



NOTICE OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS REGARDING PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

In December 2009, Laclede Gas Company asked the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) to approve an increase in its natural gas service rates of approximately \$60.7 million, of which approximately \$8.1 million is already being recovered in rates through Laclede's Infrastructure System Replacement Surcharge (ISRS), resulting in a net increase of \$52.6 million. For the average residential customer the proposed increase would be approximately \$5.59 per month. Laclede also proposes to implement a Customer Usage Adjustment (CUA) that would apply a credit or surcharge to residential and commercial customers' bills when customer usage is higher or lower than the usage levels used to establish rates. The impact of the CUA for residential customers is expected to be no more than ½ of 1% of a customer's total bill.

The PSC will conduct an investigation and hold hearings to determine if the proposed rates are just and reasonable. The PSC has the authority to approve rates that are lower than Laclede's request depending on the results of its investigation and hearing.

The PSC will hold public hearings in which customers will have an opportunity to present comments to the PSC commissioners about the rate increase request. Public comment hearings have been set before the PSC as follows:

- Monday, May 24, 2010, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at Fox C-6 School District, Roy Wilde Conference Center, 849 Jeffco Blvd., Arnold, Missouri 63010.
- Tuesday, May 25, 2010, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at St. Charles R-6 School District, 400 North 6th Street, St. Charles, Missouri 63301.
- Wednesday, May 26, 2010, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at Harris-Stowe State University, Emerson Performance Building - Bank of America Theater, 3026 Laclede, St. Louis, Missouri 63103.
- Thursday, May 27, 2010, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at Farmington High School, 1 Black Knight Dr., Farmington, Missouri 63640.
- Tuesday, June 1, 2010, beginning at 12:00 p.m., at University of Missouri-St. Louis, Millennium Center, One University Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63121.
- Tuesday, June 1, 2010, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at St. Louis Community College - Meramec Campus, Business Administration Building, Room 105, 11333 Big Bend Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63122.
- Wednesday, June 2, 2010, beginning at 12:00 noon, at St. Louis County Library - Thornhill Branch Auditorium, 12863 Willowick Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63146.

***A question-and-answer session will be held one-half hour before the beginning of each hearing.**

If you are unable to attend a live public hearing and wish to make written comments or secure additional information, you may contact the Office of the Public Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone (573) 751-4857, email opcservice@ded.mo.gov or the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 800-392-4211, email pscinfo@psc.mo.gov.

Comments may also be registered in the case using the Commission's electronic filing system at <https://www.efis.psc.mo.gov/mpsc/Comments.html>. If submitting comments electronically, please reference Case Number GR-2010-0171.

The Commission will also conduct an evidentiary hearing at its offices in Jefferson City from August 2 through 6 and from August 9 through 13, 2010, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The hearings and local public hearings will be held in buildings that meet accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If a customer needs additional accommodations to participate in these hearings, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.