

Good news for CIC and Laclede: A gas boom 'for decades'

Greg Edwards

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Here's a headline from the front page of The Wall Street Journal today that must have warned the hearts of our friends at CIC Group and Laclede Group: "[Gas boom projected to grow for decades](#) [<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323293704578330700203397128.html?KEYWORDS=%22gas+boom+projected+to+grow%22>]."

"We are looking at multi, multi decades of growth," said Scott Tinker, director of the **Bureau of Economic Geology** at the University of Texas, which conducted a study funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Revenue at [CIC Group](#), a St. Louis-based company in the energy construction industry, [increased 30 percent last year](#) [<http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/print-edition/2013/02/08/cic-group-poised-to-explode-on-the.html>], to \$1.2 billion, thanks to the natural gas boom. The company is conservatively projecting \$1.5 billion in three years.

Utilities such as Laclede, which operates Laclede Gas, also are benefiting, President and CEO Suzanne Sitherwood [told the Business Journal](#) [<http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/print-edition/2012/06/08/fired-up-laclede-ceo-suzanne.html?page=all>].

Both companies are seeking and making acquisitions.

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