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May 18, 2007

Honorable Joseph Preston, Jr.
Majority Chairman
House Consumer Affairs Committee
PO Box 202024
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2024

Honorable Robert W. Godshall
Minority Chairman
House Consumer Affairs Committee
PO Box 202053
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2053

Re: Growing Problem of Energy Theft – Need to Strengthen PA Crimes Code

Dear Representatives Preston and Godshall:

We very much appreciated the opportunity to participate in the recent informational meeting on the natural gas industry in the Commonwealth. As you know, a number of excellent questions came up as a result of the portion of our testimony regarding the serious problem of energy theft in the Commonwealth. Subsequently, we were pleased to provide proposed legislative language aimed at better addressing energy theft issues. We believe that the language in Title 18 Chapter 39 "Theft and Related Offenses" needs to be strengthened with specific utility references, restitution, and penalties to address the safety of Pennsylvania's families, neighborhoods, emergency and energy personnel.

The Association has an active Task Force on this issue with a Mission to "improve awareness ... about the present and future threats posed by energy theft:

- personal and public safety hazards and
- adverse impacts on energy rates and cost burdens placed on good-paying customers..."

As a follow up to the informational meeting, the Task Force members would very much appreciate the chance to provide details to the Committee on this issue. A Task Force brochure is included for your information and review.

Again, many thanks for providing the industry a chance to present leading issues the natural gas industry is facing as well as your consideration of our proposed legislative language. We look forward to working with the Committee members on this important issue.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Michael Love". The signature is written in a cursive style.

J. Michael Love
President & CEO

cc: Members of the House Consumer Affairs Committee