1 APPEARANCES: 2 Mr. Stephen B. Seiple 200 Civic Center Drive 3 Columbus, Ohio 43215 4 On behalf of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. 5 6 Bell & Royer Co., LPA By Mr. Barth E. Royer 7 33 South Grant Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43215 8 On behalf of Dominion Retail, Inc. 9 10 Kristen A. Kreuder Associate General Counsel 11 595 Summer Street, Suite 300 Stamford, Connecticut 06901 12 On behalf of MX Energy. 13 14 McNess Wallace & Nurick By Ms. Gretchen J. Hummel 15 21 Bast State Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 16 On behalf of Industrial Energy 17 Users of Ohio. 18 Bricker & Eckler 19 By Mr. E. Brett Breitschwerdt 100 South Third Street 20 Columbus, Ohio 43215 21 On behalf of Ohio Schools Council, Bay Area Council of Governments, and 22 Lake Erie Council of Governments. 23 24

1	Mr. Kerry Bruce 420 Madison Avenue
2	Suite 100
3	Madison Avenue Toledo, Ohio 43604
4	On behalf of the City of Toledo.
5	
6	Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP By Mr. W. Jonathan Airey
7	52 East Gay Street Columbus, Ohio
8	On behalf of Honda of America Manufacturing, Inc.
9	
10	Mr. Larry S. Sauer Assistant Consumers' Counsel
11	10 West Broad Street
12	Suite 1800 Columbus, Ohio 43215
13	On behalf of the Residential Customers of Columbia Gas of Ohio,
14	Inc.
15	Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease
16	By Mr. Howard Petricoff 52 East Gay Street
17	Columbus, Ohio 43216
18	On behalf of Commerce Energy, Direct Energy, IGS, Hess Corporation,
19	Vectern Retail, and Ohio Gas Marketers Group.
20	
21	Mr. Bobby Singh 300 West Wilson Bridge Road, Suite 350
22	Worthington, Ohio 43085
23	On behalf of Integrys Energy Services, Inc.
24	

Friday Morning Session, 1 2 January 11, 2008. 3 4 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Good morning. 5 The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has set for hearing at this time and this place Case No. 6 7 04-221-GA-GCR, Case No. 05-221-GA-GCR In the 8 Matter of the Regulation of the Purchased Gas 9 Adjustment Clauses Contained Within the Rate 10 Schedules of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. and 11 Related Matters, as well as Case No. 12 96-1113-GA-ATA In the Matter of the Application 13 of Columbia Gas of Ohio to Establish Customer Choice Program. 14 15 My name is Gregory Price, I am the 16 Attorney Examiner assigned to preside over 17 today's hearing. Let's begin by taking 18 appearances starting for the Company. 19 MR. SEIPLE: On behalf of Columbia 20 Gas of Ohio, Inc. I would like to enter the 21 appearance of Stephen B. Seiple, 200 Civic 22 Center Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43215. 23 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Mr. 24 Royer.

1 MR. ROYER: Thank you, Your Honor. On behalf of Dominion Retail, Inc. Barth Royer, 2 3 Bell & Royer Co., LPA, 33 South Grant Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

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I have also been asked by MX Energy, Inc. to enter the appearance of Kristen A. Kreuder, Associate General Counsel for MX Energy, 595 Summer Street, Suite 300, Stamford, Connecticut 06901.

As you will recall MX Energy originally participated in this case as an intervenor as a member of the Ohio Gas Marketers Group. Subsequently it elected to sign the stipulation in its own right. And Ms. Kreuder has executed the stipulation on behalf of MX which is why I am entering her appearance. And I am advised that she is a member in good standing of the Bar of the State of New York and is licensed to practice law in that state and I would move for admission pro hac vice for purposes of this case.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: That motion will be granted. Thank you. Ms. Hummel.

MS. HUMMEL: Thank you, Your Honor.

