 St Joachim- Open fuel run downstream from shut off. If shut off is turned on by customer raw gas will leak into home.
07-15-05: 1506 Redman- Two flex connectors hooked together through wall. Leak hazard.
07-19-05: 3720 Winnebago 1FL- Flex connector leaking gas into residence.
07-19-05: 9375 Sonora- Open fuel run down stream from shut off valve.
07-23-05: 8625 Jo Court- Open fuel run downstream from shut off valve.
07-26-05: 8221 Brenner- Fuel runs leaking gas into residence.
07-27-05: 1061 N Warson- Two flex connectors hooked together running through a wall. Leak hazard.
07-29-05: 4099 Bridgehampton- Fuel run open downstream from shut off valve.
07-30-05: 733 Bismark- Open fuel run downstream from shut off valv

July 2005 Ranges and Dryer hazards

07-07-05: 607 Thunderbird- No anti tip device. Against AGA code.
07-19-05: 1035 Olive- No anti tip device and two flexes hooked together.
07-19-05: 10 Bel Rac Apt B-207- No anti tip device.
07-21-05: 2237 Rule- Not vented to outside. CO hazard.
07-21-05: 12836 Haverton- Plastic vent pipe. CO hazard.

August 2005 Furnace Hazards

- 08-01-05: 7656 Norstead Apt 3- Flames floating out of chamber. Fire hazard.
- 08-01-05: 314 Chez Paree- Cracked heat exchanger causing CO fumes to leak into residence.
- 08-02-05: 605 West Gate Apt A- Gas valve leaking causing raw gas to leak into home.
- 08-02-05: 8685 Old Bonhomme- Carbonized chamber in heat exchanger.
- 08-03-05: 7210 Stanford- Cracked heat exchanger causing CO fumes to leak into house.
- 08-03-05: 3372 San Seville- Improperly vented creating possible CO problem.
- 08-03-05: 1093 Rue Le Chelle- Blower broken creating excess heat to inner part of furnace.
- 08-04-05: 4040 Flad 1FL- Holes in vent pipe causing fumes to leak into residence.
- 08-04-05: 8914 Kathryn- Blower motor frozen causing undue heat stress on unit.
- 08-04-05: 2799 Notting Hill Apt G- Flames rolling out causing fire hazard.
- 08-06-05: 14350 New Hallsferry Apt 206- Rusted out heat exchanger creating possible CO problem.
- 08-08-05: 1135 Town N Four Parkway- Vent pipe not connected causing CO to leak into residence.
- 08-09-05: 24 Brigworth- Improper venting creating possible CO problem.
- 08-10-05: 415 Waterford- Not enough make up air for proper combustion.
- 08-10-05: 414 Evergreen- Holes in vent pipe causing CO fumes to leak into residence.
- 08-11-05: 9057 McNulty- Holes in vent and no flu liner causing possible CO problem.
- 08-11-05: 13 San Miquel Apt C- Air disturbance in chamber creating possible CO hazard.
- 08-11-05: 5230 Villa Rosa- Cracked heat exchanger causing CO fumes to leak into residence.
- 08-12-05: 10144 Royal- Holes in vent pipe causing fumes to escape into residence.
- 08-12-05: 8319 Knollwood- Holes in vent pipe causing fumes to leak into house.
- 08-15-05: 9604 Lynntown- Blocked heat exchanger causing flames to roll out creating a fire hazard.
- 08-15-05: 5445 Union- Carbonized chamber in heat exchanger. Possible CO hazard.
- 08-16-05: 9555 Madelaine Manor 1FL- Duct work not correct.
- 08-16-05: 6036 North Point- No diverter on furnace.
- 08-17-05: 6134 Kingsford- Flames burning under burners. Fire hazard.
- 08-19-05: 6826 Chesapeake- Cracked heat exchanger causing fumes to leak into residence.
- 08-21-05: 1935 Monfort Apt P- Flames floating out of chamber. Could cause fire in unit.
- 08-20-05: 1361 Stonebury Ct- Swivel tee rusted out creating possible CO leak.
- 08-23-05: 14337 Sumerfield- Burner missing. Possible fire hazard and mini-explosion.
- 08-23-05: 1840 Kilred- Holes in vent pipe and broken glass on sac heater- Possible CO problems.
- 08-23-05: 6666 Washington Apt 2W- Vent pipe not sealed at wall. Possible CO problem.
- 08-24-05: 4515 Whisper Lake Apt 8- Rusted out chamber of heat exchanger. Could cause flames to float or delayed ignition.
- 08-24-05: 4690 Whisper Lake Apt 3- Vented improperly. Possible CO problems.
- 08-27-05: 7410 Normandie Apt M- Flames floating out of chamber causing fire hazard.
- 08-31-05: 1164 Town N Four- vent pipe not connected. CO fumes leaking directly into residence.
- 08-31-05: 1127 Breakwater Way- Air disturbance in chamber. CO fumes leaking into general air.
- 08-31-05: 1058 Rue La Chelle- Room not big enough for make up air. Could cause CO problem.
- 08-31-05: 7371 Normandie Apt II- Vent too close to combustible material. Fire hazard.
- 08-31-05: 3300 Cross Keys Apt I- Rust on chambers of heat exchanger. Could cause CO problems.

