

FILE

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

- - -

In the Matter of the)
Application of The) Case Nos.
East Ohio Gas Company,) 07-829-GA-AIR
d/b/a Dominion East) 07-830-GA-ALT,
Ohio for Authority to) 07-831-GA-AAM,
Increase Rates for its) 08-169-GA-ALT and
Gas Distribution Service) 06-1453-GA-UNC
and other Related)
Matters.)

PUCO

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BE IT REMEMBERED, that upon the hearing of
the above-entitled matter, held at the Garfield
Heights Civic Center, 5407 Turney Road, Garfield
Heights, Ohio, and commencing on Monday, the
18th day of August, 2008, at 6:01 o'clock p.m.,
at which time the following proceedings were
had.

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1 **APPEARANCES:**

2

3 On Behalf of the Public Utilities

4 Commission of Ohio:

5 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

6 BY: Scott Farkas, Deputy Director

7 Legal Department

8 180 East Broad Street

9 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793

10 614/644-8955

11

12 On Behalf of the Ohio Consumers' Counsel:

13 OHIO CONSUMERS' COUNSEL

14 BY: Gregory J. Poulos

15 Assistant Consumers' Counsel

16 10 West Broad Street, Suite 1800

17 Columbus, Ohio 43215-3485

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APPEARANCES (CONTINUED):

On Behalf of the Company:

JONES DAY

BY: Mark A. Whitt, Attorney at Law
325 John H. McConnell Boulevard
Suite 600
Columbus, Ohio 43215-2673
614/469-3939

- - -

1 **MR. LONGO:** Good evening. Good
2 evening, and welcome to Garfield Heights. I'm
3 Mayor Longo, and we'd like to especially welcome
4 the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.
5 They've been kind enough to establish this
6 public hearing on Dominion's rate increase.

7 The chair of Public Utility
8 Commission, Mr. Alan Schriber, is here, so they
9 want to hear both sides. They're in a very
10 difficult balancing position trying to do what
11 the law says that they must do and against your
12 rights and then, of course, the company. And
13 Dominion is well represented, too.

14 So please be courteous. If you have
15 any questions, there is a microphone over there
16 in the back if you want, or you can just address
17 them directly. And without much further ado,
18 I'd like to introduce Mr. Schriber to take over
19 the meeting. Thank you. Welcome to Garfield
20 Heights.

21 **MR. SCHRIBER:** Thank you very
22 much, Mayor, and thank you all for coming out
23 tonight. We have a great crowd and we're glad
24 to see that.

25 Again, my name is Alan Schriber. I'm

1 chairman of the Public Utilities Commission, and
2 we have come up from Columbus to hear what it is
3 that you have to say about the proposed rate
4 case as you understand it.

5 I need to tell you that there are
6 many, many steps that we go through before we
7 render decisions in these cases. We understand
8 that the company has a request. We thoroughly
9 review their financial situation. We review
10 their service quality. We review a lot of
11 things. Our staff gets deeply involved in these
12 cases.

13 We have many, many intervenors who
14 get involved in these cases. Industrial users,
15 residential consumers, cities, townships and
16 what have you all get involved in these
17 proceedings.

18 In Columbus, we'll have what's called
19 an evidentiary hearing, where everybody comes
20 together, the lawyers, the accountants. You
21 know, a lot of the really, kind of boring stuff,
22 if you will. The important stuff, but, you
23 know, kind of very, very technical.

24 But then we have these types of
25 hearings, these public hearings. These are

1 every bit as important to us as are those
2 evidentiary hearings. We want to hear what you
3 have to say. What you say becomes a part of the
4 record in this case. It does go noticed; it
5 does not go unnoticed. So what you have to say
6 is vital. It will be on the record. It will be
7 reviewed by the commission -- commissioners, as
8 well as all of the evidentiary hearings with the
9 lawyers and the accountants and the economists
10 and all those put together.

11 Let me introduce some folks that I
12 have with me tonight from Columbus. Scott
13 Farkas is with me tonight. He is our attorney
14 assigned to this case. Shana Eiselstein is over
15 there. She is our media person. Dave -- Jay
16 Davis, rather. Jay is around somewhere. There
17 is Jay back there. He is one of our legislative
18 liaisons. We have Maria Patterson. She just
19 stepped out the door. She is one of the ladies
20 that you saw when you came in. And Pamela,
21 whose last name I have trouble with all the
22 time, but I think it's -- you know her anyway.

23 Without further ado, let me introduce
24 again Scott Farkas, who will run you through the
25 process you can go through tonight so that you

1 can testify.

2 Now, we're going to have a bucket up
3 here, and every time the cell phone goes off
4 that we can hear, \$5 goes in the bucket. That's
5 rule. So put them on vibrate.

6 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** I'll do that if
7 you promise to regulate them.

8 **MR. SCHRIBER:** Put it in here.
9 Okay. Scott Farkas.

10 **MR. FARKAS:** Thank you. The
11 Public Utilities Commission has assigned for
12 public hearing at this time and place case
13 number 07-829-GA-AIR, 07-830-GA-ALT,
14 07-831-GA-AAM, 08-169-GA-ALT and 06-1453-GA-UNC,
15 which are captioned "In the Matter of the
16 Applications of the East Ohio Gas Company, dba
17 Dominion East Ohio, for Authority to Increase
18 Rates for Its Gas Distribution Service and Other
19 Related Matters."

20 At this time I would like to take
21 appearances. I believe someone from the company
22 is here.

23 **MR. WHITT:** Yes, sir, Your
24 Honor. On behalf of Dominion East Ohio, Mark
25 Whitt from the Jones Day law firm, 325 John H.

1 McConnell Boulevard, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

2 **MR. FARKAS:** Thank you. And are
3 there any other parties here?

4 **MR. POULOS:** Yes, Your Honor.
5 Greg Poulos on behalf of Janine
6 Migden-Ostrander, the Consumers Counsel
7 represents the residential customers. I want to
8 thank the over hundreds of people here today who
9 are here to listen and to testify.

10 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Thank you.

11 On August 30th, 2007, Dominion filed
12 an application at the commission to increase the
13 rates and charges to deliver natural gas to
14 customers. These charges are known as
15 distribu- -- as the distribution rate.

16 Natural gas bills are comprised of
17 two main parts, the cost of the gas and the cost
18 of delivering the gas to homes.

19 The cost of natural gas, which makes
20 up about 75 to 80 percent of your bill, is not
21 part of this rate case. This case is about the
22 distribution rate, which covers the cost of
23 delivering the natural gas. The distribution
24 rate pays for all the things that the company
25 must do to deliver gas to its customers,

1 including installing and maintaining gas
2 pipelines, reading the meters, processing bills
3 and taking customer service calls.

4 In its application to the PUCO,
5 Dominion proposed rates that would generate
6 about \$75 million in additional revenue for the
7 company, an increase of 7 percent over the
8 current revenues.

9 In its application, Dominion also
10 proposed a method to recover the costs of its
11 pipeline infrastructure improvement program and
12 the installation of automated meter reading
13 equipment.

14 After reviewing Dominion's
15 application and the financial information, the
16 Public Utility Commission's staff recommended a
17 revenue increase of between 33.6 million and
18 45.5 million, or roughly 3.25 and 4 1/2 percent.

19 The staff of the commission also
20 recommended a new residential distribution rate
21 structure under which -- excuse me, under which
22 customers would be charged nearly all the
23 distribution costs that do not change with
24 natural gas usage in a flat monthly fee, and the
25 usage based part of the distribution rate would

1 be lower.

2 The staff report can be reviewed by
3 visiting the commission -- the commission's
4 docketing information system, or DIS, at the
5 commission's website, which for all the web
6 people out there is www.puco.ohio.gov, g-o-v.
7 And you type in the case number 07-829, and that
8 will get you to the website.

9 The local public hearings scheduled
10 in this case are only one aspect of the process
11 of this case, and we have had public hearings in
12 Youngstown, Lima, Akron, Canton, Cleveland,
13 Geneva, Marietta. And we're having another
14 hearing besides tonight in Youngstown on
15 Tuesday, tomorrow, at 6:00, and in Akron at 6:00
16 on Thursday, the 21st.

17 The purpose of the public hearing is
18 to receive your comments from about Dominion's
19 applications in these cases. And as you may
20 have noticed, there is a court reporter present,
21 and she will be transcribing the hearing.
22 Basically, that means that the court reporter
23 will be recording everything you say in a
24 typewritten fashion, and the statements, as the
25 chairman said, will become part of the record.

1 When you arrived, you were also
2 offered the opportunity to sign up to testify.
3 If you missed that opportunity, you may still
4 add your name to the list at the back of the
5 room. You will also find a salmon-colored fax
6 sheet in the back of the room that explains the
7 company's application, the recommendations
8 issued by the staff of the commission and the
9 next steps in this process.

10 At this time, I will begin calling
11 witnesses forward who will give statements for
12 the record. And before presenting your
13 testimony, I will ask you to affirm your
14 testimony, that what you are saying is
15 about -- what you are about to say is the truth.
16 And attorneys for the company and other parties
17 will be allowed to ask you questions about your
18 statements.

19 Should you decide you do not want to
20 testify when I call your name, you can merely
21 pass to the next witness. And once you have
22 finished testifying, or if you're just in
23 attendance to observe the hearing, you may leave
24 at any time you wish.

25 Since tonight's hearing is being

1 transcribed, I would ask that if you plan to
2 testify, please speak plainly and clearly so
3 that the court reporter can accurately reflect
4 your comments on the record. And if you have a
5 prepared statement, it will be helpful for you
6 to provide a copy to the court reporter also.

7 We appreciate your participation in
8 tonight's hearing and we want everyone who
9 wishes to make a public statement to do so. If
10 you choose to make a public statement, please be
11 considerate of others waiting to give their
12 testimony and keep your statements to a
13 reasonable period of time.

14 Are there any questions as to the
15 process that we're going to follow?

16 Okay. At this time I'll begin
17 calling witnesses forward. I'm going to place
18 the mike at the mike stand, and I would ask
19 anyone who wants to testify -- oh, to come up to
20 the --

21 **MR. LONGO:** I don't know if
22 this is going to work, but I'll try. Can you
23 hear me in the back?

24 **THE AUDIENCE:** Yes.

25 **MR. FARKAS:** When I call your

1 name, I'll call it loud. So I'm going to place
2 the mike at the mike stand and -- Steve Inchak?

3 STEVE INCHAK

4 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
5 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
6 testified and said as follows:

7 MR. FARKAS: Please state your
8 name and address.

9 MR. INCHAK: Good evening. My
10 name is Steve Inchak. I'll try to raise this
11 here. I am a congressional staff member for
12 Dennis J. Kucinich at 14400 Detroit Avenue in
13 Lakewood, Ohio 44107.

14 I'm going to read tonight a letter
15 that the congressman wrote today which is almost
16 identical to the one that he wrote to Chairman
17 Schriber for the Cleveland hearing, and I would
18 give a copy to the chairman and also to anyone
19 else here at the meeting that would like it
20 after.

21 The letter reads as follows:

22 It says, "Dear Chairman Schriber, I
23 strongly oppose Dominion East Ohio's proposed
24 rate increases, which, if approved, will cost
25 Ohioans nearly \$100 million more per year. I

1 ask that you reject any attempt on the part of
2 Dominion to downplay its strong financial
3 standing and outlook in an effort to rationalize
4 rate increases which would, according to its own
5 2007 annual report, support a 12 percent return
6 on equity.

7 "In 2007, Dominion, the parent
8 company of Dominion East Ohio, posted a net
9 income of \$2.5 billion, an 84 percent increase
10 from the year before and a 240 percent increase
11 from 2005.

12 "In 2000- -- while the report issued
13 by your staff correctly denies Dominion East
14 Ohio's proposed 7 percent rate hike for usage,
15 which totals approximately \$75 million annually,
16 it replaces this request with an approximate 4
17 percent increase through inflating the fixed
18 distribution rate. It straps a disproportional
19 burden on the backs of those consumers who have
20 chosen to conserve, many of whom are low income.
21 An additional \$12 per month charge before gas
22 even begins to flow would be detrimental to
23 many.

24 "Now, Dominion will tell you that its
25 operating, material, maintenance and fuel costs

1 have increased in the past several years and
2 months. What they won't tell you is that the
3 cost of living for the average consumer has
4 increased substantially as well over the same
5 period of time. Electric prices are up;
6 gasoline prices are through the roof;
7 prescription drug prices are up; grocery prices
8 are up.

9 "A seemingly modest natural gas bill
10 increase could lead to low-income individuals
11 and families having to choose between groceries,
12 prescription drugs or transportation in the
13 winter months ahead.

14 "Now, over 15,500 homeowners in
15 Cuyahoga County fell victim to foreclosure in
16 2007. Early numbers for 2008 suggest this trend
17 is only worsening. High utility bills are
18 undoubtedly a contributing factor. Such
19 increase would continue to contribute to
20 additional foreclosures in the future.

