



July 1, 2020

Mr. Gregory Russ  
Chair and CEO  
New York City Housing Authority  
250 Broadway, 9th Floor  
New York, New York 10007

Commissioner Melanie La Rocca  
New York City Department of Buildings  
280 Broadway, 7th Floor  
New York, New York 10007

Mr. John McAvoy  
Chair and CEO  
Con Edison  
4 Irving Place  
New York, New York 10003

Dear Chair and CEO Russ, Commissioner La Rocca, and Chair and CEO McAvoy,

We write to urgently request that the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), New York City Department of Buildings (NYCDOB) and Con Edison work together to expeditiously repair the gas line at 133-40 Roosevelt Avenue, one of the apartment buildings located at the Bland Houses in Flushing, Queens, and ensure that impacted residents no longer have to rely on hot plates or other inadequate solutions in place of a basic necessity.

It is of utmost importance that NYCHA, NYCDOB, and Con Edison address the outstanding issues in restoring gas service to line A apartments so that these rent-paying residents are not subjected to any further delays in receiving working gas during this COVID-19 public health emergency.

Since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic in March, NYCHA, NYCDOB, and Con Edison have left these tenants without gas supply. While hot plates were provided to affected residents, it is not a long-term or acceptable solution to living without working gas.

For over three months, our constituents, many of whom are essential workers, have said that they have had to choose between standing over their NYCHA-issued hot plates for hours to prepare rice or meat and managing to get some rest before beginning their commutes to our city's hospitals to help those most in need. NYCHA, NYCDOB, and Con Edison have been ineffective in promptly addressing the needs of the residents of Bland Houses serviced by gas line A. This has only exacerbated the urgency and frustration of the pandemic. We urge you to address the serious concerns regarding the persisting problem of a lack of gas to these tenants.



The residents of the Bland Houses are struggling and remain in desperate need of receiving working gas during this COVID-19 public health emergency. As such, we urge your swift resolution of this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Liu".

Member of Congress, NY06

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Liu".

Member of NYS Senate, NYS11

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Kim".

Member of NYS Assembly, NYS40

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rafael".

Member of NYC Council, NYC20