BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application to Modify, in)	
Accordance with Section 4929.08, Revised Code,)	
the Exemption Granted Columbia Gas of Ohio,)	Case No. 12-2637-GA-EXM
Inc., in Case No. 08-1344-GA-EXM.)	

OHIO SCHOOLS COUNCIL'S MOTION TO INTERVENE

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section ("R.C.") 4903.221, Ohio Administrative Code ("OAC") Rule 4901-1-11, and the Attorney Examiner's Entry issued on October 18, 2012, the Ohio Schools Council ("OSC") respectfully requests that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (the "Commission") grant OSC's motion to intervene in this proceeding. The Commission should grant OSC's motion to intervene because OSC has a real and substantial interest in this proceeding, and the Commission's disposition of this proceeding may impair or impede OSC's ability to protect that interest. OSC believes that its participation will not unduly prolong or delay this proceeding, and it will contribute to the full development and equitable resolution of the issues in this proceeding. OSC's interests also will not be adequately represented by other parties to this proceeding.

The reasons supporting OSC's motion to intervene are contained in the accompanying Memorandum in Support.

Respectfully submitted,

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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE OHIO SCHOOL COUNCIL'S MOTION TO INTERVENE

On October 4, 2012, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia"), the Commission Staff, the Ohio Gas Marketers Group, the Retail Energy Supply Association, and Dominion Retail, Inc. (collectively "Joint Movants") filed a Joint Motion and Stipulation seeking to modify two Orders issued in Case No. 08-1344-GA-EXM on December 2, 2009 and September 7, 2011, respectively. The Joint Motion and Stipulation provides for the complete exit of Columbia from the merchant function.

R.C. 4903.221(B) and OAC Rule 4901-1-11(A)(2) govern intervention in Commission proceedings. Substantially similar in substance, these provisions explain that the Commission may consider the following in determining whether to grant intervention:

- (1) The nature and extent of the person's interest;¹
- (2) The legal position of the person seeking intervention and its relation to the merits of the case:²
- (3) Whether intervention would unduly delay the proceeding or unjustly prejudice any existing party;³

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¹ R.C. 4903.221(B)(1) and OAC 4901-1-11(B)(1).

² R.C. 4903.221(B)(2) and OAC 4901-1-11(B)(2).

³ R.C. 4903.221(B)(3) and OAC 4901-1-11(B)(3).

- (4) The person's potential contribution to full development and equitable resolution of the issues involved in the proceeding;⁴ and
- (5) The extent to which the person's interest is represented by existing parties.⁵

OSC has a real and substantial interest in the above-captioned proceeding. OSC is a regional council of governments established under R.C. Chapter 167. OSC has operated natural gas purchasing programs for its members and other participating public school districts in the Columbia service territory for several decades. Through OSC's efforts, participating school districts have realized significant energy savings, thus conserving increasingly scarce public funds available for education in the State of Ohio.

The legal issues intended to be raised by OSC directly relate to both the merits of the case and this proceeding's potential impact on OSC and its members and program participants. Granting OSC's motion to intervene also will not unduly delay this proceeding, or unjustly prejudice any existing party, because OSC is filing this motion prior to the Commission's issuance of a deadline for intervening. OSC will work cooperatively with others in the case in order to maximize case efficiency where practical, but without compromising OSC's unique position in the State of Ohio.

OSC's intervention and involvement in this case also will contribute to the development of a more complete understanding of the meaning and impacts of Columbia's filing on OSC, and OSC's member and participating school districts.

Finally, OSC submits that no current party represents its interests, and disposition of this proceeding without its participation will impair or impede OSC's ability to protect its interests.

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⁴ R.C. 4903.221(B)(4) and OAC 4901-1-11(B)(4).

⁵ OAC 4901-1-11(B)(5).

WHEREFORE, the Ohio Schools Council respectfully requests that its motion to intervene be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served upon the following parties of record by e-mail and/or regular U.S. mail, this <u>25th</u> day of October 2012.

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Summary: Motion to Intervene and Memorandum in Support electronically filed by Teresa Orahood on behalf of Ohio Schools Council