FILE

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Commission's Investigation into Cobra Pipeline Co., LTD and Related Matters.	) ) )	Case No. 14-1709-GA-CO
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## ORWELL NATURAL GAS COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR REFERRAL OF THIS MATTER TO THE OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL TO SEEK IMMEDIATE AND APPROPRIATE INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 4905.60, Orwell Natural Gas Company ("ONG") respectfully requests that the Commission refer this matter to the Ohio Attorney General in order to seek immediate and appropriate injunctive relief against Cobra Pipeline Co., Ltd. ("Cobra") and its President, Richard M. Osborne ("RMO"). RMO and Cobra have already unlawfully and hazardously attempted to shut-off the service of natural gas to ONG and its consumers at the Cobra site regulator station by inserting a flange into a gas line to block the flow of gas. ONG fears that RMO and Cobra will attempt this criminal behavior at other sites.

The facts surrounding the events of September 26, 2014, are contained in the Staff Report and Entry issued by the Commission Attorney Examiner on September 26, 2014, as are the Examiner's findings that RMO, by his conduct, created a potentially dangerous situation that could cause as a building to explode. In the interests of brevity, ONG will not restate those facts. ONG has attached for the Commission's reference the Police Report taken by the Willoughby Police Department on September 26, 2014. (*Exhibit* 1.) It is clear from that Report, specifically pages 5-6, that RMO has little regard for the authority and/or power of the Commission as it relates to his activities. When told by Willoughby Police Officer Jonathan Greig that the Commission has jurisdiction over the subject gas line, RMO initially refused to allow anyone on to the property, stating he "doesn't care what the state says." He then admitted

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to inserting the subject flange. (*Report* p. 5.) As detailed in the Commission's Report and Entry, RMO and Cobra's actions resulted in a severe and immediate threat to the public safety and welfare. ONG believes RMO's actions on September 26, 2014, are criminal in nature. *See* O.R.C. 2909.04(A)(2) ("No person, purposely by any means . . . shall do any of the following . . . (2) interrupt or impair . . . water supply, gas, power, or other utility service to the public.") Violating this statute is a fourth-degree felony.

ONG is not requesting that the Ohio Attorney General seek injunctive relief against RMO and/or Cobra that will negatively impact their business or day-to-day activities. Given the increasingly volatile behavior of RMO towards ONG, its affiliates, officers, agents and employees, ONG is simply seeking to enjoin RMO and/or Cobra from committing any further acts that would violate Ohio common law, or the Ohio Revised Code provisions dealing with the transport, service and delivery of natural gas in Ohio.

Additionally, ONG was forced to seek a stay against RMO and another of his pipeline companies, Orwell Trumbull Pipeline Co., Ltd. ("OTP"), due to RMO and OTP's threats to shut down service to ONG and its end-line customers. (See Case No. 14-1654-GA-CSS.) That stay was granted on September 22, 2014, and remains in place. ONG believes that RMO's actions on September 26, 2014, may have been in retaliation to the stay issued in the OTP case. It is for these reasons that ONG feels the Ohio Attorney General should institute proceedings to seek immediate injunctive relief guaranteeing that neither RMO, nor the companies he owns, operates or is affiliated with, tamper or interfere with, in any way, the transport, service and delivery of natural gas to ONG and its customers, or other public utilities, throughout the State of Ohio.

Respectfully submitted,

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Company

Willoughl	w						I	ncident Number		
36700 Euclid Ave. V	•	4094 440-953-4212	Inc	ident / Ofi	fense Report			14-26495		
Method Received		Time Received 11:09:53			Time Arrived 11:32:06	Time C 11:5				
Report Date /	Time	Incident	Occurred Fro		Inci	dent Occu	red To			
Date	Time	Date	=	ime	Date		Time			
Friday 09/26/2014	16:11:00	Friday 09/26/2	014 10:	00:00	Friday 09/26/	2014	11:09:00			
Location of the Incid	ent (Street #, Stree	t, Apt. #, City, State,	Zip)					Zone		
3511 LOST NATIO	N RD 213 WILLO	OUGHBY OH 44094	COBRA PIE	PELINE				122		
Persons: JEFFRE	Y J HEIDNIK -	SUB		Property:		71.0				
	A A CAROTHER			0						
	ATTHEW POLK			Amount:						
	RD M OSBORNE PUCO - GOV	505								
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Weapons Used:		•	<del></del>	Trade M	Trade Marks:			Hate Bia:		
Entry:				Location Type: Other Business Office			office			
Refer to Arrest:	Incid	ent #:	Tow#:		Dispatcher: 180	Officer	in Charge: 078	Entry Id: 180		
Case Status:	Cleared Date:				Cleared By:					
Narrative:	14-26495	Page: 1				·				
COBRA PIPELIN W/M gry hair with Heidnik works for has blocked his ga See report	n gry tshirt and je Orwell Natural	Gas, this is a civil i	matter betwee	en Orwell			EXH	pelives Osborne		
DANIEL PITTS	<u>-</u> -		·		PTL	JONATH	IAN C GREIG			
Reviewing Superv	isor:	Bureau Su	nervisor:	·	Office			·		

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HANCE AVE NW 717 NEW OH 44663 Wgt: Hgt: Hair: Eyes: Race: Sex: Physical Marks: 600 215 **BRO** BLU M TRESPASSING (FREE TEXT) Offenses: 5707 2994 DISRUPTING PUBLIC SERVICE

