



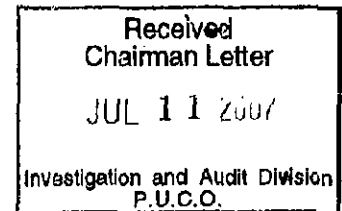
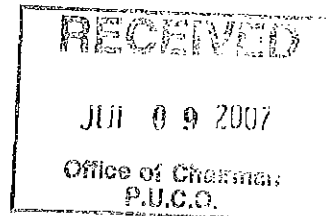
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July 9, 2007

Mr. Alan R. Schriber
 Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
 180 East Broad Street
 Columbus, Ohio 43215



Dear Chairman Schriber:

On behalf of the members of the North Coast Building Industry Association (NCBIA), we encourage the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) to take action on the comprehensive riser safety plan recently filed by Columbia Gas of Ohio.

If the Columbia Gas riser replacement proposal is approved by the PUCO, Columbia Gas has stated it will replace all risers found to be of the type susceptible to leaks. Columbia Gas is working closely with the plumbing, pipe fitters and contractor organizations, including the NCBIA, on the details of the replacement program.

We recognize that many consumers do not have the resources to repair service lines or to replace a potentially faulty riser. With Columbia Gas assuming this responsibility, all customers will know that their risers and service lines are being inspected and fixed properly, if necessary. Columbia Gas will assume ongoing responsibility for these service lines, eliminating the growing confusion and concerns about ownership, responsibility, and liability or future repair costs.

The benefits of this proposal to consumers are significant. All residential customers would benefit from knowing that Columbia Gas will be responsible for future maintenance and repair of their service lines, and that they would incur no direct costs in the future for such work. Further, the plan eliminates the inevitable problems that would arise because some customers would be unable or unwilling to replace the risers themselves. We believe the plan is a reasoned response to a system-wide safety issue.

The North Coast BIA is confident that the proposal will find a favorable review from the PUCO and we look forward to working with you to make it a success.

Sincerely,

Rocco Fana, Jr.
 Executive Officer

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