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1 On behalf of the Industrial Energy Users of 2 Ohio, McNess Wallace & Nurick by Gretchen J. Hummel, 21 East State Street, Columbus, Ohio 3 43215. 4 5 MR. BREITSCHWERDT: Thank you, Your 6 Honor. My name is Brett Breitschwerdt, I am here on behalf of Ohio Schools Council, the Bay 7 8 Area Council of Governments and the Lake Erie Regional Council of Governments on behalf of 10 Bricker & Eckler, 100 South Third Street, 11 Columbus, Ohio 43215. 12 MR. BRUCE: On behalf of the City of 13 Toledo and the Lucas County Board of 14 Commissioners, Kerry Bruce with the City of 15 Toledo, 420 Madison Avenue, Toledo 43604. 16 MR. AIREY: On behalf of Honda of 17 America Manufacturing, Inc. W. Jonathan Airey of 18 Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, 52 East Gay 19 Street, Columbus. 20 MR. SAUER: On behalf of the 21 residential customers of Columbia Gas of Ohio, the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, 22 23 Janine L. Migden-Ostrander, Consumers' Counsel,

Larry S. Sauer, Assistant Consumers' Counsel, 10

24

West Broad Street, Suite 1800, Columbus, Ohio
43215.

MR. PETRICOFF: On behalf of
Commerce Energy, Direct Energy, IGS, Hess
Corporation and Vectern Retail, and the Ohio Gas
Marketers Group, Howard Petricoff with the law
firm of Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease, 52 East
Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio.

MR. SINGH: On behalf of Integrys
Energy Services, Inc. Bobby Singh also with
Integrys Energy Services, 300 West Wilson Bridge
Road, Suite 350, Worthington, Ohio 43085.

MS. HAMMERSTEIN: Thank your, Your Honor. On behalf of the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission, Marc Dann, Attorney General by Anne L. Hammerstein, Stephen A. Reilly, John H. Jones, 180 East Broad Street, 9th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Thank you. Have
I missed anybody? Excellent. Do we have any
preliminary matters to come before the Bench
before we proceed?

MR. SINGH: Your Honor, because of the history with this case and because Integrys

Energy Services, Inc. as it is now known has had some name changes along the way, originally Fuel Services Group and then WPS Energy Services, Inc., as we indicated in a letter that we filed early this week joining the stipulation, we have filed, just to clarify the record in the abundance of caution, an intervention on behalf of Integrys Energy Services, Inc. in that name and hope that you will grant that intervention.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Although the deadline for intervention has passed I will note the extraordinary circumstances of this and the stipulation goes well beyond the matters originally discussed at the hearing in this proceeding, and also the case is at least being not formally consolidated, being considered along with 96-1113-GA-ATA where Integrys has been participating as a member of the Columbus Collaborative, therefore in light of the extraordinary circumstances we will grant the motion to intervene.

MR. SINGH: Thank you, Your Honor.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Ms. Hammerstein.

MS. HAMMERSTEIN: Thank you, Your

1	Honor. I would like to have marked as Joint
2	Exhibit 1 a joint Stipulation and Recommendation
3	in the cases involved in this proceeding,
4	04-221-GA-GCR, 05-221-GA-GCR, and 96-1113-GA-ATA
5	that was docketed with this Commission's
6	Docketing Division on December 28th of 2007.
7	ATTORNEY EXAMINER: It will be so
8	marked.
9	(EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR
10	IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES)
11	(WITNESS SWORN)
12	- - -
13	STEVE PUICAN
	STEVE PUICAN called as a witness on behalf of the Staff,
14	
14 15	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff,
14 15 16	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being first duly sworn, testified as follows:
14 15 16	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being first duly sworn, testified as follows: ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Would you state
13 14 15 16 17 18	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being first duly sworn, testified as follows: ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Would you state your name and business address for the record?
14 15 16 17	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being first duly sworn, testified as follows: ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Would you state your name and business address for the record? THE WITNESS: Steven Puican, 180
14 15 16 17 18	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being first duly sworn, testified as follows: ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Would you state your name and business address for the record? THE WITNESS: Steven Puican, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.
14 15 16 17 18 19	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being first duly sworn, testified as follows: ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Would you state your name and business address for the record? THE WITNESS: Steven Puican, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Ms. Hammerstein:
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	called as a witness on behalf of the Staff, being first duly sworn, testified as follows: ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Would you state your name and business address for the record? THE WITNESS: Steven Puican, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Ms. Hammerstein: MS. HAMMERSTEIN: Thank you, Your

