



# RESOLUTION

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Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

January 22, 2007

## Save Our Service At Washington Gas Light Company

Whereas, Washington Gas Light Company (WGL) wants to close call centers where utility consumers can actually talk with a Company employee, pay their bills, make arrangements for payments over time, have utility service restored, prevent having their utilities shut off, apply for utility assistance programs and order home service and repair when necessary; and more significantly where gas leak and emergency calls are handled; and

Whereas, WGL is also looking to close its walk-in customer service offices where the vast majority of users are people of color, single mothers with young kids, senior citizens on low fixed incomes, immigrants and those of us who have least, are most vulnerable to cuts in service, and cannot afford extra charges to pay their bills; and

Whereas, 95% of the workers who perform these jobs are people of color with nearly 80% of them women (in many cases single mother supporting families); and

Whereas, WGL is a regulated utility selling natural gas, a commodity requiring a skilled and competent workforce to respond to the potentially deadly dangers to consumers in their own homes; and

Whereas, James DeGraffenreidt, Jr., Chairman and Chief Operating Officer, who is responsible for this potential loss of income to those of us who have least, makes more than \$1.2 million annually in salary and bonuses (does not include stock options), much of it paid for by the very people whose health, safety and financial well-being his policies now threaten:

Therefore be it resolved that the Metropolitan Washington Council AFL-CIO joins the customers of WGL in demanding that the Public Service Commissions maintain the customer services that we have already paid for in rates and that the Commission

force WGL to live up to its mandate to protect the health and safety of its customers.

Further, be it resolved that the Metro Council will strongly urge and organize its affiliates, allies and political leaders to support the Washington Gas workers.

*Passed unanimously by the delegates at the January 22, 2007 Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO*

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