



Senator Bill Stouffer
21st Senate District

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

Capitol Building, Room 332
Jefferson City, MO 65101

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 20, 2009

Senator Bill Stouffer Announces Natural Gas Rate Decrease

Rate Drop Affects Lafayette, Saline, Cooper, Howard and Clay Counties

JEFFERSON CITY — State Sen. Bill Stouffer, R-Napton, says more than 500,000 Missouri Gas Energy (MGE) customers will see their natural gas rates go down.

“This is the first time since November of 2002 the rate has been \$.54 per hundred cubic feet,” Sen. Stouffer said. “The rate is currently \$.77. Last year, it was \$1.04. This is great news for a lot of hard working folks throughout rural Missouri.”

According to the [Missouri Public Service Commission](#) (PSC), approximately 65 to 75 percent of a customer’s natural gas bill reflects the cost of natural gas from wholesale suppliers. The wholesale cost of natural gas is not regulated by the PSC. The wellhead cost of natural gas is unregulated and is primarily driven by supply, demand and the weather. The Missouri Public Service Commission does conduct an annual regulatory review to ensure that regulated natural gas companies make prudent decisions in securing natural gas supplies for their customers.

“Slowly but surely, we’re seeing the prices we pay for some things return to normal,” Sen. Stouffer said. “I see this as progress and I hope we see more of it in the months to come.”

###

Contact: Aaron Baker
(573) 751-1507
(866) 768-3987