



RECEIVED

18 AUG 31 AM 11:22

AMESBURY CITY CLERK

**CITY OF AMESBURY  
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN**

**SPONSORED BY:**

  
Steven Stanganelli, Councilor-at-Large

**BILL No.**

2018-060

**A Resolution** A Resolution to Support a Moratorium on New and Replacement Gas Line Projects to Promote Public Safety

**Summary:** Valid safety concerns have been presented regarding the construction and repair procedures being utilized by National Grid during this period by their replacement workers and contractors; and public safety may be jeopardized by inexperienced workers and contractors performing gas line installations and maintenance within the City of Amesbury

Whereas, National Grid serves many residential and commercial natural gas customers within the City of Amesbury; and

Whereas, National Grid has locked out members of the United Steelworkers Locals 12003 and 12012; and

Whereas, National Grid has indicated that during the lock out period, it will replace experienced union gas workers with management personnel or potentially inexperienced contractors to perform gas pipeline installation and maintenance; and

Whereas, valid safety concerns have been presented regarding the construction and repair procedures being utilized by National Grid during this period by their replacement workers and contractors; and

Whereas, public safety may be jeopardized by inexperienced workers and contractors performing gas line installations and maintenance within the City of Amesbury, now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the City Council assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

That the City Council of Amesbury requests that the City's Department of Public Works not issue new permits for gas construction, maintenance, or repair projects (except as may be needed to repair a gas leak on an emergency basis) during the National Grid lock out period.

# Amesbury

## City Councilor



Steven Stanganelli  
Councilor At Large  
City Hall, Office of the City Clerk  
62 Friend Street  
Amesbury, MA 01913

(978) 388-8143  
Fax: (978) 388-8150  
councilorstanganelli@amesburyma.gov

### A Resolution to Support a Moratorium on New and Replacement Gas Line Projects to Promote Public Safety

Whereas, National Grid serves many residential and commercial natural gas customers within the City of Amesbury; and

Whereas, National Grid has locked out members of the United Steelworkers Locals 12003 and 12012; and

Whereas, National Grid has indicated that during the lock out period, it will replace experienced union gas workers with management personnel or potentially inexperienced contractors to perform gas pipeline installation and maintenance; and

Whereas, valid safety concerns have been presented regarding the construction and repair procedures being utilized by National Grid during this period by their replacement workers and contractors; and

Whereas, public safety may be jeopardized by inexperienced workers and contractors performing gas line installations and maintenance within the City of Amesbury, now

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,

That the City Council of Amesbury requests that the City's Department of Public Works not issue new permits for gas construction, maintenance, or repair projects (except as may be needed to repair a gas leak on an emergency basis) during the National Grid lock out period.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christian Scorzoni,  
Council President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Matt Einson,  
Council Vice President  
District 3 Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Stanganelli  
Councilor-At-Large

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna McClure  
Councilor-At-Large

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela Gilday  
District 1 Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Louise Bartley  
District 2 Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicholas Wheeler  
District 4 Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph McMilleon  
District 5 Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Marggraf  
District 6 Councilor

**List of Complaints sent to DPU**

**12012-4 ONLY**

**7/24/2018**

1. June 28 , 2018 Amesbury: Pictures of National grid replacement working filling in emergency valves with sand.
2. June 28,2018 Video Evidence that a 3rd party Contractor has been excavating within 200 feet of a National Grid High Pressure Regulator Pit; without a National grid Inspector onsite. The site is at Highland St and Thorndike St in Lowell.
3. June 29,2018 Video Evidence (Again) that a 3rd party Contractor has been excavating within 200 feet of a National Grid High Pressure Regulator Pit; without a National grid Inspector onsite. The site is at Highland St and Thorndike St in Lowell.
4. June 30,2018 Charles St Malden MA. Picture of what appears to be Air rating equipment that has not been sufficiently inserted into the bar hole. This device is used to vent a subsurface that contains Natural Gas. We have had multiple reports that this leak is a grade one leak and has been left unattended several times.
5. June 30,2018 Medford St and Commercial St Malden Pictures and Video of tent like structure over a gas excavation. We have never witnessed this type of structure used prior to the Lockout. The tent could trap venting gas from the excavation.
6. July 1, 2018 Medford Street and Commercial Street Malden Video link shows an overloaded dump truck at a National Grid Gas excavation .
7. July 1,2018 150 Charles St. Malden Picture appears to show that National Grid Replacement workers drilled a bar test hole directly over the markings of a 24" gas main. drilling is required to be done laterally from the main to avoid puncturing the main.
8. July 2, 2018 Medford Street and Commercial Street Malden , Video appears to show National Grid replacement workers operating in a deep excavation without the proper reinforced shoring.
9. July 3, 2018 Highland St and Thorndike St. Lowell , video of a 3rd party contractor excavating within 200 feet of a Gas Regulator Pit without a National grid representative onsite. This is the third time we have recorded excavating activity at this site and reported it since June 28,2018.
10. July 3, 2018 170 Medford Street Malden MA (National Grid Property) National Grid installed an access gate to the property at 170 Medford Street Malden ,MA.( the access gate is actually located at the end of Wyllis Ave. Everett, MA ) We have been told that there is a Kinder Morgan 750-900 pound Gas Transmission Line 3 feet deep, directly in front of the access gate. We have been told that no permits were applied for prior to the installation of the access gate. We were also told that in order to drive heavy vehicles over the Kinder Morgan Transmission line an Engineering study should be completed and what's called an air bridge should be installed to protect against external pressure ;we do not believe an Air Bridge has been installed. We have been told that National Grid