21 "For those with a natural gas
22 furnace, natural gas is a basic necessity.
23 Payment is not optional. Rate hikes like this
24 hit the hardest to those who are already living
25 at the edge of their means. We must not let

1 Dominion dump its purported costs onto
2 low-income and fixed income people, like
3 seniors, while Dominion continues to rack up
4 profits.

5 "According to the publication
6 BusinessWeek, the president and CEO of Dominion
7 received a total calculated compensation of
8 \$15,118,207 in 2007. This amount represents an
9 average of 39 percent of the annual increase for
10 customers of Dominion East Ohio which the PUCO
11 staff recommended.

12 "In addition, the proposed
13 distribution rate increase does not even fully
14 take into consideration millions of dollars in
15 increased costs that consumers will face if the
16 proposed \$2.6 billion, 25-year Pipeline
17 Infrastructure Replacement plan, or the \$126
18 million automated meter reading device plan is
19 approved in this case.

20 "Such programs will increase profit
21 for Dominion in the long run through increasing
22 consistency of customer use and operational
23 efficiency, respectively. Dominion should
24 invest on its own in these programs without
25 passing the costs on to the consumers. PUCO

1 approval of such charges to be passed on to the
2 consumers will mean short-term consumer
3 investment in Dominion's long-term profit
4 margin.

5 "I thank you for holding a series of
6 public hearings on this important issue,
7 including the one here today in Garfield
8 Heights. I respectfully remind you that the
9 reason for the PUCO's existence is to ensure
10 that adequate consumer protections are in place.
11 A decision to allow Dominion East Ohio to raise
12 its rates in response to its alleged increases
13 in costs would be a slap in the face to millions
14 of consumers who are facing more and more
15 increased costs of their own every day.

16 "The PUCO should seize this vital
17 opportunity to protect the public from any
18 proposed rate increases by Dominion East Ohio."

19 Thank you.

20 **MR. FARKAS:** Richard Phillips.
21 Do you want to raise your right hand?

22 RICHARD PHILLIPS
23 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
24 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
25 testified and said as follows:

1 **MR. PHILLIPS:** As near as I can.
2 All my information comes from Dominion and the
3 Plain Dealer.

4 **MR. FARKAS:** Thank you. State
5 your name, spell your last name and state your
6 address.

7 **MR. PHILLIPS:** Richard H.
8 Phillips, P-h-i-l-l-i-p-s, 11808 Tonsing Drive,
9 Garfield Heights, Ohio.

10 Well, I appreciate that, what we've
11 just heard from our representative. The thing
12 I -- the point that I want to make about
13 Dominion is that this is no longer the East Ohio
14 Gas that we knew in the past. It's now a part
15 of Dominion Engineering, and Dominion
16 Engineering is only at least a third part of
17 Dominion resources.

18 From World Class News, it states that
19 sales fell in the first half of this year, some
20 3.7 percent to 3.45 billion because of
21 divestitures. In other words, Dominion bought a
22 company over the past couple of years with gas
23 producing projects and decided to make the money
24 out of delivery only. And this, for various
25 reasons, has gone down.

1 I set my thermostat five degrees
2 lower last winter, and I'm no doubt going to do
3 it this year. And I'm very unwilling to pay
4 them more money for less gas.

5 The other point is, as well, that
6 they -- they're stating that they want to renew
7 the main pipelines. Well, some of those
8 pipelines have been in existence for a long
9 time; that is true. But having been associated
10 with the pipelining company myself, I always
11 understood that the maintenance and okaying the
12 replacement was all a part of the annual budget.

13 And when we see, for example, at the
14 end of 1967 that Dominion resources raked in
15 3.510 -- and I'm not quite sure, I think that's
16 million, so we're talking 6 1/2 billion
17 dollars -- I wonder whether they actually need
18 any money to do anything at all. They've got
19 ample resources.

20 If you're selling and gas producing
21 and want to make money out of the pipelining and
22 then gas consumption falls, isn't that just like
23 me and you going to the stock market and buying
24 a few shares and it went down instead of going
25 up? You have to ride that kind of thing. And

1 I'm sure that somebody in their organization is
2 arranging the budget that balances these things
3 out over a number of years. Not just next year,
4 it should be at least a ten-year project.

5 All right. I wasn't surprised to
6 hear what the income of the chairman was. On
7 the board of directors, they have ten directors,
8 one of whom is a founding chairman of the board
9 of Emeritus Exemplar Healthcare, which is
10 probably giving a few of us a few extra costs
11 all year round. Margaret McKenna, president of
12 the Wal-Mart Foundation, I'll guess that she
13 gets her gas cheaper than in bulk than I pay for
14 mine.

15 And then we've got three or four more
16 of a similar standard. None of them really know
17 what the difficulty is for a normal person to
18 pay his gas bill. And I think that's what this
19 meeting is about.

20 I could go on for a while, but I've
21 said the main things and I thank you for your
22 time.

23 MR. FARKAS: Thank you. Norman
24 Kasiewicz?

25 MR. KASIEWICZ: My name is Norman

1 Kasiewicz. I live at 4916 East 111st Street,
2 Garfield Heights, Ohio.

3 I just want to say that this is
4 ridiculous, what you people are trying to do
5 with this gas recovery, your charges, your
6 service charges. How often does the man come to
7 look? He don't even -- they don't even come
8 some days and we're still charged. I was
9 charged in July for \$5.70 more because they
10 didn't look at my gas. They didn't check. They
11 was on vacation. And yet I was billed for it.
12 That's ridiculous.

13 I worked -- I did pipelines for East
14 Ohio Gas Company 45 years ago, and that was the
15 last time gas lines have been put in through
16 Shaker Heights, East Cleveland and everything.
17 Now you people want to put new gas lines so you
18 want everybody to pay for it. You're in
19 business, you pay for it.

20 **THE AUDIENCE:** Right.

21 **MR. KASIEWICZ:** Or shut down, go
22 away. Goodbye. That's all I have to say.

23 **MR. FARKAS:** Thank you.

24 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** We have to pay
25 for our gas lines if anything happens in our

1 yard.

2 **MR. FARKAS:** Steven Dusek?

3 **STEVEN DUSEK**

4 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
5 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
6 testified and said as follows:

7 **MR. DUSEK:** Steven Dusek,
8 D-u-s-e-k, 13305 Bangor Avenue, Garfield
9 Heights.

10 I'd like to comment on -- I work for
11 a contractor that works -- that is employed by
12 Dominion, and we mainly do service lines for
13 them. And I look at a lot of bills, and
14 everyone has the same monthly rate charge;
15 however, there are people, too, that take the
16 insurance out on all the different utilities
17 that Dominion offers -- water line, sewer lines,
18 the inside lines, the electrical -- and there's
19 plenty of people over the years that never even
20 used that service.

21 I would assume the 9 and \$10 for the
22 insurance plus the monthly service charge, that
23 would help go into maintain -- to put in the new
24 pipelines, to maintain the old ones. That's all
25 I have.

1 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Thank you.
2 Stanley Dykes?

3 **MR. DYKES:** I'll pass.

4 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Carol
5 Kainec?

6 **MS. KAINEC:** The first gentleman
7 already covered what I was going to say.

8 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Harry Dodd?

9 HARRY DODD

10 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
11 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
12 testified and said as follows:

13 **MR. FARKAS:** Please state your
14 name and address.

15 **MR. DODD:** My name is Harry
16 Dodd, and I'm from Seven Hills. My address is
17 1652 Ridgeview Drive.

18 The only thing that's coming good out
19 of this here Public Utility Commission is
20 they're going to read your meter every month.
21 Right now, they give you an estimated bill every
22 other month. That bill, nine out of ten, is
23 more than the actual gas you use. People are on
24 their budget. At the end of the year they say
25 they'll even it out. But a lot of times, you're

1 going to get a big credit; and one of my
2 neighbors got a \$500 credit.

3 Now, that money has gone to Dominion.
4 Dominion takes that money and puts it in their
5 bank account. They're drawing interest on that.
6 I want my money in my bank account, and I say
7 Dominion should start paying interest back for
8 the last 10, 15 years on their estimated bills
9 because I could have had a little more money in
10 my bank account.

11 **MR. FARKAS:** Thank you.

12 Tim Walters?

13 **MR. WALTERS:** Good evening.

14 **TIM WALTERS**

15 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
16 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
17 testified and said as follows:

18 **MR. FARKAS:** Please state your
19 name and address.

20 **MR. WALTERS:** My name is Tim
21 Walters. I'm the community organizer at the Mae
22 Dugan Center in Ohio City. Our address is 4115
23 Rich Avenue.

24 Just a little background for the
25 people in the room. I've testified before the

1 chairman before, so I guess he's a little
2 familiar with me.

3 I'm a community organizer. I work
4 mainly with low income people in the community
5 around a variety of different issues. Some of
6 the issues that we work on is access to
7 affordable utilities, so we've been looking at
8 these things for a number of years.

9 And I appreciate you having this
10 hearing out here. I would only ask that the
11 next time you come in Cleveland, you look at our
12 neighborhood as well, because when -- in our
13 neighborhood, the hearing was held in downtown
14 Cleveland, and very few of us people can afford
15 the parking rates down there. So you come out
16 to our neighborhood and I'll turn the people out
17 for you there as well.

18 A couple points I'd like to make here
19 tonight. One of the things that I heard I found
20 interesting the chairman said is that the filing
21 of this took place in August of 2007 and now we
22 come to the public hearings. I guess the
23 question I ask is, why does it take so long
24 before the people in the community who are
25 paying these bills has an opportunity to provide

1 some input? Why, as all these studies are going
2 on, of all the due process is coming on, is
3 there not an opportunity to go out to the people
4 in the community and ask them how does this
5 impact them? What is going on?

6 The question that comes back to me
7 very often is at what point does the PUCO begin
8 to represent the community?

9 I would like to bring up three
10 points, three areas that I think need attention.
11 The first is the premise on which the proposed
12 changes are based. It's our understanding that
13 at least part of the increases proposed comes
14 from the fact that regulating utilities, in this
15 case Dominion, have seen their profits drop due
16 to decreased use of natural gas by consumers,
17 such as the people in this room.

18 As I said, most of those that I work
19 with are low and middle income. Their memories
20 of past winters have been high gas bills,
21 winterizing efforts and keeping the thermostat
22 down.

23 As they understand it now, the
24 increases we are discussing tonight are
25 partially the result of decreased value due to

1 decreased consumption, which resulted in
2 decreased profits, which a couple people
3 referred to before.

4 Now, Dominion's actions may make good
5 business sense and there may be a certain logic
6 at that level, but most of those I work with ask
7 what is the benefit to them? To them, costs for
8 materials, sweat equity to put materials up --
9 because winterizing your home is not an easy
10 process. It takes money, it takes time and it
11 takes effort. And a discomfort of cold homes
12 has been rewarded by an increase in the amount
13 of their bills.

14 And very few of the people I know
15 look at what the different parts of the bill
16 are. The first thing they focus in is the
17 total, because that's what they have to pay.
18 And they ask -- and that's what they look at.

19 People ask me in my community: Who
20 speaks for the consumer at the Public Utilities
21 Commission? And I don't have an answer. We
22 find it very difficult to support any increase
23 that uses the decreased value due to decreased
24 consumption as a base.

25 Then we come to this increased

1 service charge that was mentioned before. And
2 I've got to be honest, most of the comments I've
3 received over that I could not repeat at a
4 public gathering. But what it comes down to is
5 will -- many people ask, will we receive three
6 times as much service?

7 And then they have to consider the
8 impact of this charge on individuals and
9 families. If they went with the \$17.50 rate,
10 this would amount to over \$200 a year. Many of
11 the families in our community, and I would say
12 many in this room, wait each year for the HEAP
13 program and submit their applications as soon as
14 they can. Most receive a benefit of around \$300
15 a year.

16 Were this service charge to go
17 forward, it would wipe out almost two-thirds of
18 that HEAP benefit, a benefit that is in place to
19 help consumers cope with the high costs of
20 energy. So what is given out in one hand is
21 then taken away by the other by the actions of
22 government bodies. Again, it's the consumer who
23 pays the ultimate price.

24 I know that the costs requested here
25 do not compare with the huge increases in

1 natural gas over the past years, but the bottom
2 line to the consumer is a final charge with
3 their bill, not with the individual parts
4 originally.

5 Again, I'm asked by the larger
6 community, who at the PUCO speaks for the
7 consumer, and again, I have no answer. Our
8 groups do not support the proposed increases in
9 service charges.

10 Finally, I come to the question that
11 I've repeated a couple times, and that's who
12 speaks for the consumer and what is really
13 needed?

14 We, as community members, support
15 weatherization programs and feel that additional
16 dollars for them is good; but that will not help
17 many this winter. Where within this process is
18 anyone setting aside dollars or even admitting
19 to the greatest need for most consumers is how
20 to pay the bill each month?

21 We strongly recommend that the PUCO
22 consider requiring the utility companies to set
23 aside dollars for specific use in assisting
24 consumers of all income levels to cope with
25 their utility bills.

1 This could include developing
2 resource centers within our cities that would
3 assist consumers in reducing their bill, assist
4 them in paying for supplies to do so and
5 providing financial aid when they experience
6 difficulties in paying their bills.