August 2005 water heaters

08-03-05: 3434 Wismer- Valve passing causing gas to seep into unit.
08-06-05: 3959 Brittany Circle Apt D- No relief pipe causing burn hazard
08-08-05: 3900 Louisiana- Spilling CO at diverter
08-09-05: 12615 Markaire- No relief pipe causing possible burn hazard
08-10-05: 9940 Valley- improper installation of vent pipe causing spillage of fumes
08-11-05: 11302 Bonanza- Vent pipe separated from stack causing CO spillage
08-11-05: 4214 Labadie- Two diverters causing possible CO problem
08-12-05: 9718 Scottsdale- Two diverters causing possible CO problem
08-13-05: 10144 Royal- Holes in vent pipe.
08-13-05: 8818 Harold- Vent within 6 inches of combustible material causing fire hazard
08-16-05: 872 Longacre Apt D- Vent not installed incorrectly.
08-16-05: 9507 Madelaine Manor- Holes in vent pipe
08-17-05: 1359 Kael Apt 11- Spilling CO at diverter
08-18-05: 843 N Florissant- Vent falling out of chimney causing CO spillage.
08-23-05: 1840 Kilrea- Holes in vent pipe causing spillage of fumes into house
08-23-05: 9748 Vickie- Relief pipe leaking and the end is capped off.
08-25-05: 1765 Woodridge- Rusted tank and water leaking
08-26-05: 4708 Locke- Rust holes in vent pipe.
08-30-05: 1201 Backer- Vent pipe falling out of chimney causing CO fumes to leak into house
08-30-05: 9031 Doyle- Vent not attached causing CO fumes to escape
08-30-05: 9008 Ramona- Rust holes in vent pipe
08-31-05: 12805 Town N Four- No relief pipe causing possible burn hazard
08-31-05: 12810 Town N Four- No relief pipe causing burn hazard
08-31-05: 8327 Appleton- Holes in vent pipe

Fuel Runs August 2005

08-06-05: 11937 Sprucehaven- Open fuel run
08-08-05: 3501 N Lindbergh- Leaking fuel runs.
08-10-05: 415 Waterford- Soft solder on copper fuel runs.
08-11-05: 3635 Lee IFL- Won't hold pressure
08-17-05: 459 Scenic- Fuel runs will not hold pressure
08-18-05: 3832 Wyoming- Fuel run goes through return air.
08-26-05: 8027 Patterson- Open fuel run leaking at range

September 2005 Furnaces

09-01-05: 725 W Canterbury Apt B- Carbonized chamber
09-01-05: 1897 Monfort- Delayed ignition.
09-01-05: 12474 Lyric Ct Apt 201- Spillage at diverter.
09-01-05: 12499 Lyric Ct - Carbonized burners
09-02-05: 7728 Delmar 2FL- Not enough secondary air.
09-03-05: 7462 Ahern 1FL- Vent tee rusted out.
09-03-05: 1890 Notting Hill Apt P- Flames rolling out of chamber.
09-06-05: 597 Glenco- Carbonized furnace
9-06-05: 7 Francis- Gas valve passing.
09-06-05: 1765 Woodridge Apt C- Flames rolling out of chamber.
09-07-05: 8028 Gardner- Gas line leaking at furnace.
09-08-05: 2841 Adie Apt 11- Delayed ignition.
09-09-05: 4016 Brittany- Flames rolling out of chamber
09-09-05: 2566 Main Ave- Not enough combustion air.
09-09-05: 2240 Mullanphy- Air disturbance in heat exchanger.
09-10-05: 755 N Woodlawn- Burners dirty.
09-10-05: 144 Logtrail- Cracked heat exchanger and dirty burners
09-10-05: 4555 Newberry Terrace- Faulty gas valve.
09-12-05: 660 Chain of Rocks Apt F- Carbonized chambers and rusted out.
09-12-05: 11531 Tivoli- Leak at pilot tubing.
09-12-05: 160 Ballwin Manor- pilot assembly not connected to burners
09-12-05: 6131 Adeline- Door switch wired out.
09-16-05: 742 W Canterbury Apt D- Faulty gas valve.
09-16-05: 12276 Old Big Bend Apt A- Leak at control valve
09-17-05: 240 St Daniel - Flames rolling out of chambers
09-17-05: 9409 Mirriam- Carbonized burners
09-17-05: 7300 Normandie Ct Apt C- Flames rolling out of chamber.
09-18-05: 833 Sudberry- Leaking gas at controls
09-19-05: 8862 Dragonwyk Apt C- Tee and burners rusted.
09-19-05: 10303 Tuxford Apt 7- Holes in vent pipe.
09-20-05: 14338 Summerfield- Flames rolling out of chamber.
09-20-05: 3627 Summit- Swivel tee fell out of vent tee
09-20-05: 15160 Appalacian Trail- Gas valve passing raw gas.
09-20-05: 6339 Wellsmar- Rusted out vent pipe.
09-20-05: 219 Steamboat Apt 203- Flames rolling out of chamber
09-20-05: 310 Hill Trail- 2 furnaces carbonized
09-20-05: 407 Stephanie- No vents for combustion air.
09-21-05: 14343 Sunswept Park Apt 207- Blocked chamber
09-23-05: 4454 Lexington- Vented incorrectly.
09-24-05: 8105 University Dr- Not enough combustion air
09-24-05: 1895 San Lucas- Delayed ignition causing fire hazard.

09-24-05: 15517 Peach Hill Apt 210- Flames rolling out of dirty burners
09-25-05: 1107 Marie Dale Apt B- Won't hold pressure and burners are dirty.
09-25-05: 9916 Solar- Gas valve passing gas.
09-27-05: 7201 West Park Apt E- Door switch wired out.

September 2005 Water heaters

09-01-05: 5854 Terry- Improper venting and flu blocked.
09-01-05: 4621 Whisper lake- Spillage at diverter.
09-02-05: 8337 Garfield- Leak at t-stat.
09-06-05: 11551 Tivoli- Flames floating out of burner compartment.
09-09-05: 2322 McLaren- Vent pipe rusted out at wall.
09-12-05: 4006 Herbert- In garage and not 16 inches off floor.
09-12-05: 6131 Adelaine- Button type flex connector.
09-12-05: 15426 Jost Estates- Leak at pilot tubing.
09-15-05: 11833 Strand Ct- No relief pipe.
09-17-05: 2727 Kenny- gas leaking at control valve.
09-20-05: 3627 Summit- Swivel tee fell out of vent tee.
09-20-05: 310 Hilltrail- No knob on control valve.
09-20-05: 705 Lynnhaven- No relief pipe and vent too close to combustible materials
09-21-05: 11140 Estrada Apt A- Spilling CO at diverter.
09-24-05: 9767 Terry 2FL- Spillage at diverter.
09-24-05: 5233 Bowler- flu 6 inches from combustible material.
09-25-05: 425 W Woodbine- Pilot will not stay lit