vehicles have already driven over the Kinder Morgan Transmission line to access the Property and that the City of Everett Fire Officials have been notified.

11. July 6, 2018 Bridge St and Arlington St Dracut MA, sent 4 emails showing video which appears to show National Grid replacement workers leaving a Gas Regulator Pit unattended while an excavation is in progress within 200 feet.
12. July 7, 2018 ( Sent the following to DPU)...On July 5,2018 I called the Eastern Regional office of PHMSA and was told that a Director would be contacting me. No one from PHMSA has responded. Can you please contact PHMSA? Attached are 4 pictures of the entrance to the access gate; two pictures were taken on July 3,2018 following the installation of the gate and two are pictures from Google Earth prior to Installation. Apparently the line is not beneath the bike path as I first reported but in the grass area which is shown in the pictures covered with the steel plates. I did verify with the City of Everett that no permits were filed with the City prior to construction.
13. July 7, 2018 , Reported to DPU that on July 6,2018 Holton St and Cross St ,Winchester MA. the National Grid Contractor (USIC) was observed performing a leak survey. I sent DPU copy of newspaper article regarding USIC and penalties the Company received in 2013.
14. July 8, 2018 July 4, 2018 Hilldale Ave. and Bateman St. Havehill MA, video shows a tent like structure over a Gas excavation. The Material does not appear to be flame retardant and the roof of the tent would not allow escaping gas to properly vent.
15. July 10, 2018 Sent follow up email to previously reported incident to the DPU containing video on July 6, 2018 of an unattended excavation within 200 feet of a regulator pit at Bridge St and Arlington St. Dracut MA , the additional video appears to show that National Grid replacement workers could not open the Regulator Pit doors to perform the required monitoring and control of the regulator pit while the excavation was in progress.
16. July 10,2018 Winter St Haverhill MA, Video and Photo show a tent like structure over a gas excavation this is the third seperate instance and location of this activity reported. The video also appears to show a replacement worker enter the excavation without a fire suit.
17. July 11, 2018 Picture appears to show a National Grid work truck located at a worksite while work is in progress; there are no tire chucks, cones or warning signs in use.
18. July 12, 2018 Hilldale AV and Bateman St Haverhill MA , Video appears to show a tent like structure over an excavation and a replacement worker inside of the excavation with no breathable air supply and no Davit rescue equipment in use during the operation.
19. July 14,2018 North Ave and Macon St Haverhill MA , Video appears to show a replacement worker physically inside the casing of Industrial Vacuum Excavating Equipment while the Equipment is in operation.
20. July 12, 2018 ,20 Angle St Lowell MA ,Leak investigation from member , we have a number of concerns about this incident:
  - None of the replacement workers investigating the gas odor are from the Lowell or Massachusetts area service territory; in fact the USIC contractor stated " I don't know your gas system".
  - Bar Holes only 5"-10" deep
  - The replacement workers did not perform an inside area check ( as required regardless of the leak classification)
  - The replacement workers stated that they were forced to perform work on the Lowell gas system.
  - The replacement workers may not have been wearing FR clothing

**21.** July 16,2018 ,102 Cambridge St Charlestown MA, Video appears to show National Grid replacement worker operating a gasoline powered chainsaw within an excavation where gas is leaking . A gasoline powered chainsaw could ignite escaping gas and we believe the use of this type of equipment under gas leaking conditions is a violation of the Company's operations manual.