7 It's time to admit that our consumers
8 are having a serious problem in coping with the
9 utility burden that exists today. It is time to
10 realize that this is not just a low income
11 problem, but it's faced by consumers at all
12 levels of income, and it's time to respond to
13 that need with the same sense of urgency and
14 commitment that is provided to utility companies
15 when they have a problem. Thank you.

16 **MR. FARKAS:** Mark Roth?

17 **MR. ROTH:** Thank you. I'll
18 pass my time. They covered everything I want to
19 say.

20 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Steven
21 Wertheim?

22 **MR. WERTHEIM:** "Wertheim."

23 **MR. FARKAS:** "Wertheim," excuse
24 me.

25 STEPHEN WERTHEIM

1 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
2 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
3 testified and said as follows:

4 **MR. FARKAS:** Please state your
5 name and address.

6 **MR. WERTHEIM:** My name is Stephen
7 Wertheim. I'm the director of 211 First Call
8 for Help, 1331 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio
9 44115.

10 I want to thank the PUCO tonight for
11 the opportunity to share some concerns regarding
12 the rising cost of utilities in Northeast Ohio,
13 as it affects the persons who contact 211 daily.
14 I come to you representing 211 First Call for
15 Help, a 24/7 health and human services
16 information and referral line for Cuyahoga,
17 Geauga and Medina counties.

18 I want to give you a sense of some of
19 the utility calls we have received in the past
20 year. We had as recently as two years ago about
21 9,700 utility-related requests for services
22 annually. In the last 12 months, we have made
23 about 17,000 referrals for families needing
24 utility payment assistance, a 74 percent
25 increase over just two years ago.

1 As a matter of fact, over the last 12
2 months, our top -- our top ten requests from
3 people in Cuyahoga County were in this order:
4 food pantries, utilities, homeless shelters, tax
5 preparation, rent payment assistance, home
6 rental listings, job finding assistance and
7 financial assistance, mortgage foreclosure
8 assistance and landlord/tenant assistance. Six
9 out of our top ten are housing-related issues.
10 Sixty-two percent of our calls are housing
11 related.

12 It is no better in the suburbs.
13 Utility bill payment assistance, we're in the
14 top 10 requests for assistance in 53 suburbs in
15 Cuyahoga County. Only Hunting Valley, Moreland
16 Hills and Gates Mills did not have a
17 utility-related request.

18 In the last 12 months, we've seen
19 even a larger increase in the number of seniors
20 needing utility assistance. 1,219 seniors aged
21 60 to 74 have called us needing utility bill
22 payment assistance, a 114 percent increase above
23 just two years ago. We have also seen an
24 increase of 83 percent during the same period of
25 time for seniors 75 and older.

1 We received a call this month from a
2 woman 82 years old who had no more furniture to
3 sell off. She was crying over the phone that
4 she did not know how she was going to pay her
5 utility bill.

6 I am here tonight to tell you that
7 our callers throughout this region continue to
8 call us at even greater rates for utility
9 assistance. This is happening before any
10 increase takes place. We are facing a double
11 bind of less home energy assistance funding as
12 well for this next heating season. Last year we
13 spent approximately \$2.5 million in energy
14 assistance in Cuyahoga County. This year, we
15 are told to expect less than \$1.5 million to
16 deal with this increased need.

17 Unless you control ever-rising rates,
18 you will have a major crisis in this county.
19 More seniors will be forced out of their homes
20 and into expensive long-term care. You will see
21 more foreclosures and the swelling of homeless
22 families, as they can no longer afford to live
23 in their apartments or homes.

24 We are here to -- we here see that
25 all the above issues are tied together. It is

1 up to you to find a solution, not exacerbate the
2 problem. Thank you.

3 **MR. FARKAS:** Thank you. Mary
4 Ryan?

5 **MARY RYAN**
6 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
7 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
8 testified and said as follows:

9 **MR. FARKAS:** Please state your
10 name and address, please.

11 **MS. RYAN:** My name is Mary
12 Ryan. I live at 5014 East 114th Street in
13 Garfield Heights.

14 I guess the thing that really bothers
15 me about East Ohio and many other companies that
16 are making millions and billions of dollars --
17 and that's what they will do with this increase.
18 I guess they're not happy making millions; they
19 have to make billions just like Exxon and
20 Mobile. So I guess taking it out on the people
21 and the senior citizens, which I am, it really
22 bothers us.

23 I mean, my God, last winter I had my
24 heat at 60 or below if I left the house, and it
25 was freezing. Not only was I freezing, my dogs

1 were freezing; and they have coats on them. So
2 I think asking us for an increase almost triple
3 of what we're paying now every month just is
4 unreasonable to me. I mean, if you don't
5 qualify for heat because you have other income
6 besides Social Security, you don't qualify for
7 HEAP, which I don't.

8 So it's not that I can't pay my
9 bills; it's I don't think I should have to pay
10 more than you should. And even now, I mean, in
11 the summer, I mean, I thought it goes by supply
12 and demand. This month our bills were \$18 per
13 thousand cubic feet. My God, we're only using
14 one or two cubic feet in the summer. What are
15 they going to do to us in the winter? Triple
16 our payments? I mean, it's just outrageous to
17 me.

18 And to increase, you know, for
19 reading our meter or some stupid thing like that
20 like they did with the water company, you know,
21 I'll call in my meter reading. Or let them put
22 those automatic readers on the outside of my
23 house so that they don't have to come in my
24 house. You know. And there are people that
25 they can't even get in because they work.

1 So I think tripling this fee is
2 outrageous. You know, not only to seniors, but
3 to everybody. Thank you.

4 **MR. FARKAS:** Joe Turek?

5 JOE TUREK
6 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
7 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
8 testified and said as follows:

9 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
10 address, please.

11 **MR. TUREK:** Joe Turek, 5119
12 East 131st Street.

13 **MR. FARKAS:** Thank you.

14 **MR. TUREK:** Before I get into
15 this, before I get into this, I think I should
16 thank Mayor Longo, wherever he is, for making it
17 possible. You know, they were going to bypass
18 us in Garfield here, that they weren't going to
19 let us have our input. And thanks to the mayor,
20 he was able to get the meeting in order so we
21 can have our input.

22 Dominion East Ohio. They want to
23 raise your rates. Everybody wants to raise the
24 rates. I made a few notes here and I find that
25 other things have gone up. Taxes, for one

1 thing, have gone up. We've got some pretty high
2 taxes around here. Another thing that's gone up
3 pretty high is food. Go to the store and you're
4 going to pay a whole bunch of money for food. I
5 guess it's a good way of losing weight if you
6 really want to. Maybe that's the real reason
7 for it; I don't know.

8 Another item that's gone up is
9 gasoline has gone through the roof. And this is
10 hurting people. It may not hurt you because
11 you're one of those \$150,000 guys or whatever,
12 but it does hurt these people out here. So
13 gasoline is too darn high, and of course, we
14 can't do nothing about it. We're like captives
15 in a sense.

16 Another thing that's gone up is
17 bankruptcies. Bankruptcies are up. It is my
18 understanding that in this town of Garfield
19 Heights, we have over 900 and some bankruptcies.
20 Oh, no, that's not -- I'm not sure on
21 bankruptcies. That's something else. But
22 bankruptcies are up, up, up. And who can we
23 blame for this? I've got to believe that
24 Dominion is at least part of the credit for
25 this.

1 But another thing that's gone up,
2 like going up too fast, is foreclosures.
3 Foreclosures are at a high of 900 and something
4 in Garfield. Nine hundred and some foreclosures
5 in a town of 25 to 35,000 people, something like
6 that. That rounds out to pretty close to 10
7 percent.

8 Now, with more increases in gas and
9 gasoline and everything else, they're going to
10 probably bump it up another notch. There's
11 probably another thousand people that are that
12 far away from bankruptcy -- or foreclosures.
13 (Indicating.) There probably is. Anybody doubt
14 that?

15 **THE AUDIENCE:** No.

16 **MR. TUREK:** Would you doubt
17 that, Mr. Public Utilities?

18 **MR. SCHRIBER:** No.

19 **THE AUDIENCE:** He doesn't live in
20 Garfield.

21 **MR. TUREK:** Well, then he
22 doesn't have to worry then.

23 Other things that are going up,
24 unemployment. A lot of people aren't working
25 because jobs have gone to China, India, wherever

1 they go. But the ones that are staying here,
2 these unionized shops, the companies are
3 renegotiating the contracts at lower wages. You
4 want to still work for that company, you work
5 for lower wages. That's what happened.

6 And you guys want to raise the rates.
7 So consequently, the income has gone down.
8 You've got to kind of wonder, has some foreign
9 element taken over the utilities? Is somebody
10 trying to destroy our country? The country that
11 a lot of these old timers here spilled blood in
12 invasions of Europe and the South Pacific? And
13 a lot of them are still over there. They're
14 probably rolling over in their graves as to what
15 the hell is going on in this country.

16 I firmly believe that Dominion does
17 not deserve an increase. You've got a president
18 that earned how much do you say? Who was the
19 one who -- somebody said.

20 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** Fifteen million.

21 **MR. TUREK:** Fifteen million
22 dollars a year he gets paid and he wants some of
23 your money, some more of your money. What does
24 he want, 30 million, 40 million? I don't think
25 Dominion needs an increase in the rates. I -- I

1 believe that Dominion, if they're really, truly
2 American patriots, they should be cutting their
3 rates.

4 These women, these people that pay
5 300, 400, \$500 a month for gas, and then the
6 young ones that they're making 7, 8, \$900 in
7 mortgage payments, they can't do it. We are
8 going on a downhill slope here.

9 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** We're there
10 already.

11 **MR. TUREK:** Is that right?
12 You're almost to the bottom?

13 Well, anyway, it is my opinion, and I
14 think I'm repeating, that you, the Public
15 Utilities Commission, do not grant Dominion any
16 raises. If you're going to do anything for
17 us -- and you're supposed to be serving the
18 public. Governor Rhodes appointed you guys to
19 serve the public, am I right? Strickland.
20 Strickland. You're supposed to be working for
21 us, these people out here.

22 But anyway, do not give them any more
23 of our money. Give them -- suggest to them that
24 they take a cut.

25 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** In their salary.

1 They should take a cut in their salary.

2 MR. TUREK: Thank you for
3 listening to me.

4 MR. FARKAS: Thank you. Denise
5 Sabola?

6 DENISE SABOLA
7 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
8 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
9 testified and said as follows:

10 MR. FARKAS: State your name and
11 address.

12 MS. SABOLA: Denise Sabola, 9615
13 Cardwell Avenue. I really have more questions.
14 I didn't have anything prepared. I didn't know
15 I was going to get the chance to talk. But I
16 just had questions.

17 One of them is, do you's read the
18 papers? Do you see what's happening? I think I
19 speak for most people here when I say that
20 people are losing their homes left and right.
21 And it's scary. I'm young enough yet where I
22 can be scared because I don't know what's going
23 to be when I get old. And, you know, I just
24 keep -- I keep thinking it's a scary thing. I
25 go to bed at night and I just keep -- I see over

1 and over in my bed.

2 I went with a friend of mine to pick
3 up a trailer in Painesville that he bought for
4 his company, and the man who we bought it from
5 was -- he was nearly in tears. He was selling
6 everything he owned because his house was in
7 foreclosure and he didn't know where him and his
8 wife and his two little boys were going to go.

9 And, you know, it just scares me to
10 death. As I look around, there's elderly people
11 here. I don't know if your parents are still
12 alive. Mine are. And I keep telling my
13 parents, "I think we all have to move back in
14 together. I think everybody has to move back
15 home because we're not going to be able to
16 afford to live on our own anymore."

17 And, you know, I lost my job a couple
18 years ago because my back is really bad, and I
19 applied for the HEAP program. Well, I wasn't
20 eligible for the HEAP program because I had sold
21 my house and I had money in the bank. So I
22 wasn't eligible for any help. I don't get help
23 from anybody. I don't ask for any public
24 assistance. I refuse to do it. As long as I
25 can crawl on my hands and knees, I won't ask you

1 people for help.

2 But the fact that I still pay you a
3 gas bill every month sickens me because I think
4 what I'm paying you should be going towards our
5 elderly care or helping them pay their bills, at
6 least. I don't want it, but you can help them.

7 And you know, I was sitting here
8 thinking about it, and I try to get involved in
9 things like this, but -- I'd give you my
10 youngest son, but you're too late. The military
11 already has him. He just got back from
12 Afghanistan and we already gave you guys enough.
13 Thank you.

14 **MR. FARKAS:** Deborah Kopnowski?

15 **DEBORAH KOBNOWSKI**

16 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
17 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
18 testified and said as follows:

19 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
20 address.

21 **MS. KOPNOWSKI:** My name is Debbie
22 Kopnowski, 5212 East 88th Street. All I can say
23 is that cost of living is going up with
24 everything in life. You know, food, gas,
25 electric, everything. I appreciate you guys

1 came here, took the time out for us. It sounds
2 like we're all beating up on you, but we're
3 really not. You're representing the company to
4 make some decisions, so don't take it
5 personally. You're just here to try to work
6 things out with us.

