## **BEFORE**

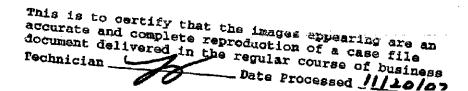
## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio for Authority to Increase Rates for its Gas Distribution Service.	) ) Case No. 07-829-GA-AIR ) )
In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a/Dominion East Ohio for Approval of an Alternative Rate Plan for its Gas Distribution Service.	) ) ) Case No. 07-830-GA-ALT ) )
In the Matter of the Application of The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio for Approval to Change Accounting Methods.	) Case No. 07-831-GA-AAM ) )

## **ENTRY**

## The Commission finds:

- (1) The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio (DEO) is a natural gas company as defined in Section 4905.03(A)(6), Revised Code, and a public utility as defined in Section 4905.02, Revised Code. As such, Dominion is subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio in accordance with Sections 4905.04 and 4905.05, Revised Code.
- (2) On August 30, 2007, DEO filed applications for an increase in gas distribution rates, for approval on an alternative rate plan, and for approval to change accounting methods.
- (3) In order to complete staff's review of the application, the Commission found that the necessary audit should be conducted by a qualified independent auditing firm and the Commission ordered the staff to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP).
- (4) Staff mailed RFP No. U07-FA-3 on November 1, 2007. Three proposals were submitted in a timely manner.



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- (5) Staff evaluated the proposals received in response to the RFP. After consideration of the proposals, the Commission selects Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. to conduct the audit. The Commission finds that Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. has the necessary experience to complete the required work under the RFP.
- (6) Dominion shall enter into a contract with Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. for the purpose of providing payment for its auditing services. The contract shall incorporate the terms and conditions of the RFP, the auditor's proposal, and relevant Commission entries in this case.
- (7) The auditor shall perform the audit as an independent contractor. Any conclusions, results, or recommendations formulated by the auditor may be examined by any party to the proceeding for which the audit report was generated. It shall be understood that the Commission and/or its staff shall not be liable for any acts committed by the auditor or its agents in the preparation and presentation of the audit report.
- (8) Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. will execute its duties pursuant to the Commission's statutory authority to investigate and obtain records, reports, and other documentation under Sections 4903.02, 4903.03, 4905.06, and 4905.16, Revised Code. The auditor shall be subject to the statutory duty under Section 4901.16, Revised Code, which states, in relevant part:

Except in his report to the public utilities commission or when called on to testify in any court or proceeding of the public utilities commission, no employee or agent referred to in section 4905.13 of the Revised Code shall divulge any information acquired by him in respect to the transaction, property, or business of any public utility, while acting or claiming to act as such employee or agent. Whoever violates this section shall be disqualified from acting as agent, or acting in any other capacity under the appointment or employment of the commission.

(9) Upon request of the auditor or staff, DEO shall provide any and all documents and information requested. DEO may conspicuously mark such documents or information "confidential." In no event, shall DEO refuse or delay providing such information or documents.

- (10) Once the exception set forth in Section 4901.16, Revised Code, is satisfied, the following process applies to the release of any document or information DEO marks as "confidential." The staff or the auditor shall not publicly disclose any document marked "confidential" by DEO, except upon three days' prior written notice of intent to disclose served upon DEO's counsel. Three days after such notice, staff or the auditor may disclose or otherwise make use of such documents or information for any lawful purpose, unless DEO moves the Commission for a protective order pertaining to such information within the three-day notice period.
- (11) The three-day notice period will be computed according to Rule 4901-1-07, Ohio Administrative Code. Service shall be complete upon mailing or delivery in person.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Blue Ridge Consulting Services, Inc. is hereby selected to perform the consulting activities set forth above. It is, further,

ORDERED, That The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a/ Dominion East Ohio and the auditor shall observe the requirements set forth in this Entry. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a/ Dominion East Ohio and all interested parties of record.

THE PUBLIC LITILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman

Paul A. Centolella

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Valerie A. Lemmie

Mangal Martman Fergus

Donald L. Mason

jb:sm

Entered in the Journal

Reneé J. Jenkins

Secretary