

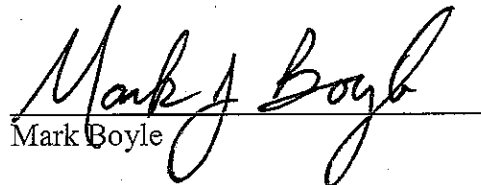
**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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

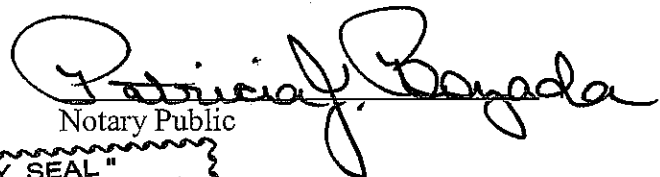
AFFIDAVIT OF MARK BOYLE

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

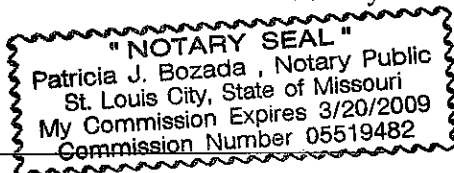
Mark Boyle, of lawful age, on his oath states: that he has participated in the preparation of the following Supplemental Testimony in question and answer form, consisting of 3 pages of Supplemental Testimony to be presented in the above case, that the answers in the following Supplemental Testimony were 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.


Mark Boyle

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of January, 2007.


Notary Public

My commission expires _____



NP

SUPPLEMENTAL TESTIMONY

OF

MARK BOYLE

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF USW 11-6

LACLEDE GAS COMPANY

CASE NO. GC-2006-0390

1 Q. Have you been involved any recent gas leaks involving meters equipped with
2 AMR devices?

3 A. On December 19, 2006, I was working the blank board. Around 10:10 a.m., I was
4 called out to ** because the customer had reported smelling
5 gas.

6 When I arrived, I received an LEL reading of 30% inside the house. This means
7 that 1.3% of the air inside the house was gas. Any reading of 1% or above inside
8 a building is considered to be "very serious" and requires immediate action. A
9 true and accurate copy of the Laclede Service Department Manual, Section 19.5,
10 which reflects this policy, is attached and incorporated here as Exhibit 1.

11 I then went to the basement where their meter was located. The meter was inside
12 a small closet. I noticed that gas was blowing out of the union on the piping
13 located about one foot away from the meter. I then disconnected the gas and
14 began venting the house. I called my supervisor and asked him to observe the
15 leak.

1 The customers were a husband and wife named **

2 ** When I entered the basement, the wife was sitting at a computer
3 located near the leak. She appeared to be ill. After I had made the leak safe, I
4 went upstairs and noticed that the wife was gagging and convulsing on the couch.
5 I suggested that the husband call an ambulance for her. Eventually, an ambulance
6 arrived and took the wife to the hospital. The husband also drove himself to the
7 hospital.

8 My supervisor arrived as the wife was getting in the ambulance. He appeared to
9 be shocked by how poorly she was able to walk. The fire department had also
10 arrived at this time.

11 I showed my supervisor where the leak was coming from and he called the
12 Laclede Claims Department. Later, the Claims Department called Cellnet and
13 they came out to investigate.

14 **Q. How was the leak repaired?**

15 A. My supervisor instructed me to tighten the union that had been leaking. This
16 repaired the leak.

17 **Q. Did the customers have any idea how the leak was caused?**

18 A. The wife told me that a Laclede Gas employee wearing a yellow hard hat had
19 been at their house that morning investigating a high bill complaint. From her
20 description, I knew that the employee was not from Laclede, but was a
21 subcontractor hired to work on the AMR devices.

22 After working in the basement for some time, the subcontractor came upstairs and
23 asked to borrow a screwdriver. The customers lent him a screwdriver and he

1 resumed working on the meter. Later, he came back up and said that he did not
2 have the right equipment to finish the job.

3 Before the subcontractor left, the wife told him that she smelled gas. However, he
4 ignored her, stating that the gas odor was merely normal leakage from the meter
5 faceplate.

6 The customer's claim that a subcontractor had worked on the meter earlier that
7 day is corroborated by the fact that the tamper plugs had been removed from the
8 meter.

9 **Q. How did the customers know that the leak was not present before the**
10 **subcontractor arrived?**

11 A. The husband told me that he did not smell gas before the subcontractor had
12 arrived, otherwise he would have reported the odor sooner.

13 **Q. How dangerous was the leak?**

14 A. Inside the house, I received an LEL reading of 30%. Also, the dangerousness of
15 the leak is shown by the fact that the fire department, police, and ambulance were
16 all called to the scene, and by the fact that both of the customers went to the
17 hospital due to gas inhalation.

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

19 A. Yes.