

FILE

MEANDER WATER

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Member Cities: Youngstown and Niles

2018
RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
2008 JUL 31 PM 3:42
PUCO

July 29, 2008

PUCO
Attn: Docketing Division
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Case Number: 07-829-GA-AIR

On Monday, July 28, 2008 the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's (PUCO) staff representative held a local public hearing in Youngstown, Ohio on Dominion East Ohio's application to increase distribution rates. At that hearing it was indicated the public could provide written comments regarding this case. I offer the following comments:

1. The PUCO has failed to present adequate information (detailed cost analysis on the cost of service and a comparison of the facts and figures) to the public regarding the need for this increase and the staff's position (see item #2 below). The PUCO has also failed to recognize the docket information (last count 229 documents) is substantial and confusing to the public.
2. This case and the distribution rate does not appear to address the commercial and industrial users. It is not clear what impact these users will have on Dominions revenue stream and the current need for a distribution rate increase. It is also not clear if the commercial and industrial customers will subject to some future distribution rate case. The PUCO's ruling should again delineate a need for this rate increase considering there are other classes of users and revenue sources.
3. The various cost components on the distribution of gas provides Dominion East Ohio the opportunity to amass several revenue sources in which they could over collect if such an increase is granted.
4. There is no information on cost controls involving Dominion's distribution rate adjustment. What analysis is done to assure the public that Dominion East Ohio does not over collect on it's distribution rate revenue.

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician TM Date Processed 7/31/2008

Board members: Jack Vaughn, President • Matthew Blair • James Sylvester • Mark Memmer

Mailing Address: PO Box 4119 • Youngstown, Ohio 44515-0119 • 330.652.3614 • 330.799.6315 • www.meanderwater.org

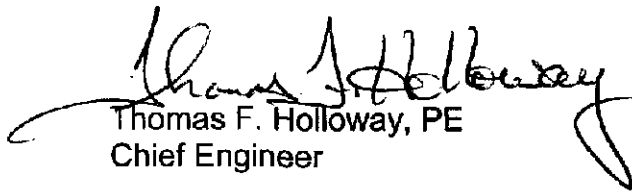
Shipping Address: 1181 Ohltown-McDonald Road • Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440

5. The PUCO Commission should offer more hearings in the evenings in facilities that can accommodate the public.
6. The PUCO Commissioners should be present at the local hearings to address the public on this rate increase.

This case is far reaching and very voluminous. More effort is needed by the PUCO Commissioners to adequately educate and provide an analysis to the public on why or if this rate request is needed. More time should be given to the public to address this rate request and any ruling should be delayed until such time the PUCO addresses all issues, comments and requests for information.

Finally, it is hoped that the PUCO Commissioners do not simply grant their staff or Dominion's position without fully exploring the cost as pointed out above and it's impact to the public.

Respectfully,



Thomas F. Holloway, PE
Chief Engineer

TFH/cam

Dear Sir, PUCO Case No. 07-829-AQ-air

With all the increases we have
with the food, auto gas this would
be a large problem with people
on a fixed income.

The increase is way out of hand.

I hope they take this into
consideration with people on
fixed income.

Thank you
Mrs. F. LaTessa

PUCO

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:44

July 30, 2008

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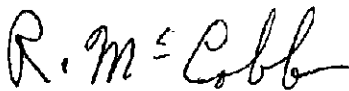
2008 JUL 31 PM 3:44

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215
CASE #07-829-GA-AIR

Regarding the upcoming public hearing on the Dominion Gas uncontrolled price increases planned, I have a very abstract and different ...but effective...solution to these unbelievable price-gouging. Compel the company CEO to ~~five-on-a-six-figure~~ income instead of a seven! The salaries and bonuses paid CEOs is an insult to people living on a fixed-income and poverty levels.

Yours truly,



R. McCobb

July 28, 2008

Catherine F. Bondor
98 Bouquet Ave
Youngstown, OH 44509

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 JUL 31 PM 3:44

PUCO

PUCO
CASE NUMBER 07-829-GA-AIR

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Attn: Docketing Division
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you with my concern that Dominion East Ohio wants to raise the flat rate for customer charge from \$4.38 (Northwest Ohio) and \$5.70 (Northeast Ohio). In this time of high gasoline prices and food prices as well as other cost of living I can't see where they could even consider this. I am a widow and live on only social security and am just making it with out having to pay more. When I got my last gas bill from Dominion I was informed that my budget of \$103.00 per month was going to go up to \$159.00 per month. I also pay for line protection on my gas and water lines which cost me another \$8.75 so with out this raise I will be paying \$167.75 per month. I will have to cut back someplace else so what am I to do and what are other people on fixed incomes to do. Are we suppose to pay these bills and do without groceries or medicine or doctor visits.

