

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Columbia)	
Gas of Ohio, Inc., for Authority to Amend)	Case No. 08-72-GA-AIR
Filed Tariffs to Increase the Rates and)	
Charges for Gas Distribution Service.)	
In the Matter of the Application of Columbia)	
Gas of Ohio, Inc., for Approval of an)	Case No. 08-73-GA-ALT
Alternative Form of Regulation and for a)	
Change in its Rates and Charges.)	
In the Matter of the Application of Columbia)	
Gas of Ohio, Inc., for Approval to Change)	Case No. 08-74-GA-AAM
Accounting Methods.)	
In the Matter of the Application of Columbia)	
Gas of Ohio, Inc., for Authority to Revise its)	Case No. 08-75-GA-AAM
Depreciation Accrual Rates.)	

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) On March 3, 2008, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., (Columbia) filed an application in the above-captioned cases.
- (2) Section 4909.19, Revised Code, requires a public utility to publish notice of an application for an increase in rates, forthwith upon filing of the application.
- (3) On April 16, 2008, the Commission directed Columbia to publish notice of the application in papers of general circulation throughout its territory, once a week, for three consecutive weeks, beginning within thirty days of the entry's issuance.
- (4) On June 19, 2008, Columbia filed a motion, asking that the Commission authorize it to republish the notice in one county and find that publication in another county substantially complied with the Commission's order. Columbia explains, in the supportive memorandum, that the two newspapers failed

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to publish the notice on certain of the dates that had been promised to Columbia.

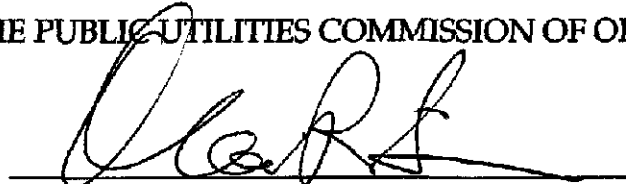
- (5) Specifically, Columbia asserts that it arranged for 43 newspapers to publish its notice once a week, for three consecutive weeks, starting no later than May 16, 2008. Contrary to that arrangement, the newspaper in Perry County published the notice on May 14, May 28, and June 6. Because this notice was published three times, with the first publication occurring before May 16, 2008, Columbia asks that the Commission find that publication substantially complied with the Commission's directive and that no further notice need be published in Perry County. The Vinton County newspaper only published the notice on May 21, 2008. Columbia asks for authority to republish the notice in Vinton County, once a week, for three consecutive weeks.
- (6) Paragraph (B)(1) of Rule 4901-1-12, Ohio Administrative Code, allows a 15-day time period for the filing of memoranda contra, following the service of motions. In addition, paragraph (F) of that rule allows the Commission to issue an expedited ruling on a motion, where the issuance of such a ruling will not adversely affect a substantial right of any party.
- (7) We find that consideration of Columbia's motion and issuance of a ruling on that motion will not adversely affect a substantial right of any party. Therefore, in light of the statutory requirement that notice of an application for a rate increase be published "forthwith," we will issue an expedited ruling, without waiting for the filing of memoranda contra.
- (8) Noting that the Perry County notice was published for three weeks and that publication did begin within 30 days of the issuance of our entry directing publication, we find that the Perry County publication substantially complied with publication requirements. We also find that it is reasonable and appropriate for Columbia to republish notification in Vinton County, in the form and manner previously authorized. Such publication should begin as soon as possible and should continue, once a week, for three consecutive weeks.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Columbia's motion for a finding that its publication in Perry County substantially complied with publication requirements and for authority to republish in Vinton County be granted. It is, further

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO


Alan R. Schriber, Chairman


Paul A. Centolella


Ronda Hartman Kergus



Valerie A. Lemmie

Cheryl L. Roberto

JWK:geb

Entered in the Journal

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Renee J. Jenkins
Secretary