

**Metropolitan St. Louis
Sewer District**

2350 Market Street
St. Louis, MO 63103
Phone 314.768.6260
www.stlmsd.com

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) supports keeping Spire Energy's (Spire) STL Pipeline open. The STL Pipeline provides services to several of our wastewater treatment plants and pump stations, which are considered critical infrastructure. A loss in service from this line would be detrimental both to all residents and businesses within our service area, and to the environment.

The natural gas that Spire Energy provides through the STL Pipeline is extremely vital and would affect the level of service that MSD provides with regards to treating the wastewater in both the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County. If a natural gas blackout would occur, the following things would happen to our infrastructure:

1. The processing of solids in wastewater at our treatment plants would cease and we would have to resort to trucking the solids to a landfill if possible. The use of trucks would have a negative impact on the environment as it would be adding more emissions.
2. This could cause a potential shutdown to all seven of our treatment plants, which would result in raw, untreated sewage flowing directly into area waterways.

With the loss of natural gas, MSD would no longer be capable of incinerating solids at our two largest treatment plants, Lemay and Bissell, which are both located along the Mississippi River and service a large part of the region's wastewater. The incineration process requires natural gas to operate. A natural gas blackout would also impact three of our plants that are located along the Meramec River and service a good portion of St. Louis County. A loss of natural gas at Bissell would impact all our wastewater plants which truck or pump solids to Bissell, the largest wastewater plant in the state of Missouri, for incineration. It would be impossible for these plants even to process solids for trucking to a landfill because natural gas is needed to power equipment that is critical to treating wastewater. In sum, MSD's critical wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure would be unable to function in a natural gas blackout. Natural gas, in addition to the items listed above, also provide heat to all our facilities, including maintenance yards, and it prevents pipes from freezing. Shutting down the STL Pipeline would cause a chain reaction by putting our treatment plants and maintenance yards out of service, which in turn would be catastrophic for public health and the environment in our region. For all these reasons, MSD is in full support of Spire Energy's efforts to keep the STL Pipeline active.

Respectfully,



Brian Hoelscher, P.E.
Executive Director & CEO

Document Content(s)

STL Pipeline Support MSD.PDF.....1