# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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In the Matter of the Application of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of Revised Bill Formats Pursuant to Rule 4901:1-13-11, Ohio Administrative Code.

Case No. 14-2117-GA-UNC

# APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.

Now comes the Applicant, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia"), and files this application for approval of revised bill formats for its General Transportation Service ("GTS") and Large General Transportation Service ("LGTS") customers billed through Columbia's Gas Measurement Billing ("GMB"), Distribution Information System ("DIS"), and Gas Transportation Service billing systems, pursuant to Rule 4901:1-13-11(D), Ohio Administrative Code. In support of its Application, Columbia states as follows:

1. Columbia is an Ohio corporation engaged in the business of supplying natural gas to consumers within the state of Ohio. Columbia is a public utility subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.

2. Ohio Adm. Code 4901:1-13-11(D) requires any natural gas company under the Commission's jurisdiction to submit to the Commission for approval

any proposed new bill format, and further provides that in the absence of any action by the Commission within forty five (45) days, the proposed new bill format shall be approved.

3. Currently, Columbia sends two billing documents to traditional transportation customers. These customers receive an invoice generated from the Gas Transportation Service billing system that contains sales and transportation information, and then customers receive a separate monthly bill statement from the DIS or GMB billing system that contains the customer's meter reading data. Information from both Columbia's DIS and GMB billing systems are used to generate the Gas Transportation Service monthly invoice.

4. Columbia's Gas Transportation Service billing system is used to generate bills for GTS and LGTS customers. This system is now capable of pulling together usage and billing information contained in both the DIS and GMB billing systems into a single format for GTS and LGTS customers.

5. The requested change in bill format provides Columbia the ability to consolidate the separate billing documents into a single bill format. This merged format would eliminate the need to send separate billing documents to GTS and LGTS customers each month because the proposed consolidated bill format would be prepared through Columbia's GTS billing system to include the sales and transportation volumes and the meter reading data.

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6. In addition to consolidating two separate billing documents, the proposed new bill format would eliminate those items required on a bill to a sales customer, but which are not applicable to customers provided traditional transportation service. These eliminated items include: Billing Options, Payment Options, Service Summary Notes, and Heat Share Contribution.

7. To account for the removal of certain non-required bill information and the inclusion of meter reading data, the proposed consolidated bill format revises the presentation and layout for items currently reflected on the gas bill and the invoice. These revised items include: Account Summary, Rate Schedule Information, Disbursement Transaction Register, Meter Summary Information, Gas Use History and Daily Comparisons, General Information, Consumption Summary, Contract Summary Information, Legal Information, Safety Information, Gas Meter Information and Billing and Payment Notes.

8. The proposed consolidated GTS and LGTS billing format promotes clarity, simplicity and customer convenience. The revised format would improve clarity by removing information unrequired and inapplicable to GTS and LGTS customers. The proposed format promotes simplicity by combining information currently contained in two separate billing documents. Lastly, the revised bill format makes usage and billing information more convenient for customers to review because customers would be receiving only one billing document.

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9. Pursuant to this Ohio Adm. Code 4901:1-13-11(D), Columbia submits this application for approval to revise its bill formats for GTS and LGTS customers to reflect the above-referenced changes.

10. **Attachment A** is a sample bill that reflects the proposed changes and consolidation to bills for GTS and LGTS customers issued through Columbia's GMB and GTS billing systems.

11. Columbia respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Application so that Columbia can implement the revised billing format with bills issued for the December 2014 billing cycle.

WHEREFORE, Columbia respectfully requests that the Commission approve the revised bill formats as proposed herein.

