

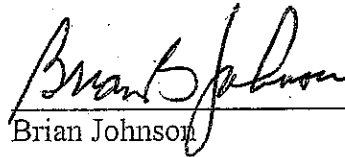
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the matter of)
)
USW Local 11-6,) GC-2006-0390
Complainant)
and)
)
Laclede Gas Company,)
Respondent)


AFFIDAVIT OF BRIAN JOHNSON

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

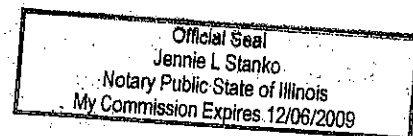
Brian Johnson, of lawful age, on his oath states: that he has participated in the preparation of the following Direct Testimony in question and answer form, consisting of 2 pages of Direct Testimony to be presented in the above case, that the answers in the following Direct Testimony were given by him; that he has knowledge of the matters set forth in such answers; and that such matters are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.


Brian Johnson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of September, 2006.


Notary Public

My commission expires 12/6/09



DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

BRIAN JOHNSON

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF USW 11-6

LACLEDE GAS COMPANY

CASE NO. GC-2006-0390

1 **Q. Please state your name and address.**

2 A. My name is Brian Johnson and my address is **

3 Edwardsville, IL 62025.

4 **B. For how long and in what capacity were you employed with Laclede Gas?**

5 A. From September of 2005 to August of 2006 I worked at Laclede Gas as a
6 temporary meter reader.

7 **Q. Have you held any officer or executive board positions in USW 11-6?**

8 A. No.

9 **Q. What experience do you have with AMR meters?**

10 A. I have discovered leaking AMR meters while performing meter reads. In the
11 typical leak case, my leak detector would go off within three to four feet of the
12 AMR meter.

13 I have also encountered leaking AMR meters while doing "P.M. Specials." A
14 P.M. Special is a reading done in the evening after a customer has complained of
15 a high bill. When customers complain of being overcharged, they are asked to
16 schedule a meter reading. When they request a reading in the evening hours, it is
17 called a P.M. Special. I performed P.M. Specials at Laclede, particularly during

1 my final weeks working there. In my experience, the number of P.M. Specials
2 assigned increased as Laclede became more dependent on the AMR system. It
3 appears to me that as the AMR meters became more prevalent, more people began
4 to complain of overbilling.

5 **Q. Do any leaking AMR meters you encountered stand out in your mind?**

6 A. There are two in particular. Both cases occurred when I was doing P.M. Specials
7 for customers disputing their gas bill. The first case occurred at ** ____
8 ____**. The residence was a duplex, with the grandparents living on one side
9 and the grandson living in another. I remember this case because at one time I
10 had a similar living arrangement with my grandparents. As I was headed to the
11 basement to read the meter, my leak detector went off halfway down the stairs. I
12 could also smell gas in the basement. However, the meter itself was in a separate
13 closet-style room with the door closed. The leak here was extensive: I could
14 smell gas and my detector went off even though the meter was in a separate room
15 with the door closed. I called in this leak to the leak detection hotline.

16 The second case occurred in Overland, but I cannot remember the address. When
17 I arrived to perform the P.M. Special reading, the customer said that her husband
18 and youngest child had been nauseous. However, the customer thought her
19 family had the flu. Like in the first case, my leak detector went off in the
20 basement. I told them to open their windows to increase ventilation and then
21 leave their home. I then called the leak detection hotline.

22 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

23 A. Yes.