

**NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE**



SENATOR MICHAEL N. GIANARIS
12TH DISTRICT
DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

October 14, 2020

Greg Russ, Chair and CEO
NYCHA
250 Broadway
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mr. Russ,

I write with deep concern about conditions at 1-04 Astoria Boulevard. This building, part of the Astoria Houses complex you manage, has been without gas service since September 23rd. At a meeting last Thursday, we were informed NYCHA had no specific timeline for full service restoration. This is unacceptable and raises several important questions for which the community deserves answers.

Principally, has a contractor been secured? If so, who, and what is the timeline for that contractor to execute the necessary work? If not, when can a contractor expect to be secured? Knowing a timeline for resolution is critical.

Additionally, the hot plates provided to residents as an alternative are not an acceptable, long-term mitigation strategy for relief to tenants who have been without gas service for weeks. Will hot food service also be provided, and will tenants see their rents pro-rated for the time they were without gas?

Finally, how will your agency communicate your efforts toward a resolution? Non-socially distant meetings in lobbies of buildings are neither a safe nor efficient way to spread public information during the covid-19 pandemic. Please provide a workable, alternative solution for these communications.

The Astoria Houses community deserves to be treated respectfully and have these questions answered in a timely manner. Please let me know your answers within 5 days after receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Gianaris".

Senator Michael Gianaris
Deputy Majority Leader