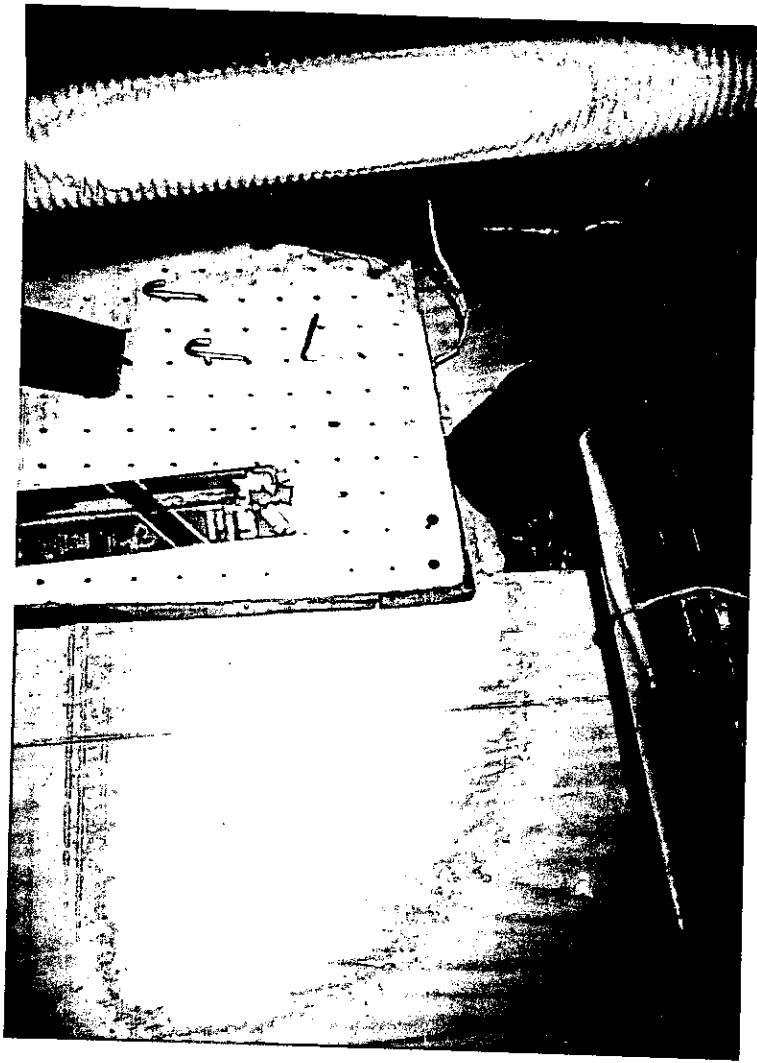
September 2005 Fuel Runs

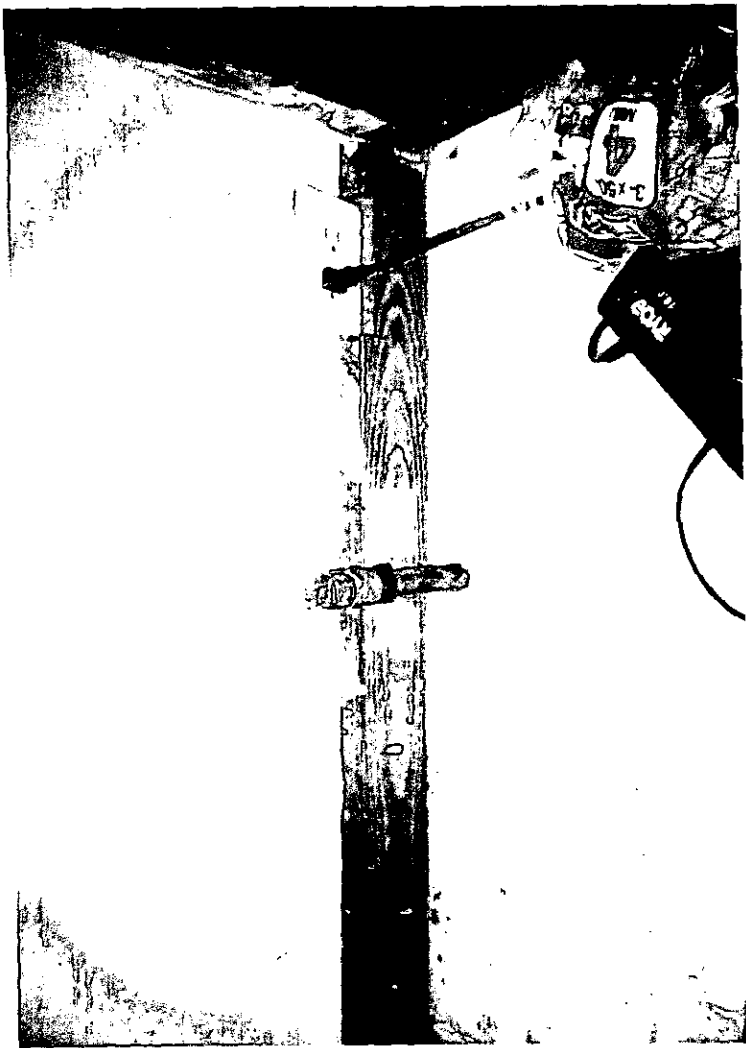
09-03-05: 11947 Glenwest- Leak on fuel run to range.
09-04-05: 2759 Aberdeen- Leaks on line to light and grill.
09-08-05: 830 Riderwood- Will not hold pressure.
09-08-05: 833 Sudberry- Will not hold pressure
09-09-05: 13100 Barrett Circle- Will not hold pressure.
09-12-05: 11531 Tivoli- Brass flex leaking.

09-14-05: 4215 Colonial- water gate valve on gas fuel run.
09-14-05: 1035 Canisus- Gas light line leaking.
09-14-05: 3305 Bryn Manor- Fuel run leaking.
09-14-05: 3140 Greenway Chase- open fuelrun and lock cock partially on and leaking in home.
09-15-05: 1356 Cave Springs- open fuel run leaking.
09-15-05: 11966 Baresford- Flex connector through floor.
09-16-05: 949 Tara Oaks- Will not hold pressure
09-17-05: 4320 Butterhill- Cracked and leaking flex connector.
09-18-05: 13201 Thornhill- Will not hold pressure.
09-20-05: 714 Knickerbacker- Won't hold pressure.
09-19-05: 1755 Summerlake- Will not hold pressure.
09-20-05: 79 Boyd- Will not hold pressure.
09-21-05: 14791 Cherrymore- Fuel run to grill leaking.
09-21-05: 3180 W Clay Apt 514- Fuel runs leaking.
09-22-05: 490 Candlelight- open fuel run with tape on end to seal same.
09-24-05: 10 Ritnoir- Open fuel run to dryer.
09-24-05: 1401 Westwind- Will not hold pressure.
09-24-05: 215 Spring Oaks- Will not hold pressure
09-24-05: 25 Oak Tree- Will not hold pressure.
09-24-05: 8533 Betty Lee- Improperly capped fuel run.

