Laclede Gas Customers Enjoy Rebates and Savings During Show-Me Green Sales Tax Holiday

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ST. LOUIS, April 15 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- With the winter behind us and tax refunds ahead of us, April 19-25 may be the perfect time for Laclede Gas customers to reduce their carbon footprint by buying high-efficiency heating systems and other natural gas appliances for their homes.

Customers who purchase an ENERGY STAR natural gas furnace are eligible for a number of incentives from Laclede Gas and both state and federal governments. Customers can apply for a $150-$200 rebate from Laclede Gas for purchasing a furnace with an AFUE (annual fuel utilization efficiency) rating of 92% or higher. Rebates are also available under the Laclede Gas Residential High-Efficiency Heating Equipment Rebate Program for the installation of ENERGY STAR thermostats and high-efficiency boilers.

Additionally, the federal government is providing a non-refundable tax credit of 30% of the total installed cost of a furnace with an AFUE rating of 95% or higher, up to $1,500 (principal residence only for 2009 and 2010), and the state of Missouri is providing a $125 rebate for any ENERGY STAR furnace through its Energize Missouri Appliance Rebate program. Last but not least, the Show-Me Green tax holiday (April 19-25) removes the state's 4.225% sales tax on ENERGY STAR appliances for the first $1,500 of appliance cost. In addition, certain counties, cities, and districts will participate in this sales tax holiday by waiving their local sales tax.

Here's how the savings* may add up for a customer installing a new ENERGY STAR rated furnace with an AFUE rating of 96%:

FURNACE COST:	$3,093 (installed) with Missouri State Sales Tax
FEDERAL TAX CREDIT:	- $900 (30% of purchase price including installation)
ENERGIZE MISSOURI APPLIANCE REBATE:	- $125
LACLEDE GAS REBATE:	- $200 (96% AFUE)
SHOW-ME GREEN SALES TAX HOLIDAY:	- $63 (minimum - depending on your location)
CUSTOMER'S NET COST:	$1,805 (installed)
CUSTOMER'S TOTAL SAVINGS:	42%

How about an ENERGY STAR natural gas tankless water heater purchased from an appliance store?

TANKLESS WATER HEATER COST :	$2,242 (installed) with Missouri State Sales Tax
FEDERAL TAX CREDIT:	- $660 (30% of purchase price including installation)
ENERGIZE MISSOURI APPLIANCE REBATE:	- $100
SHOW-ME GREEN SALES TAX HOLIDAY:	- $42 (minimum - depending on your location)
CUSTOMER'S NET COST:	$1,440 (installed)
CUSTOMER'S TOTAL SAVINGS:	36%

*Estimates assume sales tax not applied to installation costs. The above calculations are for illustration purposes only. Please consult your tax advisor regarding your own situation.

Laclede rebate program participants may apply through Laclede Gas or with the assistance of their contractor. Examples of the savings that are possible, along with details on Laclede's rebate programs and the federal and state tax credits, are available at www.OriginalGreenEnergy.com/rebatesandsavings.

Details on the Show-Me Green Sales Tax Holiday can be found at http://dor.mo.gov. Consumers are encouraged to contact their retailer or HVAC contractor to see if and how they are participating in this sales tax holiday.

"ENERGY STAR high-efficiency natural gas furnaces can provide operating cost savings of more than 10% when compared to standard furnaces," said Laclede Utilization Engineering Manager Tom Schultz, a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional. "Our customers can significantly reduce their carbon footprint and save money on their utility bills. It's a win-win situation for our customers and the environment."

The St. Louis Regional Chapter of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) recently awarded Laclede Gas the 2010 Growing Green Award in the Home Builder category in recognition of Laclede's groundbreaking residential green-building verification program partnership with the HBA of St. Louis and Eastern Missouri that encourages home builders to implement energy-efficient, environmentally friendly building practices in their new-home

construction.

A subsidiary of The Laclede Group (NYSE: LG), Laclede Gas Company has provided safe and reliable service to the residents of the St. Louis metropolitan area for more than 150 years. It is the largest gas distribution company in Missouri, serving more than 630,000 natural gas customers in St. Louis and surrounding counties in Eastern Missouri. For energy-efficiency ideas, information on rebate and savings programs, and to find local natural gas appliance retailers, please visit www.OriginalGreenEnergy.com.

SOURCE The Laclede Group, Inc.