



Aquila

Providing Energy
For Better Living.

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COPY

March 27, 2008

Phil Collison, President
East Lawrence Neighborhood Association
933 Pennsylvania
Lawrence, KS 66044

Dear Mr. Collison:

Thank you for the opportunity to meet with you and the officers of the East Lawrence Neighborhood Association (ELNA) on March 24 concerning Aquila's property at 620 E. 8th St. As promised, as a follow up to our meeting, we provide the following information:

Van Go Mobile Arts Community Garden

Van Go Mobile Arts approached Aquila in January, 2006 regarding the possibility of planting a community garden on the west side of our property at 620 E. 8th St.

We appreciated the opportunity to support the organization and scheduled a site visit on January 31. The attendees included Larissa Long, Chuck Hoag, Marty Kennedy and Lynne Greene. During our visit, we learned that the garden would be planted, tended and harvested by youth involved in JAMS. The produce would be used to supplement meals as well as provide opportunities to teach the youth about nutrition, develop cooking skills and learn the benefits of a healthy life style.

Chuck and I felt it was a great project and were hopeful we could provide our support. Lynne wanted to begin the project as soon as possible and we explained that we would have to run the proposal by our upper management before making a firm commitment.

Regrettably, we did not obtain the approvals. The lot the organization wanted to use is adjacent to a former Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) site, which was investigated and remediated in the 1990's in accordance with plans approved by the KDHE. A deed restriction is in place regarding excavation activities. Although the excavation restriction does not extend to the area Van Go wanted to use, an additional concern for the company was the company's liability exposure, as the lot is used by our sub-contractors for vehicle and

equipment parking, storage of pipeline materials and "spoils" (soil, concrete, pavement, etc.) from construction projects. Although Van Go offered to accept liability for its operations, our management felt it best to avoid any unintended consequences that could occur given the movement of trucks, equipment and materials on our property.


Upgraded Fencing at 620 E. 8th St.

In her letter to the KDHE on January 22, 2008 Mayor Hack requested that adequate fencing be required on the former MPG site. KDHE explained that fencing wasn't part of its agreement with Aquila. When we learned of the city's request, we voluntarily replaced the existing fence and gate.

In summary, we believe that neither the fenced property nor adjacent lot pose an environmental hazard to the community. As we explained at our meeting, the adjacent lot was never part of the MGP operations and was actually acquired by the utility in sections long after the MGP ceased operations.

We appreciated the opportunity to meet with you, Janet and K.T. earlier this week and discuss the association's concerns. If we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Larissa Long
Sr. Manager, External Affairs



Chuck Hoag
Operations Manager

cc. City of Lawrence ✓
Bob Beck
Chuck Loomis