



Energy Theft Costs Lives, Costs Money:

Act Now to Strengthen 18 Pa.C.S.A. §3926 and Protect Pennsylvanians

Energy theft is one of Pennsylvania's most dangerous and costly crimes. It occurs when home and business owners tamper with meters, or use other means to steal electricity and natural gas.

Energy theft can kill. Electrocutation, natural gas explosions and fires have all resulted from the dangerous conditions created by energy theft. Family members, employees, neighbors and First Responders are unwittingly put at risk when energy is stolen.

Imagine the result when firemen mistakenly believe the gas or electricity has been shut off. Or when a neighbor accidentally mows over a garden hose that's conducting natural gas, or an employee comes in contact with an unsafe wire or when a meter reader touches a meter that's "live" due to tampering. **DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY CAN OCCUR!**

Energy theft is one of the costliest types of theft in the United States. The FBI and International Utilities Revenue Protection Association estimates that losses due to energy theft are at 6 billion dollars in the United States.

Energy theft increases costs for honest customers. Customers pay for every kilowatt hour of electricity and every cubic foot of gas stolen, and customers ultimately pay for investigations and prosecution of offenders, as well as the replacement of meters and reconnections.

Energy theft occurrences are increasing. Theft of utility service has increased as costs have risen and in addition there are energy contractors who will tamper with meters and advertise these illegal services on the internet.

Energy theft can be combated with stronger legal measures. Theft of service is currently a crime under 18 Pa.C.S.A. §3926. Additional legal measures in this law are being considered by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives that will provide greater protection for all Pennsylvania citizens

For proposed changes to existing PA laws go to: [Proposed Energy Theft Legislation](#)

You Have the Power to Stop Energy Theft. This growing public safety issue must be addressed before one more life is lost. Don't let honest Pennsylvanians pay, with their lives or their wallets, for energy theft. Act Now to strengthen the law!