**22.** July 16 ,2018 Regulator Station at Wilbur St Lowell ,MA The video appears to show replacement workers at the Wilbur St Lowell regulator station venting gas into the atmosphere without taking preventive safety precautions which could lead to an unintentional gas ignition leaving the workers unprotected; it appears that:

- There is no aluminum vent stack installed.
- There is no grounding cable attached.
- There is no fire extinguisher on site.
- We believe that these issues would all be violations of the Company's operations manual.

**23.** July 19, 2018 North Av Haverhill MA , Video shows a replacement worker not wearing a fire suit in a gas excavation.

**24.** July 20,2018 Woburn St and Greenwood Av Lowell, MA , Video appears to show a third party contractor excavating within 200 feet of a high pressure regulator pit and directly over the gas main without a National Grid Inspector onsite. This is the third separate location where this type of activity has been observed.

**25.** July 19, 2018, 755 Main St. Malden MA The attached video link shows a number of serious concerns about what took place at this location. We believe the gas service line was miss marked by USIC ( 3rd party excavator "Tufts Construction" hit service line)

- The attached video appears to show National Grid replacement workers allowing the 3rd party excavation workers ("Tufts Construction") to perform work (Hand digging/ Mechanical digging) while the hit gas service line is releasing gas.
- The attached video appears to show National Grid Replacement workers allowing the 3rd party excavation workers to work in the excavation without wearing any PPE and work in the excavation while the mechanical digging is taking place

**26.** July 24,2018 81 Shawmut St Chelsea MA , Video appears to show National Grid replacement workers clearing out an old gas service with compressed air. It appears that the compressed air and debris from inside of the service was vented into the atmosphere without any type of filtering device.

**27.** July 23, 2018 Highland Ave and Thorndike St. Lowell, MA , Video appears to show a third party excavator operating excavation equipment adjacent to a high pressure coated steel gas main without the National Grid Replacement worker observing the activity ;damage to the coated line and repairs were observed. We have a number of concerns about what took place at this job site: The National Grid replacement workers are not monitoring the excavation.

- We believe there is a regulator pit within 200 feet of this excavation.
- The observers who took the video stated that the coating on the gas main was damaged and had to be repaired.
- We believe that the National Grid replacement workers should have instructed the excavator to hand dig around the gas main.
- The observers stated that the replacement workers who performed the repairs did not cut away the damaged coating before they applied the new coating.
- The observers stated that the replacement workers left the scene and had to be called back to make a second repair to the coating that went unnoticed during the first visit.
- The observers stated that they did not see the replacement workers take any bar hole CGI readings in the vicinity of the excavation.

We also sent concerns regarding replacement workers from New York operating in MASS.



# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

www.cityofboston.gov/citycouncil  
city.council@boston.gov

---

One City Hall Square ♦ 5<sup>th</sup> Floor ♦ Boston, MA 02201 ♦ Phone: (617) 635-3040 ♦ Fax: (617) 635-4203

June 26, 2018

Ms. Marcy Reed, Massachusetts President  
National Grid USA  
40 Sylvan Road  
Waltham, MA 02451

Dear Ms. Reed:

We, the undersigned members of the Boston City Council, wish to express our concern regarding the current collective bargaining negotiations between National Grid and workers represented by United Steelworkers Locals 12003 and 12012. We believe National Grid has an obligation, as a public utility, to bargain in good faith. We hope that this matter is resolved swiftly, equitably and does not result in any impact on public safety nor loss of utility service for our constituents.

The contract between a public utility and its frontline employees is a matter of great public interest. It is incumbent on all parties, workers and management alike, to approach such contract negotiations with a spirit of fairness and compromise. We are concerned that any delays in the collective bargaining process could result in work stoppages, lock outs and/or other labor related actions that would diminish service in large segments of the Commonwealth and threaten public safety.

The very nature of live gas-line work including: making repairs, fixing leaks, marking out the location of pipes and connections in our neighborhoods and near our schools, hospitals, etc., makes this work particularly sensitive. We need National Grid to ensure that gas work is done by knowledgeable experts with years of experience. The trained workforce traditionally under contract with National Grid is already the best safeguard against potentially catastrophic accidental harm. Any substitute for this experience and professionalism would be irresponsible.

As such, we ask that National Grid and members of Local USW Locals 12003 and 12012 continue to negotiate in good faith to come to an agreement that is equitable and fair to the workforce as well as the consumers of Massachusetts.

As National Grid negotiates with the gas workers of Locals 12003 and 12012, we hope the corporation will keep in mind critical elements of any fair labor contract:

- Protect healthcare benefits for current employees and retirees
- Stop erosion of pay thresholds for new hires
- Make certain that incoming long-term employees are shielded against wage and benefit cuts

We thank you for your attention in this matter. If you would like to further discuss, please contact Councilor Ed Flynn at (617) 635-3203; [Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov](mailto:Ed.Flynn@Boston.gov).



# BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

[www.cityofboston.gov/citycouncil](http://www.cityofboston.gov/citycouncil)

[city.council@boston.gov](mailto:city.council@boston.gov)

One City Hall Square ♦ 5<sup>th</sup> Floor ♦ Boston, MA 02201 ♦ Phone: (617) 635-3040 ♦ Fax: (617) 635-4203

Sincerely,

Michael Flaherty  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Annissa Essaibi George  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Ayanna Pressley  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Michelle Wu  
Boston City Councilor At-Large

Lydia Edwards  
Boston City Council  
District 1

Ed Flynn  
Boston City Council  
District 2

Frank Baker  
Boston City Council  
District 3

Andrea Campbell  
Boston City Council  
District 4

Tim McCarthy  
Boston City Council  
District 5

Matt O'Malley  
Boston City Council  
District 6

Kim Janey  
Boston City Council  
District 7

Josh Zakim  
Boston City Council  
District 8

Mark Ciommo  
Boston City Council  
District 9

Cc:

Sir Peter Gershon, Chairman

John Pettigrew, CEO

Dean Seavers, President, US Operations



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

*Secretary of the Commonwealth  
State House, Boston, Massachusetts 02133*

*William Francis Galvin  
Secretary of the Commonwealth*

July 2, 2018

Joe Kirylo  
President  
United Steelworkers Local 12003  
85 Commercial Street  
Weymouth, MA 02188

John Buonopane  
President  
United Steelworkers Local 12012-4  
P.O. Box 760847  
Melrose, MA 02176

Dear Mr. Kirylo and Mr. Buonopane,

I am writing to express my strong support of your members as you suffer the effects of an outrageous and dangerous lock-out by National Grid.

National Grid, in its relentless pursuit of higher profits has chosen not only to put your members at financial risk as they seek to extort a new and disadvantageous contract, but is also putting at risk public safety.

As a former regulator of public utilities in Massachusetts, I am acutely aware of the risk that untrained personnel present when dealing with a potentially dangerous substance like natural gas.

As Massachusetts' regulator of financial services, I am also concerned by National Grid's efforts to weaken its defined benefit pension plan by de-populating its contributors and therefore put its employees and their families at greater financial risk.

Please be assured of my continuing support as you fight this battle for all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Galvin", written over the word "Sincerely,".

William Francis Galvin  
Secretary of the Commonwealth



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

**SENATOR MARC R. PACHECO**  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
*First Plymouth and Bristol District*

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 312B  
BOSTON, MA 02133-1053  
TEL. (617) 722-1551

MARC.PACHECO@MASENATE.GOV  
WWW.MASENATE.GOV

*Chairman*  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
GLOBAL WARMING AND CLIMATE CHANGE

JOINT COMMITTEES:  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES  
EXPORT DEVELOPMENT  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES AND ENERGY

SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

July 11, 2018

Dear Mr. Pettigrew, Mr. Seavers, and Ms. Reed,

I write you today urging you to end the lockout and allow the 1,300 National Grid employees represented by 12003 and 12012 Locals USW to resume their work. I am extremely disappointed at the vindictive manner in which National Grid has conducted negotiations with its loyal, long-time employees. Relegating worker safety to mere leverage for wage negotiations conflicts with the fundamental principles of civility that we endeavor to promote within our Commonwealth.

Public safety is not a bargaining chip and the consequences of your company's failure to settle pose a constant threat to Massachusetts citizens. Incidents like the Area A police station explosion and the Commercial Ave gas main have catastrophic potential. The Hyde Park Ave fire on New Year's Eve burned for three days – these accidents, caused by contractors, constitute an unacceptable risk to our state's citizens. I can assure you, the Legislature does not dismiss these public safety failures as casually as National Grid.

National Grid profited \$3.5 Billion this past year. Nevertheless, your company terminated the medical benefits of 1,300 workers and their innocent families on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Refusing to honor employee healthcare disregards basic dignity and needlessly threatens the lives of ailing employees and their families, including new mothers and infants.

In closing, I again urge your company to reconsider its regrettable position and consider the damages that your extended failure to compromise could cause your employees, their families, and the thousands of other Massachusetts citizens that our government is sworn to protect. End the lockout and let these employees come back to work where they belong.

Sincerely,

Marc R. Pacheco  
Senate President Pro Tempore



SHARE    ...