Respectfully submitted, COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC. By: <u>/s/ Brooke E. Leslie</u> Brooke E. Leslie, Senior Counsel

Stephen B. Seiple, Asst. General Counsel 290 W. Nationwide Blvd. Columbus, OH 43215 Telephone: (614) 460-5558 Fax: (614) 460-8403 Email: bleslie@nisource.com

Attorneys for Applicant **COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.** 

# ATTACHMENT A

Invoice Group Number Page 1 of 4 12345678 000 000 0 **GTS INVOICE FOR** Invoice Date Print Date **SEPTEMBER 2014** 10/21/14 11/18/14 13:06:22 1 Billing Statement For: COMPANY NAME, INC. JOHN DOE Previous Account Balance \$438.45 Account Summary : Payments Received - Thank you \$438.45 Credit Balance At Billing \$0.00 **Current Charges** \$458.64 **Present Balance** \$458.64 Amount Due \$458.64

## GENERAL INFORMATION

NOV 7, 2014

**Reminder for Transportation Service Customers....** Columbia Gas of Ohio (Columbia) Transportation Service (TS) customers' bank volumes and percentages will be reduced to 50% of their current bank tolerance levels effective each November. If you have any questions, please contact your Columbia Representative listed on this invoice.

For questions regarding your gas costs, gas deliveries, or gas supplier contract terms, please call your Marketer.

To report a gas emergency or for questions about meter readings, consumption, or to disconnect/connect service, please call the **Columbia Gas Customer Service Center at 1-800-344-4077.** 

For questions regarding your Delivery Service charges on this invoice or your Columbia Gas Delivery Service agreement, please call your **Columbia Representative - Beth Folsom at (614) 460-6223.** 

Please Pay Amount Due By

If your complaint is not resolved after you have called Columbia Gas of Ohio, or for general utility information, residential and business customers may call the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO), toll-free at 1-800-686-7826 or for TDD/TTY toll-free at 1-800-686-1570, from 8.00 a.m to 5:30 p.m. weekdays, or visit www.puco.ohio.gov.

Gross Receipts Tax is computed at a rate of 4.987%.

CONSUMPTION SUMMARY							
Current Month							
PCID Number	From <u>MM-DD-YY</u>	To <u>MM-DD-YY</u>	Total <u>Consumption</u>	Qualified Volume	Tranportation Credits	Tariff Volume	
12345678-001	08-26-14	09-24-14	12.0	12.0	12.0	0.0	
			12.0	12.0	12.0	0.0	

Please return payment coupon below with your payment to COLUMBIA GAS. If paying in person, please bring entire bill with you.

OMPANY NAME, INC.		Pay This Amount	\$458.64	Invoice Grou 1234 5678
23 MAIN ST DLEDO OH 43612		Past Due After	NOV 7, 2014	000 000 0 1
	P.O. Box 742510 Cincinnati, OH 45274-2510			
			Make check payable to:	
		1		
COMPANY NAME	, INC.			
JOHN DOE			COLUMBIA GAS	
123 MAIN ST			P O BOX 742510	
TOLEDO OH 4361	12		CINCINNATI OH 45274-2510	
L436124R			L4527425100R	

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GTS INVOICE FOR

**SEPTEMBER 2014** 

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10/21/14 1

 Invoice Group Number

 12345678
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 Print Date

11/18/14 13:06:22

## **RATE SCHEDULE INFORMATION**

## Nomination Group: 9876

PCID : 12345678-001 123 Main St Toledo OH

	Rate	Volume	Amount
Fixed Charges			
Customer Charge	22.5000		\$22.50
Infrastructure Replacement Program Rider	42.1800		\$42.1
ransportation Charges			
Base Rate			
First 25 Mcf	1.71830	12.0	\$20.62
Next 75 Mcf	1.30000	0.0	\$0.00
Over 100 Mcf	1.03250	0.0	\$0.00
Standby Demand			
All Gas (Mcf)	8.00720	43.0	\$344.3
Standby Commodity			
All Gas (Mcf)	4.41950	0.0	\$0.00
Other Charges			
Banking And Balancing (Mcf)	0.01730	12.0	\$0.2 <sup>-</sup>
Percentage of Income Plan - GTS (Mcf)	0.28060	12.0	\$3.37
Uncollectible Expense Rider (Mcf)	0.14570	12.0	\$1.75
	Rate Schedule 2 To	otal	\$434.9
axes			
Gross Receipts Tax			\$21.79
Gas Distribution Excise Tax			\$1.9 <sup>-</sup>
	PCID 12345678-0	01 Total	\$458.64
	Nomination Group 9876 Total		\$458.64
	Current Charg	ues Total	\$458.64