7 I'm not that old, but I do have
8 parents that are living, too. And I've lived in
9 this community for four or five years, and all
10 the elderly -- you know, it's hard; it's hard.
11 Everybody lives from paycheck to paycheck. I
12 know I do. And I live within my means.

13 So somehow we need to find that the
14 committee, as well as everybody that's involved
15 with your committee, can work with the community
16 and everybody in the earth, the world, you know.

17 If we can work together -- I mean,
18 it's like a recession almost. We're back in the
19 recession, in the old days, when a lot of these
20 people here and their parents and everything had
21 to live through that. And are we living it
22 again? So it must be real difficult for them
23 and us younger people are -- knew of it, but now
24 we're living it, too, right with them all over
25 again, too.

1 So if they can see fit in their
2 hearts to somehow work with all of us, the
3 committees, to not get an increase. I believe,
4 too, that we're eventually going to have to be
5 living all together back as families because,
6 you know, you're not going to be able to make it
7 on your own with all the utilities. Just the
8 basic necessities in life, it's real difficult.
9 The people that can't work, you know, or the
10 people that worked all their lives -- this
11 bothers me a lot so I'm going to say it.

12 The people that worked all their
13 lives, the elderly people here, you know, my
14 parents and my grandparents, they have to scrape
15 sometimes from day-to-day and go without things
16 in their life because they don't make enough
17 money from their retirement. Or if they didn't
18 work, didn't make enough from their spouses' to
19 make it. And I'm sure they live within their
20 means and they go without, too, sometimes.
21 Maybe they would like to go out one day and have
22 a little fun and maybe they can't because they
23 don't have enough money to do that because of
24 the high cost of the bills.

25 So I hope you guys can see fit that

1 an increase is not a good idea -- that's my
2 opinion -- and see if maybe we can work
3 something out for everybody to make a good
4 decision as a whole. And thank you for your
5 time.

6 **MR. FARKAS:** Tim Love?

7 TIM LOVE

8 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
9 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
10 testified and said as follows:

11 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
12 address.

13 **MR. LOVE:** Tim Love, 15515
14 Libby, Maple Heights. First of all, I would
15 like to thank all the seniors that are present
16 and I would like to speak on behalf of a few of
17 the youngsters. Even though I don't consider
18 myself young, but -- first of all, my first
19 question is, where else is it that we as
20 consumers, where else can we go when it comes
21 down to gas?

22 The choices that we are given in
23 terms of some of the paperwork that I've seen
24 that comes in the mail and the choices that they
25 give us, the pipelines, I guess, are still

1 provided by Dominion Gas, to my understanding.
2 As a small business owner, I'm concerned about
3 this increase and how this increase will affect
4 my wife and my family.

5 While we are just in the beginning
6 stages of trying to open up a small family
7 restaurant, while under construction, without
8 any gas being used for any heating purposes,
9 just for the hot water tank alone, I've already
10 received three gas bills that were in the triple
11 dollar digits. Gas -- and we're not even open
12 for business. Not a single gas fire has been
13 connected. None of this has been heating as far
14 as the building is concerned for gas.

15 So personally, you know, I really
16 oppose any increase by Dominion at this time.
17 And it's just too bad that as Americans, we are
18 finding it harder and harder to reach the
19 promise of just trying to get a piece of the
20 American dream. That's all I have to say.
21 Thank you.

22 MR. FARKAS: Thank you. Marie
23 Carputo? Marie? Oh.

24 MARIE CARPUTO
25 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been

1 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
2 testified and said as follows:

3 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Thank you.
4 State your name and address.

5 **MS. CARPUTO:** Marie Carputo at
6 4824 East 88th Street, Garfield Heights.

7 Okay. My question is, what about the
8 gas transportation charge? There was some talk
9 on that. There was some talk on the gas
10 transportation charge. I pay \$3 per MCF.
11 That's a killer. Let alone then you're going to
12 put the 17.50 on? Are you going to do something
13 about the gas retention charge? Can you do
14 something about that, I should ask you, or
15 should we ask the Dominion East Ohio man?

16 And another thing is, I called
17 Dominion last week. I want some accountability
18 for what they expect to do for we, the consumer,
19 the customer. I want to know how much money,
20 right to the penny, what they're going to pay
21 for pipelines and the guys that are going to
22 come drive by to read the meters -- that's what
23 they want, to put that new modern stuff.
24 Technology? Ah. I don't know about it.

25 All right. So I want to know more

1 about this. And what are you going to do about
2 gas transportation charge. I've seen some
3 articles here in the paper. And I go along with
4 Dennis. He's right. This guy's getting 15
5 billion from Dominion is outrageous, and
6 everything else everybody had to say here is all
7 correct. You guys are working for us. Help us.
8 You know things are getting worse. You've got
9 to be suffering, too.

10 So that's what I -- that's what I
11 really wanted to know. And I want
12 accountability. Can we get accountability? I
13 called the City of Cleveland when they decided
14 to charge us \$7 for water, you know, our water
15 and sewer. They're giving me a service charge.
16 I got accountability. They sent me a note.
17 They sent me a letter. Right to the penny.

18 So I think Dominion should be able to
19 do the same thing for us. I want to know how
20 much every pipe is going to cost and how much
21 these people are going to make. I can see the
22 jobs, yeah. That's great. But how much? We
23 need accountability. We're not getting enough
24 accountability from the federal government on
25 down. And that's it.

1 **MR. FARKAS:** William Weeman?

2 WILLIAM WEEMAN

3 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
4 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
5 testified and said as follows:

6 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
7 address.

8 **MR. WEEMAN:** William Weeman.
9 I'm at 12 --

10 **THE AUDIENCE:** Pick it up.

11 **MR. FARKAS:** You can take the
12 mike out.

13 **MR. WEEMAN:** William Weeman.
14 I'm at 1210 Orchard in Aurora. I really just
15 had two things to say. I think the fees in
16 general have been covered by most of the people.
17 The things that I find alarming are the increase
18 in the fixed charge. I like the nice chart
19 here, but I find that it's somewhat conveniently
20 fixed at 10 MCF per month.

21 The -- what seems a bit excessive to
22 me, given the -- I'm sure it's based on an
23 average usage by customers, but I know my own
24 bill during the summer drops around 1 to 2, so
25 it sounds like I'll be being charged more for

1 the summer for getting basically nothing, and
2 then paying the same amount in the winter to get
3 the same gas that I already use in the winter.

4 It's nice that Dominion would like to
5 spend the extra, I think it was \$6 million I
6 read in this information, on encouraging
7 conservation; but I think it's going to be very
8 hard to encourage conservation when people can't
9 lower their bill any more because they're
10 already using almost no gas in the summer; and
11 they can't lower it very much more in the
12 winter, either.

13 The second thing I wanted to say is I
14 noticed there was a proposed increase in prices
15 for the automated meter readers. I'm sure that
16 technology has its use and can be helpful, but I
17 find it a bit useless if installing that
18 technology is actually going to cost us more
19 money. My thought would be that adding those
20 automated meter readers should save everybody
21 money and Dominion should be passing those costs
22 on and their savings on to us.

23 If they can't do that, then it sounds
24 like it's perfectly fine to keep paying the
25 folks who go around the town and read my meter

1 every two months to continue doing so until it
2 becomes financially possible to save us money
3 with the automatic meter readers.

4 That's all I really have to say
5 tonight.

6 **MR. FARKAS:** Ralph Konkowski?

7 **RALPH KONKOWSKI**

8 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
9 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
10 testified and said as follows:

11 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
12 address.

13 **MR. KONKOWSKI:** My name is Ralph
14 Konkowski. I live at 13708 Oakview Boulevard in
15 Garfield Heights.

16 I'm sure that the many things I had
17 here to say were already spoken. I marked a few
18 more notes down. I'll begin on a personal note,
19 and then also as a 28-year volunteer for the
20 St. Vincent de Paul Society, I would like to
21 also speak on their behalf. Many of these
22 people are the people that Mr. Wertheim and
23 Dana, is that your name -- whatever -- from the
24 West Side spoke about. We all have the same
25 kind of concern.

1 So first let me tell you that a 4
2 percent increase was mentioned. I recently got
3 my surprise of the year -- you get a surprise
4 every year from Dominion East -- either way up
5 or way down. I argued last year you're only
6 charging me 32. I know it's going to be 65 or
7 70, so put my budget at that rate. I had to
8 argue for that. At the end of the year, now I
9 owe them \$9 a month because I couldn't ask them
10 to go up high enough.

11 This year they're going up to \$116
12 for my bill as my estimate. I argued again with
13 East Ohio, I called PUCO, I talked to NOPEC.
14 They kept telling me, "Sir, you're mixing apples
15 and oranges." I think that's a canned statement
16 that Dominion East Ohio makes, because a number
17 of other people who are customers said the same
18 thing.

19 I says, regardless, the rate A plus B
20 times C plus H divided by this equals my monthly
21 budget and it's way off on the plus side.

22 When I go from 62 to \$116 on a fixed
23 income, \$50 a month out of my checking account
24 puts me in arrears at the end of the year. I
25 was one of those unfortunate people that worked

1 for Republic Steel, which became LTV Steel,
2 which in 2002 said, "Surprise, you ain't got
3 nothing. No more, no how."

4 And when you're over 60 and live in
5 Cuyahoga County, try to get anything in the way
6 of medicine for your wife who was just
7 recovering from a stroke and a disabled
8 daughter. You know, it is the scariest thing
9 that I ever had to face in my life.

10 Anyhow, I use an average of 5.5 MCFs
11 per Dominion's calculation, on which they based
12 my \$18.40 rate. Using 5.5 a month comes out to
13 60, roughly, a little over 60. And according to
14 John Funk's article, those who use \$60 -- or use
15 60 MCFs per year are going to pay an average
16 increase of not 4 percent, but 36.7 percent. My
17 bill is going to go up 36.7.

18 That's the reward I get for, in the
19 past eight years, putting \$8,000 into home
20 improvements to save and conserve gas that
21 everybody from the President of the United
22 States to Dominion East Ohio to everybody all
23 over, we had to go green. And that's the
24 wonderful thing today, to go green. You know,
25 we're still building the monstrous homes that

1 have millions of cubic feet.

2 But my reward for conserving and
3 spending \$8,000, amortized over eight years, is
4 \$1,000 per year. So actually, my gas budget is
5 116 plus \$100 that I have paid to conserve gas.
6 And that's my wonderful reward.

7 So I don't know who has
8 to -- anything to do with this, but, you know,
9 if I use 5 1/2 and I'm going to go from 290 down
10 to 203, which according to this is going to be
11 the new distribution rate, I'll save 90 cents
12 times 5. \$4.50, roughly. I will now spend
13 \$11.80 more, going up from 5.70 to 17.50. It's
14 a net loss to me of \$11.

15 All wonderful facts to present for
16 all of us to know. I talked to somebody from
17 the PUCO today that says, "Good luck, sir." I
18 won't tell you her name because I don't want to
19 get in trouble. But I wish I could do that and
20 I want you to represent -- I'm trying to find
21 out something about GCR, gas cost recovery. I
22 understand we can't talk about that today, so
23 let me carry on.

24 I'm also going to make a proposition
25 to you. No one has done this so far. But I

1 know, working in management before, it's hard to
2 come up and tell somebody they're full of prunes
3 unless you have something better to offer them.
4 So the something better I have to offer to the
5 PUCO and to Dominion to -- along with this chart
6 on averages, in order to conserve, those who use
7 less should pay less on a distribution rate.
8 That should be graduated upward with people who
9 use more to pay more.

10 After all, Dominion East Ohio has to
11 manufacture more gas from the Dominion East Ohio
12 resources. They have to pipe it through their
13 pipelines at a greater rate. They have to push
14 it into your homes at a greater rate, all this
15 taking time, material and labor. And then
16 therefore, those people who get more should pay
17 more for the distribution.

18 So don't lower our rate, but don't
19 increase our 5 to 17. You can make up the cost
20 that you need. If you need to raise that 5.70,
21 my suggestion also is, and I'm sure that those
22 in the room here on fixed rate know that in the
23 last five years, our Social Security rate, based
24 on a base COLA rather than the real COLA, has
25 been between 1 and 2 percent.

1 Well, 1 or 2 percent increase on the
2 5.70 will go up 5 or 7 or 8 cents a year. It
3 should be enough. It's enough for us; it should
4 be enough for anybody else in this business.

5 Secondly -- I hope I'm not taking up
6 too much time.

7 **THE AUDIENCE:** Keep going. Keep
8 it up.

9 **MR. KONKOWSKI:** There's a proposal
10 to rebuild the pipelines. The proposal is
11 before PUCO for 2 1/2 billion dollars as I read
12 in the paper, unless the paper is incorrect,
13 over 25 years. The cost of the residential
14 customer is going to be an additional \$1.12 per
15 month beginning the first year. Next year,
16 whenever it happens; I don't know. Whenever the
17 proposed increase goes in effect.