## Haverhill passes moratorium on National Grid projects during lockout

[kblessing@eagletribune.com](mailto:kblessing@eagletribune.com)

HAVERHILL — This city joined several others in the commonwealth Tuesday in siding with the National Grid gas workers when the City Council voted to impose a temporary moratorium on all routine, non-emergency gas projects on public property as long as the lockout lasts.

The council voted 8-0-1, with Councilor Joseph Bevilacqua abstaining, not to support any new gas project the company seeks council approval for until the workers have been allowed back on the job.

Gas employees of the utility giant have been forced off the job for more than two weeks, since contract negotiations between the company and unions stalled in late June. Effective July 1, the company announced it was eliminating health benefits for all gas employees.

The lockout has left employees scrambling, and forced National Grid to bring in contractors who are unfamiliar with gas line work to take the union employees' place. Keith Rice, a union representative with United Steelworkers local 120124, appealed to Haverhill's City Council Tuesday to "join with a growing list of other communities" in passing the moratorium.

"We do not think this is unreasonable given the importance of public safety and efficiency," Rice told the councilors. "Our belief is while the employees who normally do this work are locked out, there is a large potential for problems."

With the exception of Bevilacqua, who abstained from the vote because National Grid is a part of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce he runs, all the councilors expressed enthusiastic support for the unionworkers and described National Grid's lockout as "rotten," "pathetic" and "reprehensible."

Other Massachusetts cities including Lowell and Braintree have passed similar resolutions already. Tuesday night, George Perry, a representative of another local union, requested that Methuen city councilors consider the same moratorium, though the council did not take a vote on the matter.

In addition to the moratorium, Councilor Michael McGonagle suggested the councilors each individually sign a resolution and send it to "the appropriate parties," including National Grid and the state agency that regulates the company, the Department of Public Utilities.

"I happened to catch on the news tonight briefly ... that National Grid made \$9.1billion in profit last year," said Councilor Thomas Sullivan. "That's a lot of money, and I think not only do you guys deserve a raise that's fair and equitable, also I think the residents and customers deserve ... a rate cut."

"It seems incredible that they can be regulated so heavily and still have this amount of power and strength to do what they're doing to you," he added.

Mayor James Fiorentini voiced his support for the workers, noting that he's been out on their picketing line in Haverhill three times.

"It's outrageous and I stand with them," Fiorentini said.

Rice said he and his fellow union members were "very happy" with the council's "enthusiastic" response, calling the councilors "reasonable."

Rice cited what he considered unsafe work practices that are in place while the gas workers are off the job, including that inspectors who normally oversee leak sites to "verify procedures are being followed" are not on the job. The inexperienced contract workers also require more manpower, take longer to pinpoint a leak, and are digging more holes than necessary in city roads, according to Rice.

"It's been very scary and frustrating at times, and yet other times you feel as though you're fighting for something that you believe in and that makes fighting for it easier and worthwhile and more rewarding," Rice said. "Nights like tonight can kind of lift you up when you have down times, when you're thinking about not getting a paycheck or not having your healthcare."

 SHARE    ..

Powered by TECNAVIA

Copyright (c)2018 The Eagle-Tribune, Edition 07/11/2018

**Click here to see this page in the eEdition:**



**(Login Required)**

 SHARE    ..



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

**JAMES M. KELCOURSE**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
1ST ESSEX DISTRICT

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 130  
TEL. (617) 722-2130  
James.Kelcourse@MAhouse.gov

July 11, 2018

Angela M. O'Connor, Chair  
Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities  
1 South Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Chairman O'Connor,

I write to you today with concern regarding the current collective bargaining negotiations between National Grid and representatives of United Steelworker Locals 12003 and 12012-04.

USW Locals 12003 and 12012-04, local businesses and constituents have all expressed their concern for public safety. National Grid has replaced union workers with inexperienced outside contractors for the installation of new replacement gas line projects. Safety is of the utmost importance to me and further delay will affect the well-being of the workers and constituents in my district. In addition to safety, the lockout will impact economic development in Amesbury, Newburyport and Salisbury.

Please take these concerns into serious consideration and encourage National Grid to put its qualified and experienced workers back in the field. Thank you for your attention to this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Kelcourse".

**James M. Kelcourse**  
*State Representative*  
*First Essex District*

cc; Matthew A. Beaton, Secretary EOEEA  
John Buonopane, President USW 12012-04



# BROOKLINE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

LOCAL 950

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

P.O. Box 771 • Brookline, MA 02447-0771

July 13, 2018

Mel Kleckner  
Brookline Town Administrator  
Brookline Town Hall  
333 Washington Street 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Brookline, Ma 02445

Re: National Grid Lock-out

Dear Mr. Kleckner,

I am writing to you with concern regarding the collective bargaining negotiations between National Grid and the United Steel Worker Local 12003 and 12012-04.