Resident Class:

Suspected of using:

Victim Type:

PTL JONATHAN C GREIG Bureau Supervisor: **Reviewing Supervisor:** Officer:

**Bureau Supervisor:** 

Reviewing Supervisor:

PTL JONATHAN C GREIG

Officer:

Willoughby

Incident Number

14-26495

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Vehicles Involved with the Incident

No:

Value:

Plate: 54301 LIC St.:

LIC Yr.:

LIC Type: VIN #:

PC

1C4PJMAK0CW174364

Year:

Make:

Model:

Style:

Color:

OH

Ownership Verification:

2012

SW

WHI /

Tow No:

Date of Theft:

**JEEP** 

Recovery Condition: Recover Date: Recover Location:

NCIC#

Owner Applied #:

Damaged Missing:

NO Rear: NO NO Doors: NO Trans: NO Deck: NO Dash: NO NCIC Entery:

Interior: NO Vin Plate: NO

Engine: LIC Plate: NO

Ignition:

Other:

**NCIC Remove:** 

Misc:

Front:

PTL JONATHAN C GREIG

Officer:

## Willoughby

Investigative Report

Title / Subject: DISRUPTION OF PUBLIC

Incident Number

14-26495

3511 Lost Nation Road September 26, 2014 1109 hrs.

On the above noted day and time I responded to Cobra Pipeline Company in reference to a trespassing complaint. Upon arrival I spoke with the complainant Jessica Caruthers who advised a Jeffrey J. Heidnik was trespassing on the property and was served with paper work advising him he could not be there. Caruther's stated she was advised by her boss to contact the police if he showed up. She stated that her boss Richard Osborne discovered that Orwell Natural Gas did not have the proper variances to put a gas line on Osborne's property. The gas line has been there for several years, but to get to the gas line Orwell has to come on to Osborne's property.

I spoke with Heidnik who was still on scene. He stated he is the General Manager for Orwell Natural Gas and he was checking a gas line on the property that is owned by Orwell. He stated the line is on Osborne's property but the line itself is still owned and was installed by Orwell. He stated that Osborne use to be the chairman of Orwell and is still the majority stock holder in the company. Osborne was recently removed from the board at Orwell which he is upset about, and has now deiced to block Orwell from getting to their gas line.

Heidnik stated he came to check the line due to a severe drop in output. When he looked at the line he could see a "blank" was placed in the line between two connecting pipes, blocking the gas flow. He stated he had calls in to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio and Dominion Gas.

At 1304 hrs. I responded back to the location. Heidnik was on scene and so was Richard Osborne. Heidnik stated an investigator from PUCO would be there soon to check the line. I spoke with Osborne who was very upset that I was there and told me "no one was coming on his property, unless there's something in writing". A short time after this Gas Pipeline Safety Compliance Investigator from PUCO, Jeff Polka arrived.

Polka stated that PUCO does have jurisdiction over this gas line and he was going to take pictures of it. He briefly walked on Osborne's property to take pictures of the line. He spoke with Osborne as well. Osborne again stated no one was coming onto his property; he "doesn't care what the state says". When I told him why PUCO wanted to check the line due to the alleged "blank" that was blocking gas flow he said; "your damn right I blocked it, they aren't paying rent".

I spoke with Polka's supervisor on his cell phone. He stated it could be a possible public safety threat to have the gas line blocked. Heidnik had advised the pressure of the line had gone from the normal forty to forty pounds per square inch, to eighteen pounds per square inch. Polka' supervisor stated he was going to get in touch with PUCO's legal department and he would call me back. During the approximate hour wait for the call back Heidnik stated the pressure had dropped to sixteen pounds per square inch.

I received a call back from Polka's supervisor, an attorney for PUCO, and the Chief Service Monitor of Gas Line Safety Enforcement for PUCO, John Williams. Williams advised that Orwell had to be allowed onto the property due to the public safety risk with the blocked line. Williams stated if the gas pressure got any lower, pilot lights in all of the effected businesses could go out over the weekend. If service is restored during this time the businesses could fill up with gas and a potential for a large explosion could arise.

By: PTL JONATHAN C GREIG	Badge# 155	Date: 09/26/2014	Time: 17:06:1	No. 001	Page #: 5
Reviewing Supervisor:		Date:			

## Willoughby

Incident Number

14-26495

**Investigative Report** 

Title / Subject: DISRUPTION OF PUBLIC

Osborne was advised of this and stated again "that he wanted something in writing". I advised Osborne via P/S that we were not going to block PUCO's investigator from allowing Orwell to turn the gas back on, due to the possibility of an explosion that PUCO was concerned about. Orwell entered the gated in area around the gas line, which they have a key for. The PUCO investigator Jeff Polka stood by while Orwell restored the flow of gas in the line by removing a metal disk that had been placed between the connections. The gas service was restored and Orwell locked the fenced in area around the line and left.

Contact information and the report number for this incident were supplied to Richard Osborne, Jeff Polka and Jeffrey J. Heidnik. No further service was requested by any of the parties involved. Law Director John Wiles was informed of this incident and he requested a copy of this report be forwarded to his office.

Forward to City of Willoughby Law Director Wiles.

By: PTL JONATHAN C GREIG

Badge# 155

Date: 09/26/2014 Time: 17:06:1 No. 001 Page #: 6

Reviewing Supervisor:

Date: