## **BEFORE THE**

# PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

n the Matter of the Application of	)	
Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. for	)	Case No. 12-1739-EL-UNC
Approval of a Bill Format Change	)	Case No. 12-1740-EL-UNC

# AMENDED APPLICATION OF DUKE ENERGY OHIO, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF A BILL FORMAT CHANGE

On June 4, 2012, in these proceedings, Duke Energy Ohio, Inc. (Duke Energy Ohio) submitted applications for approval of bill format changes pursuant to O.A.C. 4901:1-10-22 (C). The changes requested in both proceedings were necessary to facilitate record keeping by the customer and to allow Duke Energy Ohio to provide separate bill messages for multiple deposit payments. Additional proposed changes provide language that explains that if the customer's account is subject to disconnection, that the customer may be required to pay a security deposit.

After filing the applications in these proceedings, Duke Energy Ohio and the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (Staff) have discussed modifications to the proposed changes. As a result of these discussions, Duke Energy Ohio has edited its bill formats to add additional clarity and to ensure compliance with the Commission's rules and Staff's guidance.

The amended bill formats are submitted as attachments to this application. The changes include language to explain conditions for refunding a customer's deposit.

Wherefore, Duke Energy Ohio respectfully requests that the Commission approve the submitted bill format changes, with the attached amended formats pursuant to O.A.C. 4901:1-10-22 (C).

Respectfully submitted,

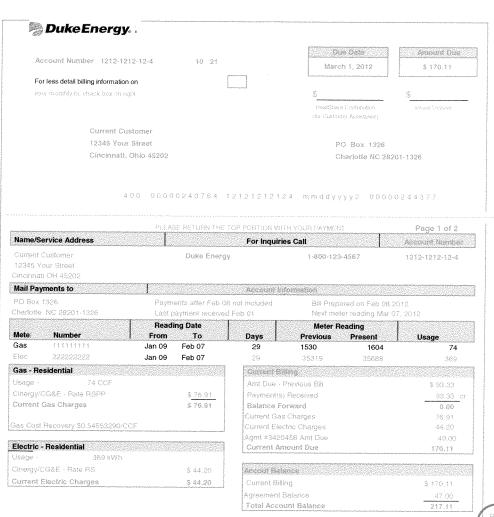
Amy/B. Spiller (0047277)

Deputy General Counsel Elizabeth H. Watts (0031092)

Associate General Counsel

139 E. Fourth Street, 1303-Main Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-0960

Telephone: (513) 287-4359



PLEASE RETAIN THIS STATEMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS: Receipt Number 2176793. \$49,00 has been received as a security deposit for your account on 01/20/2012.

Due Date
March 1, 2012

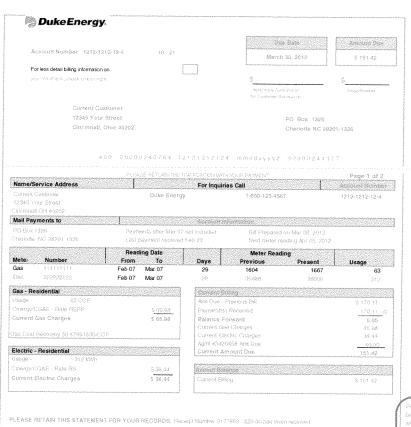
Appoint Due

#### Mar 1, 3012 \$ 171.93 -Providing the Security Deposit Receipt information on the customer bill will give DE the opportunity to provide a customer a duplicate when a customer calls and reports they need a copy because they have lost theirs or some other reason. By placing the information on the bill we can reprint a bill for a customer it needed.

-With our current process Duke Energy does not have the capability of producing a copy of a security deposit receipt it a customer requests.

-Placing this information on the customer bill will make this a standard process in our billing system for all Duke Energy customers.

DukeEnergy.



as a sinurate deposit for your account on 02/21/2012.

PLEASE RETAIN THIS STATEMENT FOR YOUR RECORDS: Haveny Number 2178799 \$29.60 has been received as a securaly deposit for your account on 03/01.2011

DukeEnergy.

March 30, 2012

\$ 151,42

Providing the Security Deposit Recept information on the customer bill will give DE the copprinciply to provide a customer a displicable when a cristomer calls and reports they need a copy because they have lost theirs or some other reason. By placing the information

# **Bill Payment Made Easy**

Paperless Billing - View and pay your bill for free by registering at www.duke-energy.com Payment Advantage - Free Service, payment automatically drafts from your bank account. Enroll at www.duke-energy.com/paymybill or call 1-800-544-6900.

Speedpay» - Pay by phone 1-800-544-6900 with credit card or check. A convenience fee will be charged.

#### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

In order to avoid paying a late charge, please mail your payment to Duke Energy several days before the due date. Or, if you prefer, you may pay by phone through Speedpay, pay online with Paperless-Billing, or pay automatically through Payment Advantage. Payments can also be made at a Pay Agent location. For more information about our bill payment options, please visit us at www.duke-energy.com or call 1-800-544-6900. When you pay by check, you authorize us to convert your check into a one-time electronic check payment or to process the payment as a regular check transaction.

Disconnection of your utility service(s) will not result from failure to pay any non-tariffed or non-regulated products or services.

Under state law, the amount you are being billed for gas includes: (1) 4.89% State Excise Tax, (2) natural gas distribution taxes that have been in effect since 2001 and are currently at \$.01593 for the first 1,000 CCF, \$.00877 for the next 19,000 CCF and \$.00411 for all additional CCF and, (3) Assessments to assist in the support of the operations of the PUCO and the Office of the Consumers Counsel that have been in effect since 1912 and 1977 respectively.