The USW Locals, local business and Brookline taxpayers all have expressed their concerns for public safety. National Grid has replaced skilled union labor with inexperienced management and outside labor forces for the installation and replacement of gas lines within the borders of Brookline. Our town has seen the devastation of the hazards of natural gas that resulted in loss of life.

As President of The Brookline Firefighters Local 950 IAFF I am also concerned for my members safety and the increased hazard potential that National Grid has put us all in.

Please take my concerns into serious consideration and encourage the Management of National Grid to put their skilled workers back to work in Brookline and surrounding communities. At a minimum you should inform National Grid that no work would be conducted within the Town of Brookline until an agreement is reached between National Grid and the affected local unions.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Trahon  
President  
Brookline Firefighters  
Local 950 I.A.F.F

cc. Brookline Select Board



A Resolution in Support of United Steelworkers District 4, Local 12003, Boston Gas Workers Union

WHEREAS: National Grid serves many residential and commercial natural gas customers within the Town of Braintree; and

WHEREAS: The United Steelworkers Local 12003 District 4 Boston Gas Workers Union represents the men and women who operate on gas lines and projects within the Town of Braintree; and

WHEREAS: Many members of United Steelworkers Local 12003 District 4 Boston Gas Workers Union live and work in the Town of Braintree; and

WHEREAS: The United Steelworkers Local 12003 District 4 Boston Gas Workers Union has been bargaining in good faith to achieve a fair and equitable contract with competitive wages and benefits for its members; and

WHEREAS: The safety and wellbeing of National Grid gas customers and the general public is contingent upon high quality and well-trained employees performing services and line inspections on gas projects; and

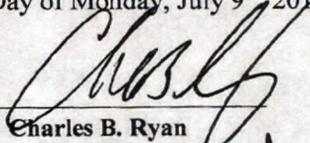
WHEREAS: A prolonged lockout of National Grid gas workers raises safety concerns for the general public and strains service to National Grid gas customers; now

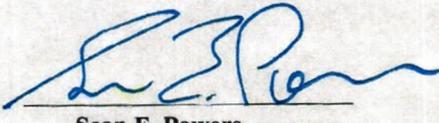
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That the Braintree Town Council urges National Grid to end the lockout of its gas workers so that gas line inspections, services, and repairs may continue to be performed by qualified and properly trained employees; and

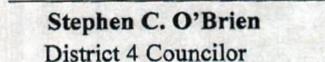
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Town of Braintree provide heightened scrutiny and safety inspections and monitoring on all National Grid work being done during the lockout of National Grid's workers and that no new permits for gas construction projects shall be issued by the Town Council; and

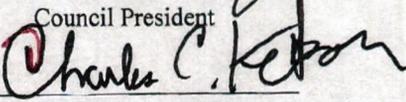
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Braintree Town Council urges National Grid to agree to a fair and equitable contract that provides for competitive wages and benefits commensurate with the technical skills and qualifications possessed by the members of United Steelworkers Local 12003 District 4 Boston Gas Workers Union.

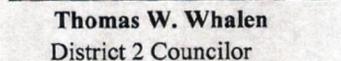
Offered on this Day of Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

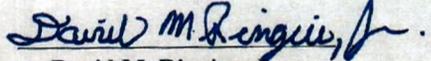
  
Charles B. Ryan  
Council President

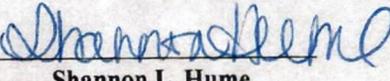
  
Sean E. Powers  
At-Large Councilor

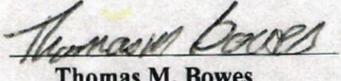
  
Stephen C. O'Brien  
District 4 Councilor

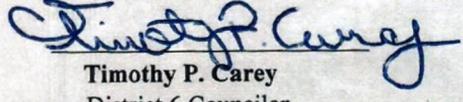
  
Charles C. Kokoros  
Council Vice-President

  
Thomas W. Whalen  
District 2 Councilor

  
David M. Ringius, Jr.  
District 5 Councilor

  
Shannon L. Hume  
At-Large Councilor

  
Thomas M. Bowes  
District 3 Councilor

  
Timothy P. Carey  
District 6 Councilor



## CITY OF CAMBRIDGE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

[mayor@cambridgema.gov](mailto:mayor@cambridgema.gov)