September 2005 Gas Ranges

09-13-05: 1967 Pick Fair- Rubber hose for a gas hook up.
09-20-05: 14471 Boytry- Valve passing gas.
09-21-05: 6805 Garner- No anti tip device.
09-24-05: 2514 La Caracas- No anti tip device.
09-24-05: 2961 Kincaid- No anti tip device.
09-24-05: 8105 University- No anti tip device.
09-28-05: 1308: Shanendoah- Oven valve passing gas.





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News 4 Investigates: Automated gas meters

04:25 PM CST on Friday, January 27, 2006

Steve Chamraz, News Chief Investigative Reporter

[Click here to watch News 4 coverage](#)[News Investigates Page](#)[Steve's bio](#)

Lake St. Louis (KMOV) -- Laclede Gas is currently installing hundreds of thousands of new automated gas meters in the St. Louis area. The meters transmit readings electronically, with no need for meter readers or estimating. But several residents on one street say they've been told there are problems with the meters that might be affecting their bills.

News 4 Chief Investigative Reporter, Steve Chamraz, looks into the problem.

Gas bills are higher this winter, and many consumers are wondering if those higher bills are correct.

Residents on one St. Charles County street are questioning more than just their bill.



KMOV

Robert and Joyce Powell watch their thermostat closely.

"We have it on 68 during the day, then down to 65 when we're sleeping," they say.

They are trying to keep their gas bill low, but they are also trying to stay warm. When they received their bill for December, they were warm alright.

"I had to sit my wife down and give my wife a little time out because she just about went through the roof," says Robert Powell.

Here is why.

The November bill was \$226.25 and the December bill was \$820.40; a difference of \$523.

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"We realized we could not have used that much gas. I mean, McDonnell Douglas doesn't use that much gas manufacturing F-15 aircrafts," says Powell.

Bob is not alone.

Laura Aufer is Bob's neighbor.

"It was \$159.14 and now its \$489.87. A 300% increase in 1 month which can't possibly be right," she says.

But wait, there is more.
Meet Marilyn Miller.

"Current charges were \$307 and they went to \$867," says Miller.

On this one cul-de-sac in Lake St. Louis, three out five homeowners had huge increases in their December bills. Naturally they had questions.

"Then I called the gas company and the first thing she said to me was, 'Well ma'am, you know the rates have gone up,'" says Miller.

That's true. Due in part to Hurricane Katrina, wholesale gas prices shot up 40 percent this winter.

"So naturally, everyone thinks I had a big increase in my bill and it was due to higher costs," says Bob Powell.

But residents here think there could be another reason.

This neighborhood has automated meter readers, or AMR's. What they do is send your gas reading to Laclede Gas by radio. No more estimating, no more meter readers and they're coming to every home in the metro area.

"We've done most of St. Charles County and right now about 210,000 of the automatic meter reading devices have been installed," says Laclede Gas spokesman George Csolak.

Csolak says the automated meters are used all over the country and are virtually fool proof.

"The reliability is higher than 99 percent, it's more than 99percent," says Csolak.

That is not what the folks on Park Hill Circle are being told.

"The representative came out and he showed me that the meter was incorrectly read," says Marilyn Miller.

"They did indicate there were some problems with the automated transmitter style meter, which is what we had," said Laura Aufer.

"This morning they had the gall to tell me they're having a 1-in-10 error rate, a 10% error rate on these electronic meters," says Bob Powell.

Automated Gas Meters

What is your take on having an automated gas meter?

I think they are a great idea

I will watch my bill much closer

I hate the idea

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In fact, a Laclede technician actually removed Powell's meter. But a 10 percent error rate, could that be right?

"I haven't heard the 1-in-10. I haven't heard that rate," says Csolak.

"I have heard of some isolated cases where there have been some issues with some of the reads and maybe some programming issues."

There are questions about the AMR technology.

"I don't know if these transmitters are shielded from sunspots, or cell phone activity of why they're in error, but there's a very high rate of error, just in this neighborhood alone," says Powell.

Csolak says none of that is a concern. The AMRs transmit readings every 15 minutes, so even if there is a temporary interruption, the following readings should be correct.

"Anytime you have something of this magnitude, a total change over, you're going to have glitches here and there," says Csolak.

But there is another problem. Laclede Gas says it is the customer's responsibility to check for problems with your bill. That does not sit well on Park Hill Circle.

