

FILE

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 AUG 18 PM 2:45

Aimee Kuru
192 Brookfield Road
Avon Lake, OH 44012
August 16, 2008

PUCO

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street
Columbus OH 43215

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding Case # 07-829-GA-AIR.

It makes absolutely no sense whatsoever to raise a person's gas bill up to 74.2% because they are trying to save money on their gas bill. Why penalize the people who can least afford it?

No sooner do we try to conserve and save money then the cost of something else has gone out of control. It is getting harder and harder to make ends meet. A lot of people cannot cut expenses any more. I know of people who keep their thermostats in the winter down to 58 degrees trying to save money. That is absolutely absurd and you are going to punish them further!?

We have to play games with our gas service. "Sign up for a fixed rate before gas goes up again" all most of us want to do is pay for gas that is fair and reasonable, we have enough to do in our busy lives without trying to figure out what is the best rate and should we lock in or not. This should not be made so difficult for the consumer.

I am not a Dominion customer, but I could be next.

Where does it end?,



Aimee Kuru

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2008 AUG 18 PM 2:49

28199 Hidden Valley Drive
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022
August 16, 2008

Public Utilities Commission Of Ohio
Attn: Docketing Division
180 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Sirs:

The proposed rate change for Dominion East Ohio Gas Company, case number 07-829-GA-AIR, is not fair to large numbers of customers, especially seniors, people on fixed incomes and those in low and middle income groups. People who try to conserve on gas usage are adversely affected in comparison to those who can afford to use as much gas for heating as they like. The amount of gas used should be reflected evenly in the charges and no one should be penalized for conservation efforts. Please try to arrive at a more equitable method of payment.

Sincerely,

Mary C. Mitro
Mary C. Mitro

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07-829-GA-AIR
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RESOLUTION NUMBER 2008-279 OPPOSING THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASE OF DOMINION EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY

The Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, met on the 5th day of August, 2008, in regular session at the Ashtabula County Fairgrounds, Expo Center, 127 North Elm Street, Jefferson, OH 44047, with the following members present: Daniel R. Claypool, Joseph A. Moroski, Peggy A. Carlo.

WHEREAS, In August, 2007, Dominion East Ohio filed to increase its delivery rates by \$75 million per year, which would mean a 16.9% increase to the East Region and a 26.8% increase to the West Region; and

WHEREAS, this case is a "base" distribution rate case, which covers costs for services such as meter reading, billing and maintaining the distribution equipment. The base rate portion of a customer's bill includes a flat-rate customer charge and a component that varies according to how much natural gas a customer uses; and

WHEREAS, currently customers pay \$4.38 per month (West Region) and \$5.70 per month (East Region) as a flat-rate customer charge; and

WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) staff has recommended raising this charge to \$17.50 for all Dominion customers, while lowering the usage-based charge; and

WHEREAS, Dominion is seeking approval to implement a 25-year Pipeline Infrastructure Replacement plan, estimated to cost \$2.6 billion, at an extra consumer fee of \$1.12 per month during the first year, with the monthly fee potentially increasing up to .90 each additional year; and

WHEREAS, Dominion is also proposing a \$126.3 million plan to retrofit automated meter reading devices on all 1.3 million gas meters in its service territory at an additional cost to consumers of approximately .25 cents per month during the first year with potential increases in future years; and

WHEREAS, the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel (OCC), the residential utility consumer advocate, believes that Dominion East Ohio's proposed rates are unreasonable and should be rejected by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO); and

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WHEREAS, based upon the OCC's experts, consumers should not have to pay for many of the multi-million dollars in costs cited by the utility and this Board of Commissioners would agree; and

WHEREAS, in the best interests of consumers in Ashtabula County, this Board does not support this rate increase as our families and businesses cannot sustain such a substantial increase; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio, do hereby concur with the Office of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel and urge the Ohio Public Utilities Commission, to reject the proposed rate increase of Dominion East Ohio.

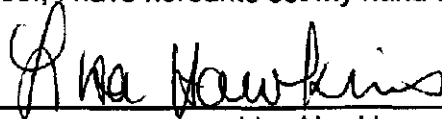
MOTION: Moroski moved the adoption, Carlo seconded.

VOTE: Yeas: Carlo, Claypool, Moroski Nays: None Abstained: None Absent: None
Whereupon the resolution was declared passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that I, Lisa Hawkins, as Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Ashtabula County, Ohio have compared the foregoing copy of the Resolution Number 2008-279 with the original resolution now on file in this office, which was duly passed by the board of Commissioners of said County of Ashtabula on the 14th day of August, 2008; and that the same is a correct and true copy of said resolution.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of August, 2008.



Lisa Hawkins
Clerk of the Board
Ashtabula County Commissioners

8/16/2008 FILE CASE# 07-829-GA-AIR

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PUCO - We have to write in regard to ~~Domestic~~ ^{PUCO}

East Ohio rate increase. We have been with East Ohio for 50 yrs. We are senior citizens with no savings living on social security. We can't make it any longer. We are in poor health, and most of our check goes for health insurance premiums, utilities, prescription drugs. We are on so many medications just to survive. And we are a believer to try and eat healthy for our health. But $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through the month, there is no money for food. We have a gas dryer which is not used to save on our gas bill. We use the least amount of gas and electric we can. Our thermostat is set at 61 during the winter, and we are cold. Being on blood thinners we get cold and uncomfortable. We have a house we can't sell because it needs so many repairs. And no money to do the repairs. With our health, we can't do them and can't afford outside help. We are good people. My husband worked hard all his life. But his job had no pensions, and now we have nothing to fall back on.

Isn't there something to help people like us so we are not stuck with new higher rates? We can't turn our thermostat down any lower. It is the first time in 50+ yrs of marriage that we have asked for help. Would the Homestead Act give us some ~~of~~ relief?

We would appreciate a reply and help

in this situation. We can't drop our health care and prescription drugs to try and have money for heat. We don't socialize, go out for dinner, and only buy what we absolutely need. We stay home because of our health and couldn't afford a time out if we were invited.

Thank you for, what we hope, is an answer to some help. Winter is going to be right around the corner, and we won't put our furnace on until absolutely needed.

Sonya and Russ Stockler

2139 Olive Ave

Lakewood - Ohio - 44107

Copy to: Dominion East Ohio