DISBURSEMENT TRANSACTION REGISTER								
PCID Number	Source	Allocated Volume(Dth)	Btu Value	Allocated Volume(Mcf)	Retained Volume(Mcf)	Net Available Volume(Mcf)	Disbursed Volume (Mcf)	
12345678-001	INTER : TCO	12.4	1.0309	12.0	0.0	12.0	12.0	
	Total	12.4		12.0	0.0	12.0	12.0	
Source Total	INTER : TCO	12.4		12.0	0.0	12.0	12.0	

METER SUMMARY INFORMATION - PCID 12345678 001									
PSID Num	Meter Num		e & Type* Current	Days	Meter F Previous	Readings Current	Meter Registration Mcf	Conversion Factor	Delivered Consumption Mcf
123456789 123 MAIN TOLEDO (	11111111 ST OH 43612-3820	08-25 A	09-24 A	30	2,400.0	2,411.0	11.0	* 1.1198 =	12.0
	Total Consumpt	ion					11.0		12.0
* A - Actual E -	Estimated C - Custo	mor I – Adjustor	N – Now Motor	R - Romovod	Motor				

\* A = Actual, E = Estimated, C = Customer, J = Adjusted, N = New Meter, R = Removed Meter A Conversion Factor is applied to meter readings to determine the actual consumption based on standard temperature and pressure conditions.

Retain this page for your records.

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200 CIVIC CENTER DR COLUMBUS OH 43215

Billing Statement For: COMPANY NAME, INC. JOHN DOE

Invoice Gr	roup	Num	ber
12345678	000	000	0

**GTS INVOICE FOR SEPTEMBER 2014** 

PUCO Case No. 14-2117-GA-UNC Attachment A

**Invoice Group Number** 

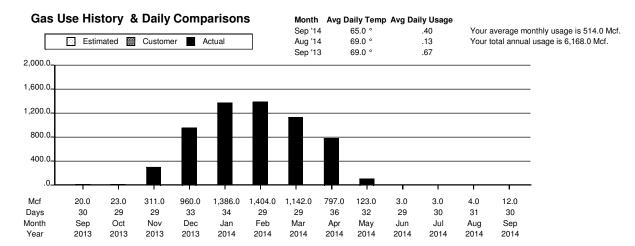
**GTS INVOICE FOR SEPTEMBER 2014** 

Page 3 of 4 **Invoice Date** 10/21/14

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12345678 000 000 0 Print Date

11/18/14 13:06:22



CONTRACT SUMMARY INFORMATION							
PCID Number	Service Address	Annual Volumes (Mcf)	Max Day Summer (Mcf)	Max Day Winter (Mcf)	Bank Tolerance (%)	Bank Tolerance (Mcf)	Daily Standby Service Vols
12345678-001	123 Main St Toledo OH	4,484.0	16.0	43.0	4.0	179.0	43.0
		4,484.0	16.0	43.0		179.0	43.0

## **LEGAL INFORMATION**

# WE'RE ALWAYS READY TO HELP

The telephone number you need to call if you have a question or concern about your account is shown on your bill.

A variety of brochures are available by mail on subjects such as; customer services, safety, bill explanation, gas use and conservation. We also have speakers available to talk to groups and schools.

#### FOR YOUR SAFETY

Make sure your gas appliances are properly installed and adjusted. Check venting systems. Call a qualified service company for needed repairs.

