

FILE

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PUCO

Mark J. Howdysshell
160 N 7th Street
McConnelsville, OH 43756

December 31, 2013

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43266-0573

Re: PUCO Case No.'s 13-1910-GA-AEC & 13-1911-GA-GCR

Dear PUCO Commission Members:

I wish to register my strong objection to the rate change(s) requested by Foraker Gas Company, Inc. Although their notice states otherwise, the change(s) requested will amount to a significant increase in charges to the consumers which is excessive and unmerited.

Based upon the current rate structure of Foraker gas as reflected in my November bill my cost would currently be \$12.00 Service charge plus \$9.00 for each MCF used, a total of \$21.00.

The proposal as provided by the notice with my gas bill is the same \$12.00 service charge, plus \$5.68 MCF operating cost recovery, plus \$4.18 (as I write this letter natural gas on the spot market is \$4.18 MCF) a total of \$21.86.

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On the face of it it would appear, as Foraker says, essentially the same. But if that were the case why would they request the change? It is because they are seeking an extraordinary increase in their operating cost recovery.

If the use is 10 MCF per month the current bill would be \$102.00 ($\$12.00 + (10 \times \$9.00)$). Under the proposed structure the bill would be \$110.60 ($\$12.00 + (10 \times \$9.86)$). I think this is roughly a 9% increase.

Using 15MCF a month the current bill would be \$147.00. As proposed it would be \$159.90. Again, roughly a 9% increase. The same 9% increase appears if 20MCF is used. Thus it appears that Foraker is seeking a 9% increase in their permissible charges to the consumer.

I question how Foraker is justifying a 9% increase. I urge you to ask the same question. I also wish to point out that Foraker Gas is a local monopoly. As a customer I have no other choice of supplier. I do not believe an operating cost of \$5.68 MCF is justified and urge you to deny the rate change(s).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark J. Howdysshell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "M".

Mark J. Howdysshell