1 Mr. Puican, good morning. Q. 2 Good morning. Α. By whom are you employed and in what 3 Ο. capacity? 4 5 I work for the Public Utilities Α. Commission of Ohio. I am co-chief of the Rates 6 7 and Tariffs, Energy and Water Division. 8 And how long have you been with the 9 Commission in that capacity? 10 Α. In that capacity for just a few But I was a division chief for 11 approximately 12 years. 12 Could you give us a summary of your 13 Q. 14 job duties and experience? 15 I am responsible for all issues 16 related to natural gas other than pipeline 17 safety and customer service issues. I oversee 18 I have a staff of three people the GCR process. 19 that conducts GCR audits for large and small 20 companies. I also am responsible for certain 21 gas issues in any of the pending gas rate cases. 22 And are you familiar with what has Q. 23 been marked as Joint Exhibit 1?

24

A.

Yes, I am.

Q. And could you describe for us how you acquired that knowledge and familiarity?

A. Initially I testified in the original hearing in the 04 and 05-221 cases, the GCR management audit cases. Subsequent to that testimony negotiations were started to reach a global entitlement of those issues and some broader issues.

I participated in all of those discussions. I made recommendations for items to be included into the stipulation as well as reviewed all the various versions of the stipulation where certain concerns were met. And ultimately recommended approval to our attorneys, signed the stipulation on behalf of the Staff.

- Q. Okay. And are you familiar with the criteria that the Commission uses to examine stipulations submitted to it?
 - A. Yes, I am.
- Q. Okay. And do you believe that the stipulation, Joint Exhibit 1, is the product of serious bargaining among capable and knowledgeable parties?

A. Yes, I do. I think from my experience this is by far the most diverse group of participants in a stipulation that have gotten together and actually was able to reach agreement on a single document. I understand not everybody is agreeing to sign it, but at least no one is opposing it. And I think that is quite an accomplishment.

We also went through the exercise in one of the last meetings and estimated that the folks participating in developing this stipulation had a combined level of experience of well over 300 years in utility matters. So, I think both from the standpoint of depth of experience as well as the breadth of the representation, I think that criterion was clearly met.

- Q. And in your estimation does the stipulation as a package benefit ratepayers and the public interest?
- A. Yes, it does. It provides for an immediate credit of \$35,000,000 to be credited to the customers over a 12-month period. It commits Columbia filing an application to

conduct an auction for standard service offer that would replace the GCR at the expiration of the transition period as defined in this stipulation in March of 2010. And we see the SSO for Dominion has been extremely successful in providing very good rates for customers.

The stipulation also provides for energy efficient -- funding for energy efficiency programs. And it also resolves all of the issues related to the 2004-2005 GCR case as well has any issues arising from interpretation and implementation of the 2002 stipulation.

So, in sum I think it is clearly in the public interest and benefits ratepayers.

- Q. Do you believe that the stipulation violates any important regulatory principles or practices?
- A. No, I don't. It addition to settling the GCR issues it provides regulatory framework for a transition period between November of 2008 and April of 2010. And provides for a transition into a standard service auction offering, or at least is a

commitment to conduct an auction for a standard service offer at the end of that transition period.

I think once again given the diversity of interests here, the fact that all the parties were able to reach agreement on a document establishes that it does not violate any important regulatory principle and it does away with any and all other litigation of a wide variety of issues that were pending in the previous GCR cases as well as what would happen at the expiration of the existing 2002 stipulation.

MS. HAMMERSTEIN: Thank you, Mr. Puican. Your Honor, the witness is available for cross-examination.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Any cross?

MR. SEIPLE: None.

anything. Thank you, Mr. Puican.