Marc C. McGovern  
Mayor

Phone: 617-349-4321  
Fax: 617-349-4320

July 16, 2018

Ms. Marcy Reed, Massachusetts President  
National Grid USA  
40 Sylvan Road  
Waltham, MA 02451

Dear Ms. Reed:

As National Grid enters the latest rounds of negotiations today to end this unfair and protracted lockout, I wanted to state in no uncertain terms that the Mayor of Cambridge stands with the men and women of Steelworkers Local 12003 and 12012. It is disappointing that National Grid choose to jeopardize the safety of some 85 Massachusetts communities with inexperienced replacement workers; to threaten service disruptions for the thousands of residents and businesses; and to strip hard-earned benefits and health coverage from employees and their families—all to disrupt good-faith negotiations and force workers into an unfair contract.

Most alarming is the potential hazard to public safety this lockout represents to our densely populated communities. At the next meeting of the City Council, I will be asking for the City Manager to oversee any work conducted by National Grid in Cambridge to ensure that violations reported elsewhere in the state do not threaten the health and wellbeing of our residents. Joining municipalities across the state, I will also ask the Council to halt the permitting of all future National Grid projects until we can be assured that vital services will not be compromised by replacement workers. I have attached a copy of the policy order which will appear on the Council agenda for Monday, July 30, 2018.

National Grid should negotiate in good faith to end this lockout swiftly and equitably so that the complex and oftentimes dangerous work of maintenance, inspections, and installation may be conducted by practiced workers. Fair working conditions and commensurate benefits that support middle-class jobs need not come at the expense of the public's safety and workers' rights.

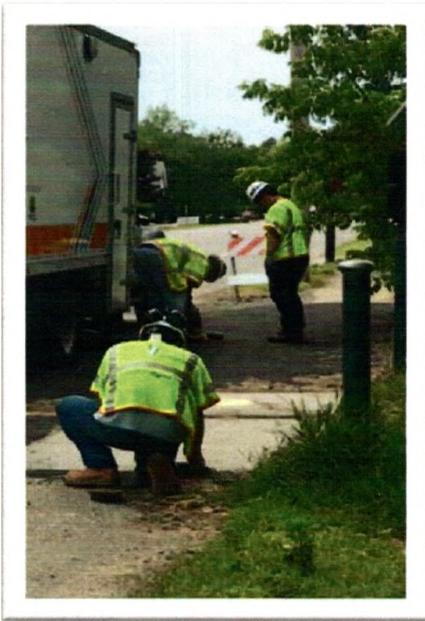
Return employees to their jobs; return experienced workers to Massachusetts' neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marc McGovern".

# DANGEROUS EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONDITIONS AT REGULATOR STATION—SELF INFLICTED AFTER LOCKOUT 6/25/2018 HAVERHILL

- REG. STATION REGULATES FLOW OF GAS INTO THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM TO SUPPLY NEIGHBORHOODS AND HOMES.
- CUTS DOWN GAS PRESSURE FROM 60psi TO A WHISPER (WATER COLUMN)
- FILLING OF CRITICAL SHUT OFF VALVES WITH SAND AT REGULATOR STATION (WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY TURN TO MUD)
- RESTRICTED ACCESS TO CRITICAL VALVES IN A TIMELY MANNER FOR AN EMERGENCY OVERPRESSURE SHUT-DOWN