18 In addition, each year thereafter, 90
19 more cents will be added every year -- unless
20 I'm incorrect in what I read in the paper -- for
21 the next 24 years thereafter. So it will be
22 \$1.12 and then 2.02, then 2.92, and then 3.82
23 and then 4.72 and so on each month on your bill.
24 So that at the end of 25 years, you will have
25 paid an additional \$3,576 toward repairing those

1 lines.

2 Okay. I worked in an industry, and
3 I've been associated and met other people in the
4 industries as an industrial engineer. What we
5 did a lot of times is we tried to forecast
6 what's going to go on in the future, but set
7 aside monies so that we could put a new blast
8 furnace in, an open hearth.

9 A good business practice for a good
10 company is every year to forecast. Look what's
11 going to happen in the future. What are we
12 going to need? And each year, put aside those
13 dollars.

14 I'm not at all unconvinced that
15 Dominion East Ohio has not done so and perhaps
16 has that money someplace. PUCO needs to look
17 into that. You know, does anybody know of any
18 business that doesn't do that?

19 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** I do that in my
20 own home. Save money.

21 **MR. KONKOWSKI:** Right. We all do
22 that. So everybody is asking us to conserve,
23 and as a result of this conservation, we're
24 being asked to pay more to conserve.

25 The third one, the young man

1 mentioned the proposal to replace 1.3 million
2 meters on trucks that are recording. If it's
3 going to be just as costly as the guy who comes
4 every other month -- and like somebody else,
5 every other month I get an estimated bill for
6 the past three years that I get billed for.
7 Those three years, the gentleman walks or the
8 lady walks down the street and records.

9 Now, if that person does it and make
10 \$10 an hour or whatever they make for doing
11 that, I'd like to know and have some kind of
12 assurance from Dominion that they have together
13 some rates that if we buy special trucks and if
14 we buy special signal receivers to receive these
15 special signals that are coming from the homes
16 that we pass, and we use gasoline as we go up
17 and down these streets very slowly at a usurious
18 rate of gas where you're going 2 or 3 miles an
19 hour in a truck, I just wondered, you know, it's
20 the accountability thing that you have taken
21 that into consideration. Because that's going
22 to be an additional cost to us also.

23 So, you know, in closing, I'm going
24 to say that unlike gasoline, we can't housepool.
25 You can carpool to save money. We can't stay

1 warm in Northeast Ohio by riding a bicycle or
2 walking to shopping. This is a place where
3 economy -- you know, well, it's the economy and
4 you have to keep up. It's the law of economics.
5 You don't have that kind of a choice. In my
6 home, I don't have that kind of choice. My wife
7 is on Coumadin. She needs to have her house
8 warm or she gets hypothermia. We don't have a
9 choice.

10 The people we visit on behalf of the
11 St. Vincent de Paul Society, many are in the
12 same position. There are many today who -- a
13 couple people mentioned here they can't make
14 ends meet. And the reason they can't make ends
15 meet is because everything has gone up. What
16 has gone up tremendously is the price of natural
17 gas has gone up 300 percent in the last six
18 years, from \$5 to 15. My last bill was \$15.

19 So as Mr. Wertheim mentioned, the
20 First Call for Help refers many callers. Do you
21 know who they call? You live in Garfield
22 Heights, call St. Monica, St. Vincent de Paul
23 Society.

24 MR. WERTHEIM: Sorry about that.

25 MR. KONKOWSKI: No, that's

1 wonderful. We get an opportunity to work with
2 them and help them and help you. We all help
3 each other.

4 And Denise said, this is -- "What can
5 I expect when I get older?" Well, you can
6 expect \$3,576 to replace a meter and pipelines
7 and -- you know.

8 All I have to say is, in closing, I
9 hope there's someone out there from the PUCO
10 that I can talk to later, because I've been
11 going out for a third week trying to find out
12 what my gas cost rate is based upon, because I'm
13 the monthly variable plan. Thank you.

14 **MR. FARKAS:** Before I read the
15 next name, I want to note that we do have a
16 petition. That if you are unable to stay or
17 want to leave, or if people have said things
18 that you agree with, you can sign the petition
19 outside and it will indicate that you were here
20 and expressed an opinion against the proposed
21 increase.

22 Of course, if you still prefer to
23 make a statement, we will stay until everyone
24 who wants to make a statement has had that
25 opportunity.

1 Okay. The next person, Michael
2 Schubkegel?

3 MICHAEL SCHUBKEGEL
4 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
5 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
6 testified and said as follows:

7 **MR. FARKAS:** Please state your
8 name and address.

9 **MR. SCHUBKEGEL:** Michael Schubkegel,
10 18909 Maple Heights Boulevard, Maple Heights.

11 Main thing, I've got this article in
12 the Plain Dealer that said the PUCO received the
13 proposed rate monthly of 5.70 to 17.50. Does
14 that mean Dominion is against it, or is that
15 just the PUCO? That's my question.

16 As far as my bill, my last bill was a
17 total of \$7.42. I just got a hot water heater.
18 My total bill was 172, the monthly service
19 charge was 5.70. That was a regular reading,
20 and the one before that was \$20.24.

21 But I'm also wondering that I got
22 Dominion East Ohio gas, and come February, I'm
23 told that they will be auctioning us off to the
24 other companies. And there's 400 people,
25 according to the Plain Dealer, that have

1 Dominion East Ohio gas.

2 And I don't want to change. I'm
3 happy with Dominion East Ohio gas as long as
4 they keep it at 5.70 and it doesn't go up to
5 17.50. That's the part I don't like. What are
6 you going to do? Just tell me where to go or
7 what. Thank you.

8 MR. FARKAS: Thank you. Eric
9 Pillier? Eric Pillier?

10 Okay. Mark Svinkia?

11 MARK SVINKIA

12 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
13 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
14 testified and said as follows:

15 MR. FARKAS: State your name and
16 address.

17 MR. SVINKIA: My name is Mark
18 Svinkia. My address is 13821 Cedar Road, South
19 Euclid.

20 I learned incidentally about this
21 meeting, and I would like to bring your
22 attention to quality of job performance by
23 Dominion. I pay Dominion bill each month. In
24 February, I found that my bill was two times
25 higher in comparison who is similar apartment in

1 our building.

2 I call to Dominion and ask to resolve
3 this problem. Then I call to Public Utility
4 Commission, who was informal complaint. The
5 same results. I didn't have a choice. I filed
6 a formal complaint against Dominion. I would
7 like to read to you summary of my answer to
8 Dominion attorney.

9 Complainant asked Dominion to perform
10 technical expertise to find the causes of high
11 gas expenditure and complaints to bedroom
12 apartment. There are two parts of gas treatment
13 for complainant apartment, the meter component
14 and pipelines between them. Gas leak was found
15 in the pipeline within the meter in the furnace.
16 This is the first source of high gas
17 expenditure.

18 The second source of high gas
19 expenditure was with the meter. There is no
20 meter testing (inaudible) replace it with new
21 one.

22 The third source of high gas
23 expenditure is the furnace. In spite of the
24 employee of executive office expressing an
25 opinion, they found it necessary to check the

1 furnace. It was not done. Dominion failed to
2 provide complete professional investigation of
3 high gas expenditure by complainant of gas
4 equipment.

5 Probably Dominion does not care if
6 they're professionals who can do that. Dominion
7 employee who arrived to inspect complainant's
8 gas equipment have no engineering or technician
9 education. They attended some lectures and
10 received the permission from Dominion to do
11 something. It's the best of complainant's
12 knowledge, such services discredit the
13 profession.

14 You demonstrates poor services to
15 customers. Obviously, it's not acceptable for
16 the utility company which provide public
17 services.

18 Second, complainant also asked
19 Dominion to check the overcharging bill for the
20 gas usage. Dominion did nothing to investigate
21 and resolve this problem. However, Dominion
22 decided to increase the pressure on complainant,
23 and in spite of a formal complaint filed by
24 complainant against Dominion, Dominion forwarded
25 complainant's accounts to collections agency.

1 This action demonstrates that Dominion
2 disrespect -- demonstrate disrespect to Public
3 Utility Commission over complainant.

4 Dominion tried to lure companies to
5 deny any of complainant's complaints. It seems
6 that payment for the work is even higher than
7 the complainant's bills. Dominion demonstrates
8 that this company is not responsible for gas
9 equipment. It has only interest to receive
10 money from complainant.

11 So the bill is wrong. It's doubtful
12 that such policy is acceptable for the utility
13 company which provide public services.

14 Third. It's understandable that
15 Dominion and complainant's opinion would be
16 different. Nevertheless, complainant expected a
17 professional response from respondent.
18 Unfortunately, the answer contained numerous
19 inconsistent and false statements, denies
20 (inaudible) repeatedly used the same formal
21 (inaudible).

22 The whole respondent's answer could
23 be presented in one paragraph: Denies all
24 complaints, claims a lack of knowledge or
25 information, sufficient to form a belief as to

1 the trusts thereof.

2 The answer demonstrated that there
3 are no rules and recommendations for Dominion,
4 and the answer could not refute the
5 complainant's claims and arguments.

6 I believe that Dominion must decrease
7 rates and provide much better professional
8 service. Thank you for your attention.

9 **MR. FARKAS:** Les Foote.

10 LES FOOTE

11 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
12 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
13 testified and said as follows:

14 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
15 address.

16 **MR. FOOTE:** Good evening,
17 everyone. My name is Les Foote. I live at 78
18 East Schaaf Road in Brooklyn Heights, and I
19 really don't have anything new or different to
20 say at this point; it's all really been said.
21 But I'm here to protest what I see is an
22 inherently unfair proposal.

23 As was stated earlier, this is the
24 Robin Hood approach in reverse. We will be
25 punished for putting in a new furnace, for

1 insulating our homes, and for spending money on
2 new windows and for conserving gas by being
3 forced, if this proposal is passed, to pay a
4 higher rate of increase than people who have not
5 done these things. I think this is basically
6 un-American.

7 I went to high school and I was
8 always taught up to believe that if you
9 sacrifice and you work hard and you live smart,
10 that you can improve your lot. This flies in
11 the face of that philosophy. And I just want to
12 take the opportunity to thank the Plain Dealer
13 for bringing this to light. I don't think the
14 PUCO was going to do this on their own. And
15 that's all I have. Thanks.

16 MR. FARKAS: Tim Garrity?

17 TIM GARRITY
18 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
19 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
20 testified and said as follows:

21 MR. FARKAS: State your name and
22 address.

23 MR. GARRITY: Tim Garrity, 6445
24 Kimberly Drive, Garfield Heights.

25 Chairman Schriber, the thrust

1 of -- the main thrust of my comments -- I don't
2 have much to say, most everything has been
3 said -- is to make it clear that the people
4 understand the PUCO is accountable to the people
5 and that we trust in your wisdom and judgment.

6 Every time -- it seems like every
7 time I turn around, I look in the paper and
8 there's a granting of an increase to a utility.
9 And I just think enough is enough, especially in
10 these very bad economic times.

11 So I would ask that the PUCO consider
12 this very, very deliberately, because the people
13 I think have just about had it. So thank you.

14 **MR. FARKAS:** Van Clutchfield?
15 Someone at the address 13620 -- anyone named Van
16 out there?

17 Okay. Mary Parham?

18 **MS. PARHAM:** I concur with
19 what's been said.

20 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Ann Roberts?

21 **MS. ROBERTS:** I pass.

22 **MR. FARKAS:** Gladys Reed?

23 **MS. REED:** I pass.

24 **MR. FARKAS:** Alan Kovach?

25 ALAN KOVACH

1 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
2 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
3 testified and said as follows:

4 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
5 address.

6 **MR. KOVACH:** Alan Kovach at 9122
7 Inman Avenue, Cleveland.

8 I have just -- most of the things
9 have been covered previously, but --

10 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** Talk to the
11 mike.

12 **MR. KOVACH:** I just got the
13 newsletter from Dominion, called Dominion
14 Connections. You know, it says in here the
15 foundation gives 1.5 billion, okay. But if you
16 read down, it says they donated \$50,000 to
17 support the Cuyahoga County Foreclosure
18 Prevention program. My question is, what's the
19 gas company doing in the foreclosure program?

20 I mean -- another one, contribute
21 \$50,000 to the Ohio Fire and Emergency Services
22 Foundation to help support training and
23 leadership development program for fire
24 officials. Once again, what are they doing in
25 that?

1 Then this, \$100,000 to nine community
2 organizations for the Community Impact Awards
3 competition. Now, I don't know quite what that
4 is, but once again, what are they doing in that?
5 Okay. And then it goes on and on. I won't read
6 all of it.

7 But they also donated \$50,000 to the
8 Fuel Assistance program. It says this \$50,000
9 covers the administrative costs. It doesn't
10 cover paying the bills. It just covers the
11 administration cost allowing all donations to go
12 directly toward paying heating bills. Okay. So
13 this, what I gather from here, that just covers
14 the guy answering the phone.