Under state law, the amount you are being billed for electric includes: (1) kilowatt-hour taxes that have been in effect since 2001 and are currently at \$.00465 for the first 2,000 kWh, \$.00419 for the next 13,000 kWh and \$.00363 for all additional kWh and, (2) Assessments to assist in the support of the PUCO and the Office of the Consumers Counsel that have been in effect since 1912 and 1977 respectively.

#### **Deposits**

The rate of interest to be paid on the security deposit will not be less than 3% annually if the deposit is held for 180 days or more. Security deposits plus interest will be applied to your final bill or refunded. For residential customers, the deposit will be returned if during the previous twelve months the service has not been disconnected nor had more than two past due bills.

A non-residential customer will have the security deposit refunded if, during the first 24 months of service, the customer's service was not disconnected and the customer has no more than three past due bills. For deposits held over two years, a non-residential customer can request an annual review. The deposit plus interest will be refunded if the customer's service was not disconnected for non-payment and the customer had no more than two past due bills.

## **EXPLANATION OF BILL LANGUAGE**

#### (The following terms will not appear on every bill)

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CCF	Gas usage, measured in hundreds of cubic feet.	Generation Charges	Charges associated with the production of electricity.	
CR Current Charges	Credited amount.  Total of all charges based on usage during the	Generation Riders (electric)	Charges associated with Duke Energy Ohio's standard service offer that is applicable to all customers.	
(Gas and Electric)	Gas and Electric) Current billing period for gas and electric services.	Kilowatt-hour (kWh)	The unit of measure for the electricity you use.	
Customer Charge	The fixed monthly basic distribution charge to partially cover costs for billing, meter reading, service line maintenance, and equipment.		For example, you use one kWh of electricity to light a 100 watt light bulb for 10 hours.	
Delivery Charges (Electric)	Charges for the operating expenses of delivering energy.	Late Payment Charge	A 1.5% late charge is added to the overdue amount of the regulated portion of your bill if you do not pay by the bill due date.	
Delivery Riders (Electric)	Charges to recover various costs associated with Duke Energy's electric operations and to fund	Meter Multiplier	A factor that the meter reading usage is multiplied by in order to obtain the correct energy usage.	
Ohio energy-related programs.  Distribution - Energy Charge  Charge for the use of local wires, transformers, substations, and other equipment used to deliver electricity to your home/business.	Rate	Code that identifies the gas delivery or electric distribution billing tariff used to calculate the bill.		
	Rider AER-R	Charges to recover costs to comply with alternate energy resource requirements.		
Estimated (E) and Actual Readings  Actual Readings  An actual reading is a reading we take from your meter. On the months we are unable to read your meter, we calculate your bill based on your past usage. Adjustments may be needed later, when we take an actual meter reading. If you would like to read your own meter to avoid estimated bills, please call us.	Rider RC	Charges to recover costs of market-based capacity		
	Rider RE	Charges to recover costs of market-based energy.		
	Rider RECON	Temporary rider to eliminate remaining balances from prior Rider PTC-FPP and Rider SRA-SRT.		
Fixed Delivery Service Charge	The fixed costs for delivering gas, which do not change with usage.	Rider RTO	Charges to recover market-based transmission costs assessed by the regional transmission organization.	
Gas Cost Recovery  The GAS COST RECOVERY (GCR) rate is the cost (per 100 cubic feet) of gas we purchase from our suppliers. This rate varies periodically as gas prices to us increase or decrease. Duke Energy makes no profit on this charge since it is based on the actual costs we pay our suppliers for the gas we purchase and resell. The GCR rate is approved by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio	Rider SCR	Costs to reconcile payments made to auction supplier.		
	Supplier Charges	Charges from a Gas and / or Electric Supplier other than Duke Energy.		
	Usage	Amount of energy used during the billing period.		
	Usage-Based Charge	Charges to recover various costs associated with Duke Energy's gas operations and to fund Ohio energy-related programs.		

### BILLING OR SERVICE INQUIRES OR COMPLAINTS

If you have a question or complaint about your bill or service, call us at 1-800-544-6900. Persons who have a hearing impairment may call our TDD/TTY toll free number, 1-800-752-3254. You may also write to our Customer Services Department at P.O. Box 960, Mail Drop 309C, Cincinnati, 45201. In addition, you may contact us by fax at 1-800-366-4704, or by e-mail at <a href="https://www.duke-energy.com">www.duke-energy.com</a>.

If your complaint is not resolved after you have called Duke Energy Ohio, or for general utility information, residential and business consumers may contact the public utilities commission of Ohio (PUCO) for assistance at 1-800-686-7826 (toll free) from eight a.m. to five p.m. weekdays, or at <a href="www.puco.ohio.gov">www.puco.ohio.gov</a>. Hearing or speech impaired customers may contact the PUCO via 7-1-1 (Ohio relay service).

The Ohio consumers' counsel (OCC) represents residential utility customers in matters before the PUCO. The OCC can be contacted at 1-877-742-5622 (toll free) from eight a.m. to five p.m. weekdays, or at www.pickocc.org.

To obtain information about competitive gas offers, visit <a href="www.puco.ohio.gov">www.puco.ohio.gov</a> or call 1-800-299-7271.

**BUSINESS HOURS** OFFICE HOURS:

SERVICE EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Gas Trouble - 1-800-634-4300 Electric Trouble - 1-800-543-5599

Cincinnati - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

For Correspondence: P.O. Box 1326 Charlotte, NC 28201