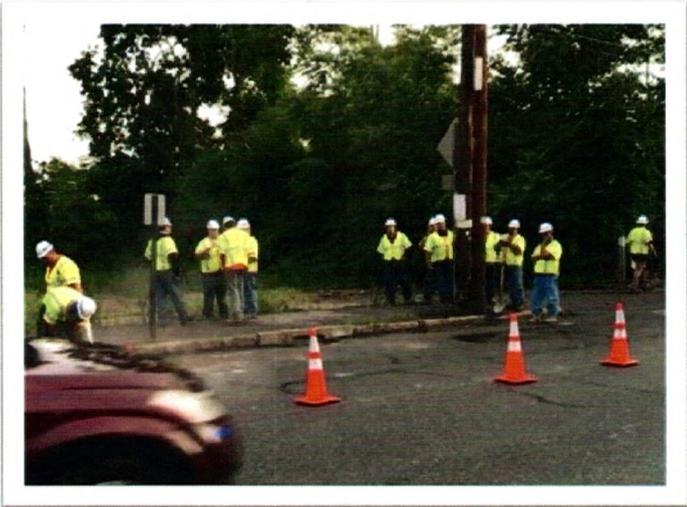
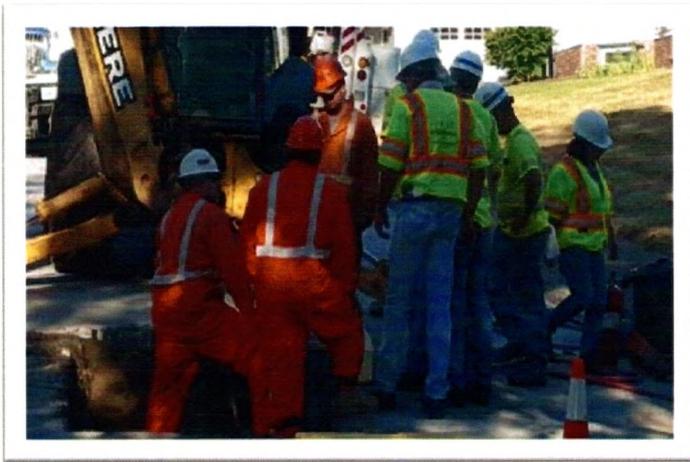
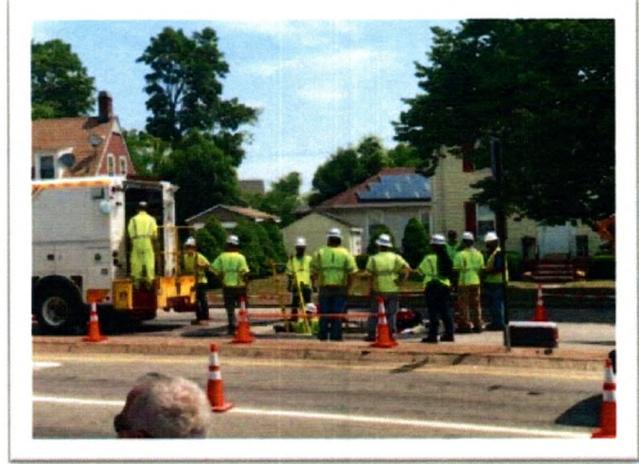
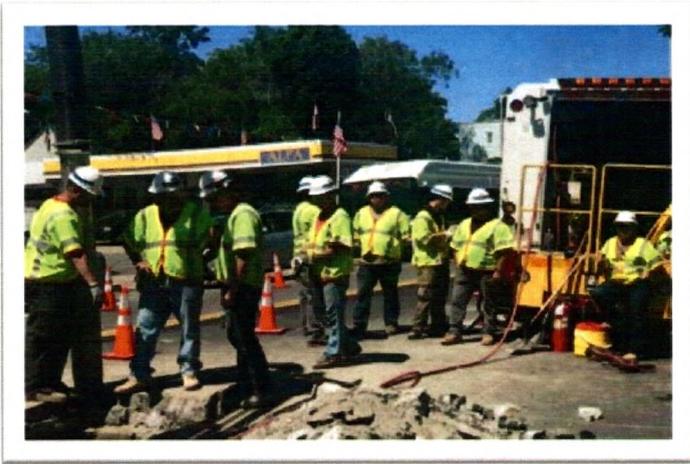


# GENERAL SAFETY CONCERNS OF REPLACEMENT WORKERS AND SUPERVISORS SINCE LOCKOUT 6/25/2018

- PIC 1--- PULLED ELECTRIC SERVICE
- PIC 2---HEAD IN HOLE OF A GAS LEAK
- PIC 3---NO FALL PROTECTION,NO HARD HAT,NO SAFETY GLASSES
- PIC 4—OPEN DOOR ON THE HIGHWAY
- PIC 5---NEAR MISS HITTING WORKER WITH BUCKHOE BUCKET



**OVERSTAFFING OF CREWS SIZES AT THE WORKSITES(NORMALY A 2 TO 3 PERSON CREW)—OVERALL COST OF LOCKOUT WITH POTENTIAL COST TO THE RATEPAYER SINCE 6/25/2018**



# SEVERE SAFETY ISSUES BY NATIONAL GRID AND REPLACEMENT WORKERS SINCE 6/25/2018

## HIGHLY FLAMMABLE TENT COVERING EXCAVATION WHILE REPAIRING A NATURAL GAS LEAK—MALDEN AND HAVERHILL

- CONFINED SPACE
- TRAPPED NATURAL GAS
- EXPLOSIVE READINGS
- NYLON FLAMMABLE TENTS
- HINDERANCE OF ESCAPE ROUTES
- NO TRAFFIC BARRIERS
- OBSTRUCTED VEIW TO ONCOMING TRAFFIC