15 Now, as far as the changing the
16 amount per BTU or MCF, okay, reducing that but
17 increasing the monthly service charge from 5.70
18 to 17.50. Okay. Now, Dominion is reaching a
19 point -- I don't know how many people are
20 technically inclined, but with electricity, if
21 you plug in an electric heater, you will get so
22 much heat out of that heater. Okay. They call
23 it BTUs.

24 Now, with natural gas, you have a gas
25 furnace and you burn gas. And you make it 80,

1 90 percent if you've got a new furnace and it's
2 highly efficient. The old furnaces may give you
3 60 percent or less. Okay. So Dominion's
4 reaching a point where it may be actually
5 cheaper for you to plug in an electric heater to
6 heat the room rather than running your furnace,
7 because electric heaters are virtually 100
8 percent efficient. Nothing goes up the chimney.

9 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** But then they'll
10 charge us more for using less gas.

11 **MR. KOVACH:** Right. But now
12 what happened during the '70s is with the oil
13 embargo and everything else, we stopped using so
14 much electricity, so the electric company said,
15 "Well, our rate of return, or return on
16 investment, you know, is going down, so
17 therefore, we have to raise the rates." Which
18 they did to make more profit.

19 Okay. Now, with this charge, now
20 people are going to want to conserve. They're
21 going to insulate; they're going to go get new
22 windows. What's going to happen? The usage is
23 going to go down. Therefore, the gas company
24 will come in, say, "Our return on investments is
25 going down, therefore we have to raise the

1 rates."

2 So the people who are really going to
3 suffer are those that don't have the funds to
4 insulate their house. You know, those with the
5 funds to insulate their house, they can reduce
6 their bills. But those that don't have the
7 funds, or if you're living in an older house,
8 you're going to really be hurting. Okay.

9 So that's -- you know, I'm highly
10 against this increasing the service charge
11 because I believe they put that -- want that to
12 make it noncompetitive to use electricity.
13 Okay, so think about that. Thank you.

14 **MR. FARKAS:** Anthony Hale?

15 ANTHONY HALE
16 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
17 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
18 testified and said as follows:

19 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
20 address.

21 **MR. HALE:** My name is Tony
22 Hale. I live at 13905 York Boulevard, Garfield
23 Heights.

24 I don't know how many other people
25 had this problem, but this past winter, on days

1 that were not very cold, I could not get my heat
2 to 60 degrees. Now, is the gas company pushing
3 something else in my meter so that I don't get
4 the same amount of heat like it is when it's
5 real cold? Something's wrong, and I think
6 somebody ought to investigate why this is
7 happening.

8 **MR. FARKAS:** Kenneth McCarthy?

9 **MR. MCCARTHY:** I'm just going to
10 turn in a statement, what I had to say. So I'll
11 just submit my statement.

12 **MR. FARKAS:** Okay. Thank you.
13 Gary Smith?

14 **MR. SMITH:** Mr. Chairman.

15 GARY SMITH

16 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
17 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
18 testified and said as follows:

19 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
20 address.

21 **MR. SMITH:** My name is Gary
22 Smith. My address is 824 Glencrest Road. I
23 currently live in Sagamore Hills, although I was
24 born, raised and still work in Garfield Heights.
25 I still have relatives here.

1 Mr. Chairman, members of the PUCO,
2 what were you thinking when you even considered
3 this? And you are supposed to be representing
4 us, the people, not Dominion East Ohio. How can
5 you even consider raising charges like this with
6 no justification?

7 We are all told to conserve. We are
8 all told to turn our thermostats back. We are
9 all told to insulate, which most of us do. Some
10 spending hundreds, some spending thousands of
11 dollars and yet our bills still go up. That's
12 not right. So now we're out the money we paid
13 for insulating plus we're out the extra money
14 we're paying for higher fees.

15 If you put the money in, you should
16 be seeing some positive return, and we're still
17 paying more. I understand that Dominion East
18 Ohio has seen some negative returns over the
19 years -- over the last year on their
20 investments. Who out there hasn't seen negative
21 returns this last year over their investments?

22 Okay. Who can you -- who out here
23 can dump their negative returns on someone else?
24 You know, my stocks went down. Who do I get to
25 dump it on? Dominion's stocks went down,

1 they're dumping it on us. Let them take the
2 same chances in the market that we all have to
3 take. It's supposed to be even and across the
4 board, and it is not. They can dump their
5 losses on us, we have to eat it; we have to
6 absorb it.

7 They want extra funds to put in
8 pipelines, keep pipelines up for repair.
9 Pipelines need repair. I work construction.
10 This is part of what I do. The gentleman at the
11 top making \$15 million last year, those below
12 him making 10 million -- billion, million?

13 **THE AUDIENCE:** Million, million.

14 **MR. SMITH:** Million, 15 million
15 for the top CEO and 11 million and 9 million.
16 Let them cut some of their -- let them cut some
17 of their profits to put in for what we have to
18 give up.

19 Everyone has to make a profit. I've
20 got no problem with someone making an honest
21 living. We all do. There is a difference
22 between making an honest living and price
23 gouging or gouging. \$15 million a year is not
24 an honest living. By gosh, that is gouging by
25 anyone's accountability.

1 Finally, I would like to say that I
2 believe the PUCO has been asleep at the wheel.
3 You are here to protect the consumers; you are
4 here to protect the public. I do not believe
5 you've been doing your job. And with the
6 recommendation such as this, it clearly shows
7 that someone has dropped the ball. That's all
8 I've got to say. Thank you very much.

9 **MR. FARKAS:** Jim Semanik?

10 JIM SEMANIK

11 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
12 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
13 testified and said as follows:

14 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
15 address.

16 **MR. SEMANIK:** Jim Semanik, 18903
17 Nottingham, 44107. Are we allowed to ask you
18 questions?

19 **MR. FARKAS:** No.

20 **MR. SEMANIK:** Just make a
21 statement? Well, for one thing, I don't think
22 we need the PUCO. Why don't they put this on
23 the ballot and let us vote on it? That's one
24 thing.

25 You know, why are we paying their

1 salaries? I don't know; he won't say how much
2 he makes, but I think it's around 100 grand a
3 year. But we don't need East Ohio Gas, either.
4 We've got plenty of free gas down at Cityview
5 Shopping Center that Mayor Longo doesn't know
6 what to do with.

7 Everybody should know that in the
8 State of Ohio, they passed a new law that
9 anybody can drill for gas in their backyards. I
10 don't know if you people know that. If you put
11 a bunch of neighborhoods together, you can get
12 free gas out of your backyard. You don't need
13 East Ohio. They can just go out of business.
14 They can take their pipelines and their 15
15 million and just forget them.

16 Another thing about this meter
17 reading stuff. They're going to put people out
18 of jobs. They're going to fire all these meter
19 readers. They don't want them. They don't want
20 to pay their salaries. That's why they're
21 putting these automatic meters in. They want to
22 get these guys out of a job. Doesn't he realize
23 that they're going to lose jobs? They want to
24 get rid of people?

25 This is the usual con job that these

1 companies do, the smoke and mirrors. You know,
2 this \$2 billion they say they're guessing
3 they're going to spend for pipelines. They're
4 guessing that. They don't know how much they're
5 going to spend.

6 And besides, I think this guy would
7 be able to tell you that our rates we've been
8 paying for the last 50 or whatever years, the
9 maintenance charge is already in the rate.
10 We're paying for their maintenance. Like they
11 said, they've put in all these new pipes. We
12 don't need new pipes. You know, we might not
13 even be using gas in the future. The new
14 technology they have these days -- fuel cells
15 are going to be coming out. They can even be
16 using this new, this hydrogen gas that's going
17 to be coming out.

18 You know, and for another thing, we
19 shouldn't have a for profit company supplying
20 our gas and electric. I think it should be like
21 the water, for example. They should have no
22 profit and be owned by the people and owned by
23 either the city or the state. This for profit
24 stuff is baloney.

25 And, you know, I don't know who

1 appointed these PUCO guys. I think it was
2 Governor Taft, and you know what happened to
3 him. But I don't know why Governor Strickland
4 is keeping these people, the same people that
5 were appointed by the Republicans. They should
6 put small people like you and I running the PUCO
7 to give our opinion down in Columbus.

8 And if they -- if East Ohio Gas
9 doesn't like it here, they can always sell their
10 company to Columbia Gas, their competitor, or
11 other competitors who will do a better job than
12 they do.

13 And like everybody has said tonight,
14 when you think about \$15 million a year earnings
15 off what we pay in for gas, I think that's a big
16 joke for asking us to pay more money so he can
17 make 20 or 30 million next year. That's the
18 bottom line.

19 And this ad was in the Plain
20 Dealer -- I don't know how many people saw it --
21 put in by East Ohio Gas. It cost them 10 to
22 \$20,000 to put an ad like this, a full-page ad
23 in.

24 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** Four days.

25 **MR. SEMANIK:** Yeah, figure that

1 out. They've got money to throw away on these
2 huge ads promoting themselves for their case,
3 but what do we have? We can't put full-page ads
4 in the Plain Dealer like them for their
5 propaganda.

6 We're just hoping that this guy will
7 listen to what we're saying here and do
8 something, like the people have been saying.
9 They can't hurt his money. He's not working for
10 the gas company, he's supposed to be working for
11 us.

12 And, you know, if this goes through,
13 I hope they have some more meetings about more
14 complaints if this goes through next year,
15 because your electric rates are going to go sky
16 high next year, too. And I hope he's around to
17 answer questions about the electric rates that
18 are going to jump in January.

19 And one more thing, and I'll just
20 wrap it up. You know, there's all these other
21 companies that you can pick to supply your gas.
22 But I'm thinking to myself that all of these
23 companies are going to pass along -- you go to
24 any one of them, they're going to pass along
25 these increases, these monthly rate charges,

1 increases. So you're not going to be able to
2 get away from any increase at all. Where is the
3 competition then going to be? There is
4 not -- they want to cut competition.

5 In fact, Dominion East Ohio Energy is
6 a subsidiary of Dominion that does get the
7 increase in gas charges. I don't know how many
8 people are with Dominion East Ohio Energy.
9 That's separate from Dominion East Ohio. They
10 play little name tricks on you. They have one
11 of the highest rates around.

12 So I think it's a good thing that
13 they have these meetings. They should have more
14 of these meetings. And in the past, they've had
15 very few, and I hope he realizes that, that the
16 people should have more chances to speak without
17 calling up Columbus and getting some operator
18 who really doesn't care what you have to say.

19 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** Or you've got to
20 push buttons and you can't get nobody to talk
21 to.

22 **MR. SEMANIK:** Yeah. Thanks.

23 **MR. FARKAS:** Daryl Lawson?

24 DARYL LAWSON

25 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been

1 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
2 testified and said as follows

3 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
4 address.

5 **MR. LAWSON:** Hi, I'm Daryl
6 Lawson. I actually live at 4053 Canterbury Road
7 in North Olmsted, Ohio.

8 And as I've been listening through
9 the last hour, hour and a half or so here, a
10 couple things come to mind. First of all, I
11 want to thank you guys for being here to listen
12 to this. It's not an easy position, but by the
13 same token, we the people have tried a number of
14 different ways to get our voices heard. And I
15 hope that this really doesn't fall on deaf ears
16 tonight.

17 A couple things. And I really can't
18 add a lot more to what the gentleman here in the
19 green said and Mr. Kovach back there. I think
20 they hit the nail on the head and we've heard a
21 number of different stories.

22 I take a look at the amount of hours
23 that I work, and I know that I'm averaging less
24 than 2 percent increase a year in my salary.
25 And yet, I see everywhere that we're getting 15,

1 20 percent increases in our utility costs, our
2 fuel costs, our food costs. Where does it end?
3 Where does my pocket start and I'm able to put
4 more money out than what I've got coming in? It
5 just is the reason why the economy here in
6 Cleveland stinks.

7 How many foreclosures are there?
8 Maybe that's why this rate increase is going
9 through, is maybe the foreclosures are so many
10 that they can't make their money now because
11 there's nobody to pay those bills.

12 There's just a number of different
13 things that we've seen there; and I think it all
14 boils down to that we just don't have the means
15 to pay it anymore. You know, the electric
16 company is also putting through an increase; the
17 water company is putting through increases;
18 garbage has put through increases. This has all
19 been in the last year.

20 And I know, as a single-family
21 homeowner, I can't handle it. And then I take a
22 look at the fact that I've got a mother who is
23 now elderly, who has got several major problems
24 that we're dealing with and we've got to try to
25 find a place to put her. I can't keep my heat

1 at 58 degrees for six months out of the year and
2 still pay 7 or \$800 worth of gas costs.

3 So I'm hoping and pleading with you
4 guys to please listen to what you've heard here.
5 And I know that you've put this out in a number
6 of different areas and a number of different
7 regions. And even still, I don't think we get
8 the reach.

9 But I also want to thank the people
10 here for coming out, because this is our voice.
11 And if we don't start exercising that, the
12 utilities and everybody else is just going to
13 keep on walking all over you.

14 You take a look at the gas companies.
15 Record profits for over a year and a half. Why?
16 Where does that show me in the pump? I can't
17 explain it and nobody's been able to do it so
18 far. Thank you.

19 **MR. FARKAS:** Edward Mills?