MS. HAMMERSTEIN: Your Honor, I would move admission of Joint Exhibit 1.

ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Any objections? Without objection Exhibit 1 will be admitted.

1	(EXHIBIT 1 ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE)
2	ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Ms. Hummel.
3	MS. HUMMEL: Thank you, Your Honor.
4	I want to state for the record that although not
5	a signatory to the stipulation Industrial Energy
6	Users of Ohio will not oppose the stipulation.
7	MR. BREITSCHWERDT: Your Honor, I
8	would also like to state for the record that the
9	Ohio School Council, the Bay Area Council of
10	Governments and the Lake Erie Regional Council
11	of Governments, although we did not sign the
12	stipulation we do not oppose the stipulation.
13	HEARING EXAMINER: Thank you.
14	MR. SEIPLE: Your Honor, I will
15	just state for the record that counsel for the
16	City of Columbus, John Klein, in a telephone
17	conversation has authorized us to state on the
18	record today that the City of Columbus does not
19	oppose the stipulation.
20	ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Thank you very
21	much.
22	MR. BRUCE: The City of Toledo and
23	Lucas County Commissioners did not have a chance
24	to approve the settlement and sign the

stipulation, but would like to be considered 1 signatory parties to the stipulation. 2 3 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Thank you. Your Honor, by MR. PETRICOFF: 4 5 previous filed letter the Ohio Gas Marketers 6 Group have signed the stipulation and would like 7 to be considered fully in support of it. 8 ATTORNEY EXAMINER: Thank you. 9 MR. SINGH: Your Honor, as I stated previously Integrys Energy Services has filed a 10 11 letter joining as a signatory party to the 12 stipulation. 13 Thank you. ATTORNEY EXAMINER: 14 other matters? With that we will dispense with 15 further briefs in the case and consider this case being submitted on the record. Thank you 16 all. 17 (At 10:15 A.M. the hearing was 18 concluded) 19 20 21 22 23

24

CERTIFICATE

Michael O. Spence

Reporter.

Registered Professional

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken by me in this matter on January 11, 2008 and carefully compared with my original stenographic notes.