Our employees carry photo identification. Ask to see it when someone comes to your door. If you doubt the person is a gas employee, please call our office to verify the identity.

We add a distinctive odor to natural gas for your safety. When you smell it:
1) Leave the building... immediately! Don't light matches or flip an electrical switch.
2) Call the gas company's 24-hour emergency service from a telephone other than your own.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR BILL

Customer Charge - A monthly charge to cover such company costs as keeping up our gas lines to serve you, meter reading, and billing

Gas Usage - We measure your gas usage in Mcf equal to 1,000 cubic feet.

#### HOW TO CONTACT US

1-800-344-4077 - For gas leaks or odor of gas 24 hours/day. Press option 2 after the greeting.

711 - For hearing-impaired relay.

Retain this page for your records.

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200 CIVIC CENTER DR COLUMBUS OH 43215

> Billing Statement For: COMPANY NAME, INC. JOHN DOE

Invoice Gr	oup	Num	ber
12345678	000	000	0

**GTS INVOICE FOR SEPTEMBER 2014** 

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GTS INVOICE FOR

**SEPTEMBER 2014** 

Page 4 of 4 Invoice Date 10/21/14 Invoice Group Number 12345678 000 000 0

Print Date 11/18/14 13:06:22

### LEGAL INFORMATION

#### GAS METER INFORMATION

Actual Reading - We have read the meter. You're required to provide us access to read the meter at least once a year or risk shut-off. Please contact us to make arrangements if access is required.

Estimated Reading - If we are unable to obtain an actual reading, we estimate your reading based on the history of usage at the service address and normal temperatures for the billing period. We verify the reading the next time we read the meter to make sure you pay only for the energy you've used.

How to Read the Meter - When a pointer is between two numbers on a dial-type meter, read the smaller number except when the pointer is between 9 and 0. Record the reading on the dials from left to right.

#### LEGAL NOTICES

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio - If your complaint is not resolved after you have called Columbia Gas of Ohio, or for general utility information, residential and business customers may contact the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for assistance at 1-800-686-7826 (toll free) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, or at http://www.puco.ohio.gov. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service).

**Rights and Responsibilities -**A summary of customer rights and responsibilities is available at ColumbiaGasOhio.com or by calling 1-800-344- 4077. Information covers rules regarding service installation; security deposits; billing and payment; payment plans; low-income assistance; disconnection and reconnection of service; meter reading and testing; usage and payment history; natural gas safety; maintenance of customerowned service lines; employee identification; rate information and alternatives; Customer CHOICE; privacy rights; and complaint procedures. You may obtain a copy of the full minimum gas service standards at the PUCO Web site or phone numbers shown above.

Apples to Apples - For a comparison of available competitive natural gas suppliers, visit the PUCO Web site at www.PUCO.ohio.gov or call 1-800-299-7271.

Bankruptcy Notices - Mail to Columbia Gas of Ohio, Revenue Recovery, P.O. Box 117, Columbus, OH 43215.

Other Correspondence (except payments) - Mail to Columbia Gas of Ohio, P.O. Box 2318, Columbus, OH 43216-2318

#### SAFETY TIPS

Call Before You Dig -Call O.U.P.S. at 811 at least 48 hours before you start to dig for any outdoor project. It's for your safety - and it's the law!

## **BILLING & PAYMENT NOTES**

If we receive your payment for the current total Amount Due by the due date shown on this bill, you will avoid a late payment charge of 1.50%.

Retain this page for your records.

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200 CIVIC CENTER DR COLUMBUS OH 43215

Billing Statement For: COMPANY NAME, INC. JOHN DOE

Invoice Gr	roup	Num	ber
12345678	000	000	0

**GTS INVOICE FOR SEPTEMBER 2014** 

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 14-2117-GA-UNC

Summary: Application for Approval of Revised Bill Formats electronically filed by Cheryl A MacDonald on behalf of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.