20 Edward Mills?

21 John McNamara?

22 **JOHN McNAMARA**

23 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
24 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
25 testified and said as follows:

1 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
2 address.

3 **MR. McNAMARA:** Hi, my name is John
4 McNamara. My address is 31007 Logan Court.

5 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** Where?

6 **MR. McNAMARA:** Logan Court,
7 Westlake, Ohio. Westlake. Just to bring you up
8 to speed on the PUCO. A lot of people are
9 talking about the PUCO and the board. Four of
10 the five, I believe, members of the PUCO were
11 put on by Governor Taft. So Governor Strickland
12 is actually the one you really need to be
13 barking to to put a little end to this.

14 At least to revisit it and examine it
15 in a little bit more detail, because -- just
16 because of the timing with everything going on,
17 the presidential election and so forth, these
18 rate cases got a little attention from the
19 governor, so that's who you really need to
20 contact if you really want to be heard. He can
21 put a stop, kind of have them go back and
22 revisit a new rate case or even provide further
23 details on these issues.

24 A lot of these issues, too, started
25 off with one initial increase back in the fall.

1 That's when Dominion came to and proposed to the
2 PUCO, and then it was raised in February, I
3 believe, to -- by \$2.6 billion, which is a
4 sig -- you can fund a war with that.

5 Some of these issues, too, it seems
6 to come from, my understanding, that the PUCO
7 wanted Dominion to take over some of these
8 services, such as the gas line, which is the
9 line going from the street to the house.

10 That's part of the house that you
11 bought, just like your water line and everything
12 else. Dominion's stopped doing this about four
13 years ago because they said they couldn't make
14 money on it. The most basic service line they
15 provided was for \$1,200. Again, you open up to
16 the yellow pages and, in print, find the same
17 service for \$675. So there's a 5 or \$600
18 increase that the PUCO wants Dominion to take
19 over and have you nickel and dime with 25 years
20 to pay it off.

21 Which is one -- once these services
22 are done -- they're made out of plastic.
23 Services -- plastic in the ground has a life of
24 over 300 years. Like, who is going to contest
25 it? But the service lines that were put in in

1 the early '80s by Dominion when they were doing
2 it and by Columbia, those are still in the
3 ground perfectly fine.

4 So you're going to expire 25 years
5 paying to take care of a line that doesn't need
6 any service to. And if you do, it's going to be
7 minimal amounts on either end. It will be
8 above-ground, in the house. But the bulk of the
9 work will be done.

10 So what needs to be done is they need
11 to break down how much they're charging for what
12 in these big figures and see. Because if you
13 have -- like I just spoke, there's a \$600
14 difference, that's from four years ago, and I'm
15 sure that the cost of living and everything,
16 they've jacked the price up. So if you could
17 see that and then open up your yellow book,
18 yellow pages and see that you can get it for
19 half price, why would we want to pay? And
20 especially on something that doesn't need to be
21 paid for and taken care of because it's not
22 going to go bad for 25 years. Why would we be
23 just giving our money away?

24 Those are the things that you really
25 need to examine. These meetings, PUCO didn't

1 provide an ethics group, a watchdog group --
2 it's the one that went to the PUCO and kind of
3 drummed this up because of the initial increase
4 of that \$2.6 billion in the middle of the
5 initial rate. So that kind of threw off a red
6 flag there.

7 So what you need do is contact your
8 council people. This is one of the most
9 Democratic counties in the country, and the
10 board that's controlling it is predominantly put
11 together by Taft, the same man who put
12 together -- as you saw with the Workmen's Comp
13 that Mr. Noe was just released from prison.

14 So the bulk is -- bottom line is the
15 real boss of this deal is the governor. That's
16 who you need to get on, start hammering. Hammer
17 it to your city officials to knock it down and
18 then have them examine it bit by bit and see if
19 you can decide for -- not everything in there is
20 bad, naturally. The lines at the street and
21 that, which, you know, go up and down your
22 street, they do need attention. But some of the
23 other things, there's the icing on the cake, so
24 to speak, needs to be drawn back a little.
25 That's all.

1 **MR. FARKAS:** Jo Ann Balozy?

2 JO ANN BALOZY

3 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
4 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
5 testified and said as follows:

6 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
7 address.

8 **MS. BALOZY:** My name is Jo Ann
9 Balozy. I live at 6104 Turney Road here in
10 Garfield Heights.

11 When I first became aware of this
12 hearing, I really had reservations about
13 attending because, in my mind, I could not see
14 the purpose of the meeting. Is there anyone on
15 the PUCO who really believes that this increase
16 is necessary? And is there anyone on this -- on
17 the board that could come and listen to us as
18 common citizens and allow us to change their
19 minds?

20 Can I, as a common citizen, know or
21 be privy to any sort of data that anyone on the
22 board would not be aware of? And as I continued
23 deciding whether or not to attend this hearing,
24 I overthought the whole thing, as I have a
25 tendency to do, and on one level, I was mildly

1 offended by the existence of these hearings.
2 Are you trying to see if the common people are
3 paying attention? Because if no one shows up at
4 these hearings, will you feel free to just go
5 ahead and raise your rates? I mean, if no one
6 shows up, of course, nobody is paying attention,
7 people don't care. They won't care if we raise
8 the rates, so we'll just go ahead and raise the
9 rates.

10 So I decided that I needed to be here
11 because I needed to let you know yes, we are
12 paying attention, and yes, these are the people
13 that you're affecting.

14 Now, I hope that it isn't a fact that
15 you want to see the face of the people that
16 you're going to be damaging, because you know
17 that this rate increase really isn't necessary.
18 So again, I hope that it's not merely an
19 exercise in futility, you just want to be able
20 to see our faces.

21 Now, I did decide, yes, obviously,
22 that I needed to attend this meeting. And one
23 purpose in me attending was for me to learn.
24 And I would like to thank quite a few of the
25 speakers that have already testified, because

1 I've learned quite a lot tonight. And thank you
2 very much for your information. You have a lot
3 of technical information that I found very
4 helpful, and numerical data and little bits of
5 information that I wasn't aware of. I really
6 appreciate it. I like to learn things, so I
7 wanted to learn as much about this as I could.

8 I picked up some of the information
9 on the front table at the door, and there is a
10 letter from the president of Dominion and
11 there's also a letter from the OCC. And both of
12 these state that staff members from the PUCO
13 recommended the \$17.50 charge. How can they
14 have recommended such a large charge? Is what's
15 going to come out of this hearing that you'll
16 say, "Well, maybe we won't raise it 17.50, but
17 we'll raise it 10." And then all of us who are
18 actually paying it will say, "Wow, we really
19 dodged a bullet because they're only charging us
20 10 instead of 17.50."

21 Thank you for your time, and I do
22 appreciate the fact that we are able to speak to
23 you. And again, as some of the other speakers
24 have said, please take into account what we're
25 saying. If there were some word or phrase or

1 set of data that I could show any of the members
2 of the PUCO to make them see that this is going
3 to cause great harm to the public, I would say
4 it. I would do whatever I needed to do. I
5 would embarrass myself in front of an entire
6 room of people to say please don't do this.
7 It's not necessary and you're going to do quite
8 a bit of damage. Thank you.

9 **MR. FARKAS:** Marvin Stotz?

10 **MR. STOTZ:** "Stotz."

11 **MR. FARKAS:** "Stotz."

12 **MR. STOTZ:** Marvin Stotz, I

13 live at 6657 Bretton Ridge Drive, North Olmsted.
14 I'm glad to see somebody else from North Olmsted
15 made the trip across town. I would have been
16 there earlier, but my friend and I were at the
17 Great Wall of China Buffet in North Olmsted and
18 we got carried away.

19 I may be repeating some things. What
20 I have are some articles and -- one's PD, one is
21 the USA Today. And they may have been gone
22 over. I apologize if I'm repeating. And
23 basically, it has to do with the exorbitant -- I
24 think they mentioned the \$15 million CEO pay
25 that the two utilities, electric and gas, enjoy.

1 The first one is June 30th, '08. It
2 was in the USA Today, and it's about Europe.
3 Europe's CEO pay lands in spotlight. By the
4 way, theirs is 50 percent of our CEO's, and it
5 upset a lot of European leaders. French
6 president, how do you -- Sarkozy, are just a few
7 of the many European politicians expressing
8 alarm at the soaring rate of top executives.
9 The French finance minister calling it perfectly
10 scandalous and warning of legislation if the
11 companies don't set executive pay to reflect
12 performance.

13 The Dutch finance minister has
14 proposed a 30 percent "fat cap," quote, unquote,
15 tax increase on big bonuses and severance
16 packages. That caused a public outcry last
17 year.

18 In London, after the sub prime loan
19 crisis and credit crunch, the bonuses should be
20 restructured to factor in a loans long-term
21 risk. Social Democrats in Germany, the
22 governing coalition, has called for companies to
23 impose an annual cap of 1.6 million. I think we
24 all could live on that if we want.

25 All sense -- quote, "All sense of

1 proportion has gone out the window with
2 management pay in recent years." It's kind of a
3 1980s, 1990s phenomenon. It goes on to give the
4 ratio of CEO to factory worker pay. In Belgium,
5 it's 18 to 1; France, 23 to 1; Germany, 20 to 1.
6 Oh, USA it's 39 to 1. Double what it is in
7 Europe, and they're getting upset in Europe at a
8 legislative level, not just at a consumer level.

9 And Britain's growing pay, it goes on
10 the average pay of top executives, in '98 it was
11 2 million. It's gone up to 7 million in '07.
12 But that's half of what Dominion and
13 Illuminating Company executives make. And
14 they're upset in Britain. Okay. There was
15 another article in the PD -- that was June 30th,
16 '08, USA Today.

17 PD, 7/12/08. In the business
18 section, page C2. National City payout.
19 Retiring CFO will get 1.1 million in April. We
20 all know what happened to National City. In a
21 nutshell, it declined 73 percent, and a lot of
22 people with their 401(k)s and so forth are
23 really hurting. Their retirement in jeopardy,
24 if not in the dumper.

25 Well, it seems as Mr. Kelly, 54 --

1 that's pretty young to retire. Anyway, anyway,
2 he quit National City's board on Wednesday. He
3 will continue to receive a biweekly -- that
4 means every two weeks -- of 30,000 through the
5 end of the year, then 28,000 every two weeks
6 through September 10th, 2010 -- oh, he's also
7 going to get a final payment of practically
8 42,000, September 24th, 2010.

9 As I said before, National City stock
10 declined 73 percent as the company cut staff.
11 Once again, on the worker's back. They're going
12 to make up for this. And raised 7 million -- 7
13 billion to make up for losses tied to bad home
14 loans. Again, on the worker's back. They fired
15 him. Shares fell 2.9 percent to 4.42 Friday.
16 I'm not sure what it was, but it's down to \$4.
17 I don't know if that qualifies for junk bonds or
18 not.

19 Then I e-mailed Thomas S-u-d-d-s of
20 the PD. "Sudds," I understand is how you
21 pronounce that. I thought it was "Sudds," but
22 somebody said "Sudds."

23 Apparently, he wrote me back the
24 article and he gave me the one from the Columbus
25 Dispatch, which is the same one. And he

1 mentioned about public utilities trying to pick
2 his or her pockets. He mentioned the word
3 vultures. He mentioned the sweet life for
4 utility fat cats. He mentions cry the blues to
5 the PUCO, which is called "Public Utilities
6 Comfort Commission" of Ohio. They don't have to
7 worry about household bills, given with the
8 salaries their rates produce.

9 Let's get a yardstick. I'm a retired
10 math teacher, so I like numbers. The median
11 household in Ohio is about 43,000. I think
12 nationwide it's 50,000, but in Ohio it's 43,000.
13 That's according to what the '07 filings were.

14 Okay. Remember that number, 43,000,
15 the average household. American Electric Power
16 company, Michael Morris, he got 19.7 million.
17 That's 453 households. Thomas Farrell of
18 Dominion Resources, Incorporated -- it used to
19 be East Ohio -- he got, as mentioned before,
20 15.1 million. That's 348 households.

21 Dayton Power, he only got 1.8
22 million. Duke Energy, just 9.9. Oh, Akron's
23 FirstEnergy Corp, you know, Illuminating, Ohio
24 Edison, Toledo Edison, again, 15.6 million.
25 That's 359 households.

1 Oh, besides that, Anthony Alexander,
2 total compensation was about 94,000 in perks.
3 You know, country club dues, entertainment
4 tickets, holiday gifts, personal flights on a
5 FirstEnergy plane, which the company's board
6 requires him to use, quote, "for security
7 reasons," unquote. Maybe some people upset
8 about their electric bill might have -- do him
9 harm or something; I don't know.

10 And it goes on to Columbia Gas.
11 That's only 1.6 million, though. The 15, I
12 think, is a problem. And it mentions about
13 corporate clout stares Ohio householders in the
14 face.

15 In 1912, apparently, Ohioans gave
16 themselves a right of initiative and referendum.
17 I guess that means the power to write their own
18 laws or second-guess laws legislators pass.
19 Kind of a checkmate for the state house powers
20 of utilities.