"I was quite dismayed when she told me they know they have a problem and it's up to the customer to figure it out," says Powell.

"That's unfortunate if they're just sitting there waiting for people to make a phone call themselves and them not taking a pro-active stance and taking care of the problem," says Aufer.

Csolak says Laclede Gas is trying to be responsive.

"When a new system like this is being deployed there will be some issues, and we try to be responsive and take care of them right away," he says.

"The key thing is once the system is installed and people start getting reads, and it starts becoming a normal thing the accuracy rate is more than 99 percent.

Laclede is checking into the complaints of the homeowners on Park Hill Circle to see if the meters are working correctly.

In the meantime, "You have to be careful and not take everything for face value and not think that they're right," says Marilyn Miller.

And that's the bottom line; it is up to you to check your bill. And it is not just the price but the meter reading as well.

Csolak has three important pieces of advice;

1. Always compare year to year
2. Learn how to read your bill. Customer relations at Laclede Gas will help you do that.
3. If you think you have a problem, Call Laclede Gas and they will look into it.

Laclede Gas Web site

KMOV.com user comments

January 30, 2006 11:53 p.m.

Laclede isnt telling you everything. The electric meters are powered by electric. The new gas meters are powered by a lithium battery that they say will last ten years. Not likely. As the battery weakens so will your accuracy. The devices being installed on older meters can and do leak after installation. The cellnet employees have also caused leaks on other areas of your service when installing the device. Funny, they forgot to tell you that. I know because Im one of the techs that have to go behind these guys and repair the leaks they leave behind. They dont tell you by eliminating the human factor you will lose a valuable safety net. The meter reader wears a leak detection device that senses a small leak while they are in your home or business. This device also works outside. If your meter is in an enclosed area, and you dont enter that area regularly, a small leak that goes unchecked could be explosive. Once the system is in place the gas will not be turned off when a home or business changes hands. Laclede simply stops charging one consumer and begins charging the next. A person could remove a stove or dryer and leave a leak for the next customer. Again, an explosive possibility. I urge you to contact the Missouri Public Service Commission with your concerns. They may listen, but remember they are allowed to work for the same utilities they oversee at the end of their term. I would also urge you to be very aware of the odor of gas after the cellnet employee has worked on your meter. They are not trained technicians and cannot identify and locate leaks. They create them and leave it up to you to make the call. Unfortunately, its not a matter of "if," but "when" will someone be hurt or killed due to this new "technology". Just because Cellnet and Laclede tell you their product is accurate doesnt mean its true.

January 30, 2006 07:09 p.m.

when the company installs their device on laclede's meters they are leaving numerous leaks that are potentially dangerous. Laclede is trying to eliminate manpower but that manpower is already figured into the rate and they don't want to lower the rates to compensate the consumer for lower service.

January 30, 2006 05:21 p.m.

I feel in the long run it will be beneficial to the customer and the company. Initially there will be some "bumps" in the road like any new process, but I am sure they will be worked out

January 30, 2006 02:19 p.m.

1. At the Laclede Gas Web site, can you find any instructions on how to read a gas meter?
2. At the Laclede Gas Web site, can you find any instructions on how to interpret a gas bill?
3. If you don't complain about your bill, they can keep any overcharges you pay and not worry about it.
4. If you don't keep your copies of Laclede Gas bills, how will you ever prove that you were overcharged?
5. If you are not going to have meter readers coming to your home or business anymore, you must be sure and check for gas leaks near the meter. The readers used to do that.
6. If you learn that Laclede Gas has received permission to raise rates 30 percent and your gas bill jumps from \$100 in one billing period to \$350 in the next, doesn't that strike you as being more than 30 percent?

January 28, 2006 11:43 p.m.

I am very conservative, and from march to November I used only \$185.00.
And the very next month was \$125.00. That's for just one month. That cant be right!
I use more electric than gas and my bill is under \$20.00per month.

January 28, 2006 07:21 p.m.

I think the automated meter reading is a great idea. There is no interruption in service when being installed. It is very safe and will give accurate readings daily. Customers that typically are not home don't have to worry about getting estimated bills any more. L.G. still has to get in customers houses once every three years to do gas safe inspections and the services are always available for customers to call and inquire about billing and or gas orders. I feel that every project has it's ups and downs and once the bugs are ironed out the system will run very smooth, just like the millions of other customers in this country that have the same automated meter reader system.

Share your thoughts on automated gas meters

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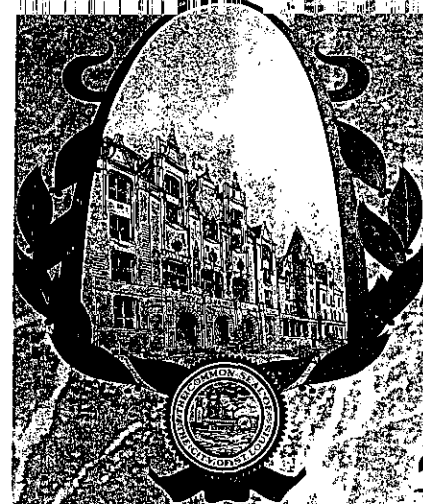
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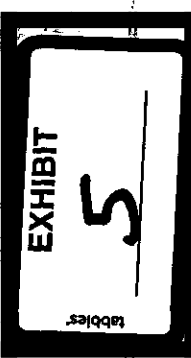
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City of Saint Louis



Resolution

Missouri Public Service Commission

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 critical standards and 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

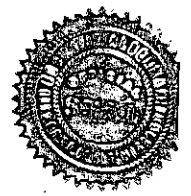
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen that we oppose the regulatory changes that Laclede Gas has sought before the Missouri Public Service Commission, and we direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this resolution across the agendas of the proceedings and to further 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

Charles Quincy Troupe, 1st Ward
Dionne Flowers, 2nd Ward
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O.C. Shelton, 4th Ward
April Ford-Griffin, 5th Ward
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Craig Schmidt, 20th Ward

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Thomas Bauer, 4th Ward
Dyanna Kinner, 5th Ward
Frank Wilkerson, 6th Ward
Gregory A. Carter, 7th Ward
Lydia Kressman, 8th Ward
James F. Shrewsbury, President



Adopted this the 4th day of November, 2005 as attested by

[Signature]
Aldermanic Sponsor

[Signature]
President, Board of Aldermen

[Signature]
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

R-5
10/4/05

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: October 4, 2005

ATTEST: James O. F...
DEPUTY ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

John Camp...
CHAIRMAN, COUNTY COUNCIL



RESOLUTION 12-14-2005

WHEREAS: Laclede Gas Company is the provider of natural gas for both residential and commercial consumers in Jefferson County, and

WHEREAS: Laclede Gas Company has a monopoly on providing said natural gas service to consumers in Jefferson County, 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 within Laclede Gas Company's distribution system which were caused by faulty natural gas facilities, and


WHEREAS: Laclede Gas employees have frequently detected potentially dangerous gas appliances and gas lines 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, annual reads, hot meter changes 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 Jefferson County.

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Jefferson County Commission opposes the regulatory changes that Laclede Gas has sought before the Missouri Public Service Commission and urges the Missouri Public Service Commission to reject the request from Laclede Gas Company for relief from its obligations to Missouri consumers by sending a certified copy of this resolution to the Missouri Public Service Commission.


Mark A. Mertens
Mark A. Mertens, Presiding Commissioner

Edward L. Kemp
Edward L. Kemp, 1st Dist. Commissioner

Patrick J. Lamping
Patrick J. Lamping, 2nd Dist Commissioner

Janet C. McMillian
Janet C. McMillian, County Clerk



CITY OF O'FALLON, MISSOURI

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 1-12-06

A RESOLUTION URGING THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO REJECT THE REQUEST BY THE LACLEDE GAS COMPANY FOR RELIEF FROM ITS OBLIGATIONS TO MISSOURI CONSUMERS

WHEREAS, *Laclede Gas Company* is the sole provider of natural gas service for both residential and commercial consumers within the City of O'Fallon, Missouri, and all of St. Charles County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, *Laclede Gas Company* has a monopoly on providing said natural gas service to consumers within the City of O'Fallon, Missouri, and all of St. Charles County, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, there have been various explosions within the *Laclede Gas Company's* distribution system throughout the St. Louis region which were caused by faulty natural gas facilities; 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, *Laclede Gas Company* employees have frequently detected potential dangerous 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 the Company of some of its obligations to conduct inspections, perform meter sampling, annual reads, testing of meters, 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 within the City of O'Fallon, Missouri, and the overall community of St. Charles County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of O'Fallon, Missouri, as follows:

Section 1: The Board of Aldermen of the City of O'Fallon, Missouri opposes the regulatory changes the *Laclede Gas Company* has sought before the *Missouri Public Service Commission* and urges the *Missouri Public Service Commission* to reject the request by the *Laclede Gas Company* for relief from its obligation to Missouri consumers.

Section 2: The City Clerk shall send a certified copy of this Resolution to the *Missouri Public Service Commission*.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Alderman of the City of O'Fallon on this 12 day of January 20 06.

