# Current Comments

July 2025

Making energy work for YOU

## Stay Safe: Know the Signs of a Gas Leak

Natural gas is colorless and odorless before processing. That's why Midwest Energy, and all gas utilities, add a chemical to the gas to make it smell like rotten eggs.

That rotten egg smell is a telltale sign of gas in the air, and an indication of a gas leak. But there are others.

Signs of a gas leak may include a hissing sound around the meter

or pipes, air bubbles in standing water, or dying vegetation where the gas has displaced oxygen.

If you smell, see or suspect a gas leak, please take the

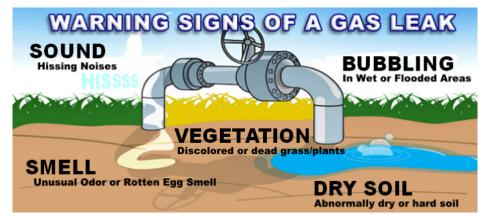
following steps immediately:

- 1) Stay calm and don't panic.
- 2) Evacuate the premises. Everyone (pets included)

in the home should leave the building immediately and meet at a pre-chosen safe place.

3) Don't light a match, smoke, flip a switch, ring a doorbell, or use appliances or electronics, including your phone. Do-

ing so can produce a spark that might ignite the gas.
4) From a safe distance, call Midwest Energy at 1-800-222-3121.



## Convenient Ways to Pay Your Midwest Energy Bill

There are several authorized ways you can pay your Midwest Energy bill. There is no fee for use of any method except credit, debit or ATM cards, and digital wallets.

- **E-billing:** When you sign up for e-billing, you receive an email on your billing date with a link to your bill.
- Automatic Bank Draft: Your bill is automatically deducted from the bank account you specify on your due date.
- Online Bill Payment: Log-in to your account at www.mwenergy.com. You can see your current bill and pay it from here using the bank account you specify.
- **U.S. Mail:** If you pay by mail, enclose your bill payment stub and a check or money order in the preaddressed envelope provided with your bill. Please allow 3-5 days for Postal Service delivery.
- Customer Service Offices: You may pay in person at any of our local offices during business hours,

or drop your payment (bill payment stub and check or money order) in the drop box at these locations.

- Credit, Debit and ATM Cards: Residential customers may use credit, debit and ATM cards at any customer service office, or at www.mwenergy.com using the one-time payment feature. A \$3.95 processing fee is charged by the card processing agent for each transaction.
- **Digital Wallets:** Customers using EZ Pay one-time payments can now pay using Apple Pay, Google Pay, Venmo and PayPal. These options incur a \$3.95 processing fee and are only available for one-time payments.

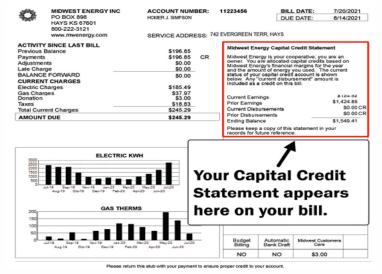
All other payment options not listed above are considered "unauthorized pay agents." Midwest Energy provides no assurance to the timeliness or accuracy of payments made via unauthorized agents.

#### **Capital Credit Checks Being Mailed to Customers**

As a member-owned cooperative, Midwest Energy refunds any excess margins (money left after all expenses have been paid) back to you, our members. These margins are returned on roughly a 20-year cycle. Credits paid by check this year were earned by electric customers back in 2004 and 2005.

Customers should review their Capital Credit statement, which will appear on the upper right hand comer of their July or August bill.

This year, \$5.2 million in credits will be paid out in the form of paper checks. Checks will be mailed to the last known address, so customers who move out of the area are encouraged to update their address with us.



## Applications For MWE Impact

Midwest Energy awards five \$5,000 grants annually through the Impact Grant Program. Communities and organizations within Midwest Energy's retail natural gas or electric service area are encouraged to apply by August 1.

The Impact Grant supports projects that are larger than the smaller Community Fund grants awarded twice a year. Impact Grants are awarded for projects of \$10,000 or

more. The local match for Impact Grants must be on a one to one basis (\$5,000 must be raised or pledged to receive a \$5,000 grant). Applicants wishing to create an endowed fund for a community must have a two to one match (\$10,000 raised or pledged in order to receive a \$5,000 grant).

Additional information describing the project, letters of community support and proof of matching

funds are required for grant consideration. To complete the Impact Grant application or find more information about our grant opportunities, visit www.mwenergy.com and click on "Community Fund/Impact Grant" under the "Community" tab. If you have any questions, contact us at 1-800-222-3121.

#### **Excess Flow Valves Available**

An excess flow valve (EFV) is a safety device inserted into your underground natural gas line to your home or business, designed to limit the flow of natural gas to a very small amount if there is a sudden gas leak in your service line.

Excess flow valves are optional equipment for existing services. To have an EFV installed at your expense, call Midwest Energy at



1-800-222-3121 for an estimate or learn more at www.mwenergy. com > Community > Safety > Gas Safety.

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

During summer months, run large appliances that emit heat such as clothes drvers and dishwashers during the evening when the outdoor temperature is lower. Running heatemitting appliances in the evening will reduce indoor heat gain during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest and ultimately keep your air conditioner from working harder than necessary.

Source: energy.gov

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