ARMSTRONG & OKEY, INC., Columbus, Ohio (614) 224-9481

attorneys 4:3 9:14 18:22 Commissioners developing 15:11 Α 14:15 business 12:17 9:14 18:23 Direct 3:18 6:2 able 15:4 17:6 auction 16:1,24 Commission's 10:4 12:23 abundance 11:7 C 17:1 12:5 discussed 11:14 accomplishment audit 14:5 commitment 17:1 discussions called 12:14 15:8 audits 13:19 commits 15:24 14:10 capable 14:23 acquired 14:2 authorized 18:17 companies 13:20 dispense 19:14 capacity 13:4,9 actually 15:4 available 17:15 Company 7:18 diverse 15:2 13:10 addition 16:19 diversity 17:5 Avenue 2:7 3:1,2 compared 20:3 carefully 20:3 address 12:17 8:3 9:15 concerns 14:13 division 12:6 case 1:3,7,11 Adjustment 1:4,8 away 17:9 concluded 19:19 13:7,11 7:6,7,11 8:11 7:9 A.M1:19 19:18 conduct 16:1 docketed 12:5 8:21 10:24 admission 8:20 17:1 Docketing 12:6 11:15 16:10 17:22 В conducts 13:19 document 15:5 19:15,16 admitted 17:24 B2:2 7:21 Connecticut 2:11 17:7 cases 12:3 13:21 18:1 8 . 9 Dominion 2:8 8:2 Bar 8:18 14:4,5 17:11 **ADMT** 5:3 consider 19:15 16:5 bargaining 14:23 caution 11:7 advised 8:17 Drive 2:2 7:22 considered 11:16 Barth 2:6 8:2 Center 2:2 7:22 again 17:4duly 12:15 Bay 2:21 9:7 19:1,7 certain 13:20 agreeing 15:6 consolidated **duties** 13:14 18:9 14:13 agreement 15:5 11:16 before 1:1,15 CERTIFICATE 20:1 17:6 10:21,22 Consumers 3:10 certify 20:2 Airey 3:6 9:16 9:22,23,24 begin 7:17 chance 18:23 E2:6,19 9:17 Contained 1:4,8 behalf 2:4,8,12 changes 11:2 early 11:5 along 11:2,17 7:9 2:16,21 3:4,8 chief 13:11 East 1:17 2:15 although 11:10 3:13,18,23 4:6 conversation Choice 1:13 7:14 3:6,16 4:4 9:3 18:4,11 18:17 7:19 8:2,15 9:18 10:7,17 circumstances America 3:8 9:17 Corporation 3:18 12:19 9:1,7,9,12,16 11:12,20 among 14:23 9:20 10:3,9,14 10:5 Eckler 2:18 9:10 City 3:4 9:12,14 Anne 4:1 10:16 correct 20:2 11:7 12:14 efficiency 16:9 18:16,18,22 anybody 10:20 Council 2:21,21 14:15 Civic 2:2 7:21 efficient 16:8 anything 17:20 2:22 9:7,8,9 being 11:15,16 elected 8:13 clarify 11:6 appearance 7:21 18:9,9,10 12:15 19:16 employed 13:3 **Clauses** 1:4,8 8:6,16 counsel 2:10 end 17:2 believe 14:21 7:9 appearances 2:1 3:10 8:7 9:22 16:16 clearly 15:17 energy 2:12,16 7:18Bell 2:6 8:3 16:14 9:23,24 18:15 3:18,18,23 8:5 application 1:11County 9:13 Bench 10:21 Co 2:6 8:3 8:8,10 9:1 7:12 15:24 18:23 benefit 15:19 Collaborative 10:4,4,10,11 approval 14:14 co-chief 13:6 benefits 16:15 11:19 11:1,3,8 13:7 approve 18:24 credit 15:22 between 16:21 Columbia 1:5,9 16:8,8 18:5 approximately credited 15:22 beyond 11:13 19:10 1:11,12 2:4 13:12 Board 9:13 criteria 14:18 enter 7:20 8:6 3:13 7:10,13 April 16:22 criterion 15:16 Bobby 3:21 10:10 7:19 9:21 entering 8:16 Area 2:21 9:8 both 15:14 cross 17:17 15:24 entitlement 14:7 18:9 cross-examina... breadth 15:15 Erie2:22 9:8 Columbus 1:18,22 arising 16:11 17:16 Breitschwerdt 2:3,7,15,20 18:10 Armstrong 1:21 customer 1:13 Establish 1:12 2:19 9:5,6 3:7,12,17 4:5 **asked** 8:5 18:7 7:22 8:4 9:3 7:13 13:17 $7 \cdot 13$ assigned 7:16 9:11,19 10:1,8 customers 3:13 Brett 2:19 9:6 establishes 17:7 Assistant 3:10 9:21 15:23 Bricker 2:18 10:18 11:18 estimated 15:10 4:3 9:24 12:19 18:16,18 16:6 estimation 15:18 9:10 Associate 2:10 Bridge 3:21 everybody 15:6 **combined** 15:12 8:7 D 10:11 EVIDENCE 18:1 come 10:21Attorney 1:15 **briefs** 19:15 Commerce 3:18 Dann 10:15 RYANTNATION 7:4,16,23 8:22 Broad 1:17 3:11 deadline 11:11 12:23 10:4 10:15,19 11:10 4:4 10:1,17 Commission 1:1 December 12:6 examine 14:18 11:23 12:7,16 12:19 1:16 4:6 7:5 defined 16:3 Examiner 1:15 12:20 17:17,19 7:4,16,23 8:22 10:15 13:6,9 broader 14:8 depth 15:14 17:23 18:2,20 Bruce 3:1 9:12 describe 14:1 10:19 11:10,23 14:18 19:3,8,13

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The following exhibit(s) were prefiled and can be located with the pleadings:

	Exhibits	Date Filed		
1	Joint Stipulation and Recommendation	12/28/2007		
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