Donna Morrow
Donna Morrow, Mayor

Attest:

Pamela L. Smith
Pamela L. Smith, City Clerk

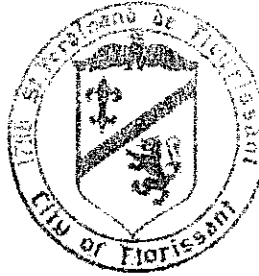
Approved as to:

Mary Creamer
City Attorney, Mary Creamer



Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	1/25	# of pages	1
To	JOE SCHULTZ	From	LYNN GRADE		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	636-379-5508		
Fax #	314-721-8787	Fax #			

OFFICE OF



THE MAYOR

CITY OF FLORISSANT

WHEREAS: Laclede Gas Company is the provider of natural gas for both residential and commercial consumers in City of Florissant; and

WHEREAS: Laclede Gas Company has a monopoly on providing said natural gas service to consumers in the City of Florissant; 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 within Laclede Gas Company's distribution system which were caused by faulty natural gas facilities; and

WHEREAS: Laclede Gas employees have frequently detected potentially dangerous gas appliances and gas lines 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, annual reads, hot meter changes, etc.; and

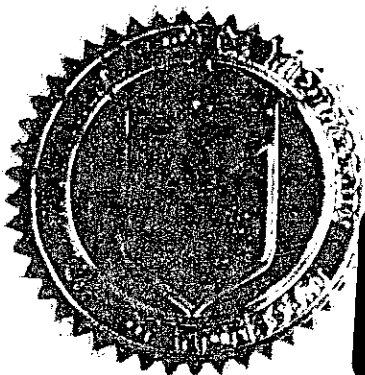
WHEREAS: These proposed changes will harm consumers by reducing annual inspections, increasing the frequency of estimated readings, etc.; and

WHEREAS: These proposed changes will negatively affect the safety of consumers, their homes and businesses and the overall community of the City of Florissant.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROBERT G. LOWERY, SR., MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FLORISSANT, MISSOURI, do oppose the regulatory changes that Laclede Gas has sought before the Missouri Public Service Commission and urges the Missouri Public Service Commission to reject the request from Laclede Gas Company for relief from its obligations to Missouri consumers by sending a certified copy of this resolution to the Missouri Service Commission.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF

I hereunto set my hand
and cause to be affixed
the Seal of the City of
Florissant, Missouri,
this 9th day of January 2006.



Robert G. Lowery, Sr.
Mayor

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL AS A WHOLE
JANUARY 9, 2006

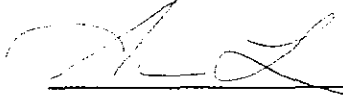
RESOLUTION NO. 911

**RESOLUTION OF THE FLORISSANT CITY COUNCIL OPPOSING THE
REGULATORY 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 City of Florissant; and
- WHEREAS: Laclede Gas Company has a monopoly on providing said natural gas service to consumers in the City of Florissant; 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 within Laclede Gas Company's distribution system which were caused by faulty natural gas facilities; and
- WHEREAS: Laclede Gas employees have frequently detected potentially dangerous gas appliances and gas lines 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, annual reads, hot meter changes, 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 the City of Florissant.

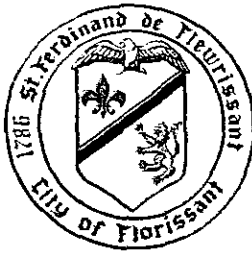
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF FLORISSANT, MISSOURI, opposes the regulatory changes that Laclede Gas has sought before the Missouri Public Service Commission and urges the Missouri Public Service Commission to reject the request from Laclede Gas Company for relief from its obligations to Missouri consumers by sending a certified copy of this resolution to the Missouri Service Commission.

Passed and resolved this 9th of January, 2006.


Tim Lee
President of the Council

ATTEST

Karen Goodwin-Raftery, City Clerk



Florissant Missouri
www.florissantmo.com

NEWSLETTER / PRESS RELEASE
From the Office of the Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 17, 2006

"Lowery Demands Answers from Laclede Gas Company"

Today, Mayor Robert G. Lowery, Sr. issued a statement that Laclede Gas Company, producer of natural gas to residential and commercial consumers in the Metropolitan area, has in the past focused on customer service by its safety inspections, annual reads, and testing of meters. The company now will be cutting back on personnel that are most vital by detecting potentially dangerous gas appliances and gas lines while making these safety inspections, annual reads, and testing of meters.

Mayor Lowery stated that this is a cause for much concern for all people who are provided gas by Laclede Gas Company. This change in service which will reduce inspections could, and possibly will, result in more explosions in homes and businesses. The Mayor has sent a letter to the President and CEO of Laclede asking for an explanation of how reducing the number of personnel will still provide service, with a special emphasis on the safety inspections.

Mayor Lowery stated, "I am extremely concerned about this reduction in service and ask that we all work together as a community to assure the safety of our residents and business owners."

Phone (314) 921-5700

Emergency 9-1-1

Fax (314) 921-7111