I am asking you to not grant this large raise to Dominion and please think about the ones on fixed incomes as well as people that are living on medium wages. How are they going to take care of their families and pay these high prices that Dominion wants to charge. Someone has to think about us. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,


Catherine F. Bondor

Thomas Pirko
9014 Elm Street
Kirtland, OH 44094

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:44

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

July 29, 2008

Attn: Docketing

Dear Members of the Public Utilities Commission,

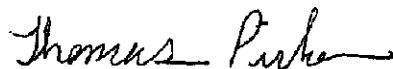
Amended Substitute Senate Bill 221 set ambitious, but realizable targets for renewable energy generation by the Ohio electricity utilities. Any implementation to meet those targets is going to require a large amount of generation using photovoltaic apparatus.

As the Public Utilities Commission prepares rules for implementing SB221, I respectfully request that the rules be written to require a large amount of photovoltaic generation at the earliest time possible. Utilities should be rewarded for meeting those targets and further rewarded if they meet the targets ahead of schedule.

Photovoltaic generation has been favored in energy policy by the government of Germany. In that country's implementation, production of photovoltaic apparatus was increased to meet the demand for new product. Germany is actually ahead of schedule for the ambitious targets that they set to achieve a portion of their energy from photovoltaic generation.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



Thomas Pirko

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 JUL 31 PM 3:44

PUCO

July 30, 2008

Attn: Docketing division
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, OH. 43215

REF: Case No. 07-829-GA-AIR
RATE INCREASE

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a widow living on a fixed income. In the past, I worked part time to subsidize my pension income. At the age of 72, I have given up working. After working all those years, I have earned retirement.

Dominion has money to advertise and make charitable donations, it would seem to me you have the money to maintain and improve the efficiency of your equipment without passing it on to the customers. The \$8.00 a month increase is beyond my income. When are the utility companies going to learn to get by on less like we (customers) do.

I AM AGAINST ANY INCREASE. I have lowered my thermostat to 65 degrees, piled bedclothes on the bed, wear sweat pants and shirts to be able to afford to pay my gas bill. Now it is time for you to sacrifice also.

I will be checking my gas bill to see where you "hide" the increase.

Sincerely,

Eleanor L. Klingler

2741 Lilly Drive
Elida, OH. 45807-1442

(419) 339-0655

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
2008 JUL 31 PM 3:44

947 S. Collett St.

Lima, Ohio 45804

July 30, 2008

Re. Case number **PUC 07-829-GA-AIR**

Gentlemen:

In regard to above case number, I am imploring you to deny any increase in cost to customers of Dominion East Ohio.

As a senior citizen on a very limited income, I really don't know how I could handle another increase. With increasing costs in health care, fuel and food, the income is stretched pretty thin.

Thank you,
Carolyn Schuster

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:44

July 25, 2008

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attention: Docketing Division
Re: case # 07-829-GA-AIR

Dear Sirs:

I am writing this to encourage you to deny the requested increase proposed by Dominion East Ohio. The rates proposed are unreasonable and should be rejected by the PUCO. Dominion has failed to prove that it needs additional money from its customers, and in our tough economic times Dominion is asking for an unreasonable profit level. Requesting a hike in the flat rate charges coupled with the rising energy costs can destroy most household budgets. The proposed increase in the flat-rate charge will negatively impact customers who attempt to conserve energy and will limit the ability of consumers to control their monthly bills.

Sincerely,

Marianne Budek
375 Kenmore St
Warren, Ohio 44483

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

July 25, 2008

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attention: Docketing Division
Re: case # 07-829-GA-AIR

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Sincerely,

Patricia Harper
5196 Craig NW
Waverly, Ohio 44483

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July 25, 2008

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attention: Docketing Division
Re: case # 07-829-GA-AIR

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Requesting a hike in the flat rate charges coupled with the rising energy costs can destroy most household budgets. The proposed increase in the flat-rate charge will negatively impact customers who attempt to conserve energy and will limit the ability of consumers to control their monthly bills.

Sincerely,

Thomas Bidek

2417 Leiby Osborne

Smithington Ohio 44470

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July 25, 2008

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

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Sincerely,

Becki Stauffer
693 Packard
Warren, Ohio 44483

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

July 25, 2008

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attention: Docketing Division
Re: case # 07-829-GA-AIR

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Sincerely,

Pauline Kostraba
5247 Copeland Ave
Warren, Ohio 44483

July 25, 2008

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Attention: Docketing Division
Re: case # 07-829-GA-AIR

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Requesting a hike in the flat rate charges coupled with the rising energy costs can destroy most household budgets. The proposed increase in the flat-rate charge will negatively impact customers who attempt to conserve energy and will limit the ability of consumers to control their monthly bills.

Sincerely,

Michelly Lezaic
811 Grady Ave
Warren, Ohio 44483

July 28, 2008
Mary Ellen Chance
4882 Norquest Blvd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44515

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Attn: Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
RE: 07-829-GA-Air

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in regard to the proposed rate increase by Dominion East Ohio Gas Company. I currently have a contract with another supplier, but Dominion is my delivery agent.

I am a sixty-year old, divorced woman who recently purchased a small ranch home so that I could have my 85 year old mother move in with me, as she has mild dementia and can no longer live on her own.

For the past 10 years I lived in a rented condo and my gas bill was never more than \$200 per month. This past year, in February, I received a \$437.00 gas bill. At the end of the season, I had a \$600 plus balance to pay off. I had to make special arrangements with the gas company to pay off the balance. By the way, did I mention that I work 3 jobs: one full time and 2 part time to make ends meet.

I usually stay on the budget plan from October through June, with a brief respite from high payments during the summer months. This year I was unable to do that because of my high balance left over from winter. A house is a major expense and much more expensive than living in a rental unit, even though I was paying utilities there also. Everything is more expensive in your own home. Now that gasoline, food and utilities have gone up—it's getting harder and harder to pay my bills.

I am definitely not in favor of any type of rate hikes. How do you or the utility companies expect us to survive? I've been in this home for only 8 months and already I am worried about losing it due to inflation. I ask you to please re-consider this increase. Please do not put any more burdens on the middle class workers of this nation. We have suffered enough during this current administration and are a dying breed, literally!!

Sincerely,


Mary Ellen Chance

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July 28, 2008

2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

PUCO

Attn: Docketing Division
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, OH. 43215
Case Number 07-829-GA-AIR

PUCO

Sir or Madam:

I am very worried about my future gas bills. I am retired, but I still work part time to make ends meet. It is difficult for me to understand how the PUCO staff can recommend more than doubling Dominion East Ohio's flat rate customer charge. That is more than I can handle.

I have taken several steps to conserve energy. I have invested in an efficiency furnace. I have also increased the insulation in my attic. I keep my home very cool in the winter. Some days I can't wait to get into my car and turn on the heater to get warm. To more than double the flat rate customer charge seems to defeat my conservation efforts.

Who decided that this would be a good time to request more money from good Dominion East Ohio customers who pay their bills on time? Gasoline prices are high. Food prices have gone up. There is now a fuel surcharge on garbage pick up. A school levy will be on the ballot. Property taxes are already high.

Please reconsider.

Thank you,



Agnes M. Campanale
2093 Coitsville-Hubbard Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44505

3610 ALMORINDA DR
CANTFIELD, OHIO 44026

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

PUCO

July 28, 2008

Case Number 07-829-GA-AIR

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm a single homeowner on disability with a fixed income. I can barely pay my house payment and my other utilities and eat. I'm still paying my gas bill from last year. If the gas prices go up any higher I don't know what I will do. Please think of people like me when you think of increasing gas prices.

Cordially,

Patricia Gammel

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

PUCO

This applies to any and all unfair
raises by Vectren Energy Delivery and
or Vectren Source Co.

July 30, 2008
900 N. Main St
Dayton, Ohio
45417

I want to join
forces with others
who object to the
suggested price raise
in the cost gas to
our homes.

It is the most
excessive act thus
far, in simply imposing
fear that ~~we~~ not
responsible, unethical,
or fair. Please add my
name to those who oppose
the raise. Enid P. Wilks

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

PUCO

Dear Sirs,

I beg you please
not to allow another
increase on heat rates.
I am a person receiving
over the limit of receive
help from assistance
programs, but not enough
to pay \$400 - 500 bills
that I receive now.

I keep my thermostat at
62° - No higher, Use all
means of energy conservation
and I split my bills in 1/2
to pay heat & gas. Please
save me!!

Thank you,

Dolores Berner

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2008 JUL 31 PM 3:43

PUCO

CASE # 07-8296A-AIR
TO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMM.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW OHIO
EXPT OHIO TO INCREASE OUR
BILLS - WE ARE ON A FIXED
INCOME AND CANNOT AFFORD
ANY MORE INCREASES TO OUR
MONTHLY BILLS.

Luis & Carol
Doty

Doty
106 Robinson Ave
Columbus Grove, OH 45830-1256