21 It mentioned the first lobbyist here
22 was Harry M. Dougherty. He was Warren Harding's
23 pal. He got rich 90 years ago by greasing
24 Columbus for what's now AT&T. Again, we have
25 political packagers' misused the initiative and

1 referendum for political returns, and it goes on
2 to name some of those.

3 And if you want to check this out,
4 it's tsudds@gmail.com.

5 I had another question. What jobs
6 did PUCO members have before they were on the
7 PUCO? Do you suppose they worked for the energy
8 business? I don't know. Maybe Dominion; maybe
9 Illuminating.

10 Somebody mentioned this.
11 Conservation. Try to Google these things -- if
12 you don't have a computer, go next door to the
13 library -- solar, electricity, state, subsidies.
14 I'll repeat. Solar, electricity, state,
15 subsidies. You will be amazed at what
16 California and New Jersey are doing in solar
17 panels. Home Depot will help you finance,
18 install solar panels. They're as thick as a
19 shingle nowadays. You get them in blue and
20 black. Maybe this is what we have to do to heat
21 our hot water to keep our energy costs down.

22 By the way, those little fluorescent
23 fixtures you're supposed to replace, or your
24 incandescent bulbs -- and you won't be able to
25 buy incandescent after '09 or '10 or something.

1 We pay 3, 5, \$7. In Connecticut they're a buck
2 and a half. In Vermont, they're 99 cents
3 because they're governed. Their state
4 government subsidizes alternate and z devices.

5 Someone was in the paper who put
6 solar panels on his roof. He was one of the
7 last people to get a grant from Ohio. That's
8 expired. They're trying to get more. In
9 California they'll pay 70 percent of your solar
10 panels. Your payback is four to six years,
11 after which you get free electricity in
12 California. New Jersey is number two. The
13 normal payback is like 15, 10, 15 years.

14 I am retired. I take a pension like
15 a 3 percent raise -- oh, did I mention that 3
16 percent is based on the number in 2000, when I
17 retired? So it's really not 3 percent anymore.
18 Okay. I hope that -- I'm glad all these
19 people -- it has some effect and we really need
20 an enlightened citizenry, and check these things
21 out.

22 **MR. FARKAS:** Julia Watts. Julia
23 Watts?

24 **MS. WATTS:** I really didn't
25 come here to speak today, but after I got in and

1 listened to what everybody was saying, I really
2 think I did need to say something, so I held on.

3 I am a single parent. Not by choice.
4 My husband passed away three years ago. And
5 ever since then, I've been trying to make ends
6 meet and take care of my child back there.

7 From last summer to this summer, you
8 look at my bills, it's ridiculous. My
9 thermostat has been on off since March and I'm
10 still getting hundred dollar bills. We don't
11 need an increase in nothing. We need a decrease
12 all the way around. The usage charge,
13 everything. I've had the thing that says 17.50
14 to raise it up and then the usage charge to come
15 down. We don't need that to go up. We still
16 need the usage charge to come down.

17 This is ridiculous. What am I
18 supposed to do? I'm working. I can only work
19 so many hours. But how am I supposed to contend
20 with what I got to do? No medical because
21 Healthy Start don't help everybody. You come up
22 a couple of hundred dollars over what they say,
23 and they cut you off of that, too. So right
24 now, I'm looking at high gas bills. And I pay
25 my whole bill when it was coming in. I'm

1 looking at high gas bills for the winter and
2 trying to do her medical.

3 What is that going to do for me? And
4 trying to pay the rent on where I'm staying. I
5 don't own no house. I'm just trying to pay
6 rent. He done put new windows and everything,
7 and I come in here, and this is still not going
8 to help. Y'all got to find something to do.
9 Something's got to be done, because this is
10 ridiculous. That's all.

11 **MR. FARKAS:** Karen Russell?

12 **KAREN RUSSELL**

13 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
14 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
15 testified and said as follows:

16 **MR. FARKAS:** Please state your
17 name and address.

18 **MS. RUSSELL:** Karen Russell,
19 14774 -- Karen Russell, 14774 Summit Avenue in
20 Maple Heights.

21 I'm here tonight -- and I'm probably
22 covering just about everything everybody else
23 said, but I would just like to say it in my own
24 words. And I'm outraged that the PUCO would
25 even consider the new structure of these natural

1 gas delivery charges. We've been wearing the
2 sweaters. We're insulating our homes. We've
3 done all this, and now the gas companies want to
4 punish us for conserving our usage.

5 And at the same time, we have energy
6 hogs. And that's what I call them. These are
7 the ones that use the most gas. And they may
8 possibly even get a decrease in their rates,
9 delivery charges under this plan.

10 Well, few of us live in the
11 McMansions. And that's what I call these big,
12 oversized homes. And this is where the people
13 may get this decrease in rate. It's just unfair
14 and it's unjust. After they've preached to us
15 to conserve and try to control our usage, now
16 they want to take away all of the control and
17 reward these energy hogs.

18 As the gentleman referred to earlier,
19 that the median household income in Ohio is
20 about 43,000. So we know that most people don't
21 live in the McMansions, and so why should they
22 get an energy break and use more and more and
23 consume more and more?

24 After all, if I bought a Hummer,
25 would you pay part of my gasoline bill while you

1 drove a motorcycle? You would answer me "Are
2 you crazy?" It's the same thing. If you have
3 the big house and you have more and more energy,
4 then you should pay for it. We live in
5 modest-sized, small homes. Some of us live in
6 condos or apartments. And we live in average,
7 modest homes. And if our bill were on the
8 averages, we shouldn't have to pay any more for
9 delivering as we consume less and less.

10 Also, I have some things to say about
11 all these riders that are proposed in
12 structuring the different parts of the delivery
13 base rate. Supposedly, it goes from 1.24 MCF to
14 38 cents. And at first that sounded good, but
15 then they added in the low income and they added
16 the deadbeat customers. So after that, then the
17 rate was now going to go to \$2.90. Over twice
18 the price we have now.

19 And I know that we have to have some
20 type of uncollected or unpaid accounts, but I'm
21 sure they have something on the books for things
22 called losses besides profits. And so some of
23 that could -- I'm sure, is under there somewhere
24 in their balance sheets.

25 Now, when they proposed this 1.3

1 million meters with these new electronic data,
2 with the slow-moving truck down the street to
3 the tune of \$126 million -- or they're saying 25
4 cents a month for us on the first year. That
5 was just supposedly the first year and possible
6 increases later. So just on these little
7 electronic gadget thingies here, there's
8 possible other increases down the road that we
9 may not even be aware of. And we don't know how
10 much those are going to even cost.

11 And of course, as they mentioned
12 before, what happens to all the walking people?
13 Those were, in my mind, healthy jobs. They were
14 walking. But no, they will probably now be
15 replaced with that slow-moving, gas-guzzling
16 truck, which is just more energy wasted, in my
17 mind.

18 Now, pointing to their aging pipeline
19 from Dominion, I don't understand why they
20 haven't used some of their profits to fix this
21 thing. I think there should be a law or
22 something required by the PUCO to say you need
23 to take a certain percentage of your profits to
24 maintain and fix your business.

25 And as other people have stated, what

1 other business is it where we always have to pay
2 and maintain when they're in business and making
3 a profit?

4 And one of the other last things
5 beyond is runaway salaries. I think they need
6 to tighten their belts. I think that they need
7 to be accountable to the people that employ them
8 and pay their salaries, and that's us.

9 Do we really need to pay country club
10 dues and fly them around in planes? You would
11 think that someone that made \$15 million could
12 afford to pay that for themselves. I think it's
13 shameless. I think it's just plain shameless.

14 I think they've lost touch with
15 reality and our future needs. I think one of
16 the first thing that they should do to at least
17 show us consumers -- and maybe they do this, and
18 if they do, then so be it; I'd be wrong. But
19 they should be mandated to have their
20 thermostats in their all buildings and all their
21 employees, whoever was employed there, to have
22 theirs set at 68 degrees or lower in the winter
23 months so they can wear sweaters just like the
24 rest of us do.

25 I think that conservation should be

1 on everyone's mind, and I think it should start
2 with the utility companies themselves. I don't
3 know how they spend all their profits, and I
4 don't know, but maybe that one person that has
5 that \$15 million job might come up with a \$15
6 million idea. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

7 Please consider the unfair and the
8 unjust increases on the paying and conserving
9 public from any of these utili- -- any of them.
10 I don't care if it's gas or electric -- from the
11 utility proposals. And also whether or not
12 these accounting and practices or restructuring
13 rate plans that you're going to be considering
14 in the future.

15 Please protect us and demand
16 accountability for us. The PUCO must exercise
17 wisely and also work with the Ohio Consumers'
18 Counsel to provide the public the very best
19 value at this very unstable economic time.

20 Reviewing the thousands of pages from
21 all the legal eagles is exhaustive, but the
22 public must be treated fairly and justly. If
23 the public can reduce and conserve about 35
24 percent since 1980, then I think the utility
25 companies have not adjusted and done their 35

1 percent.

2 Over the years, they have seen our
3 efforts and they have not reinvested in their
4 selves or adjusted for this date, for the
5 future. So they have no one else to blame but
6 us for conserving. It is squarely a case of
7 runaway salaries, poor planning, unwise spending
8 and a seemingly unlimited disregard for the
9 public it is supposed to serve. Thank you for
10 your attention, of you being here.

11 **MR. SCHRIBER:** Well, thank you
12 all. I want to thank you, those of you who are
13 left, for coming out tonight. That
14 is -- concludes those who have signed.

15 If there is anyone else who wishes to
16 testify who has not signed? Yes, ma'am?

17 **UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE:** You should have
18 given everybody a time limit.

19 **MR. SCHRIBER:** Yeah, everybody's
20 very, very exhausted, particularly this nice
21 lady here who has been recording this.

22 **DELORES WATSON**
23 of lawful age, a witness herein, having been
24 first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified,
25 testified and said as follows:

1 **MR. FARKAS:** State your name and
2 address.

3 **MS. WATSON:** I am Delores
4 Watson. I live at 7606 Vineyard Avenue in
5 Garfield Heights. And I have brought my gas
6 bill with me tonight. This is the gas bill that
7 I have just paid, and it is a total of \$30.98,
8 which used to be my gas bill amount for about
9 October, not for July.

10 Now, I know the gas prices have gone
11 up and I do buy my gas from a different company
12 other than Dominion. I get my gas from Energy
13 Cooperative of Ohio. And every time I see that
14 their rates have gone up, I'm like, "Oh, my God,
15 they went up again. Oh, no."

16 And when I go to the website and
17 look, I always see that these rates are actually
18 a little bit lower than Dominion's. So
19 everybody's gas rate is going up.

20 Dominion used to, less than 10 years
21 ago, be the only gas company that you could buy
22 gas from. At that point, they had a monopoly in
23 our area, and if you had a gas burning furnace
24 or water heater or any other appliance, you had
25 to buy your gas from them.

1 Now the monopoly that East Ohio Gas
2 has is the transportation infrastructure. And I
3 submit to you that at this point in time, when
4 East Ohio or Dominion is now getting out of the
5 gas selling business, they are proposing a big
6 rate change in the gas delivery business, which
7 is what they're moving to, and it's just playing
8 the monopoly card. That's their monopoly.

9 One of the gentlemen who testified
10 earlier said that he wonders why on a day that's
11 about 60 degrees -- I'm sorry, not 60, but he
12 said he can't keep his house higher than 60 on a
13 warm day. I know where I live for the last five
14 years there's been a water issue in the line
15 that is in the street. Not the line that's
16 coming to my house, but water gets into the line
17 that's in the street. And Dominion has not come
18 out to fix this. They send representatives out
19 to check the water level from time to time.
20 They can never fully assure me that I'm paying
21 for gas that's coming through my line and I'm
22 not paying for water.

23 This issue has not been resolved and
24 no pipes have been replaced. So I have to say I
25 feel that a company that plays the monopoly card

1 and tries to raise our rates in such an
2 unreasonable manner for very little service
3 deserves to be played and paid with Monopoly
4 money.

5 **MR. SCHRIBER:** Okay. Again, I
6 want to emphasize that everything we've heard
7 tonight has been transcribed right here. It
8 will be read by staff, myself, my colleagues --
9 of course, I don't have to read it; I've heard
10 it pretty well tonight. And again, we
11 appreciate you all for coming out, hosting us
12 tonight.

13 If it sounds like we were amused a
14 little bit, we always are, but no hard feelings.
15 But again, we do know -- we have heard what you
16 had to say and it will be carefully considered
17 in the outcome of this case.

18 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** Sir, could I ask a
19 question?

20 **MR. SCHRIBER:** Let me answer
21 questions once we've concluded with this
22 formally. Okay?

23 **UNIDENTIFIED MALE:** Whatever.

24 **MR. SCHRIBER:** Okay. With that,
25 we will adjourn this meeting. Thank you so much

1 for your hanging in there for two and a half
2 hours.

3 (Thereupon, the proceedings were
4 concluded at 8:23 o'clock p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF OHIO,)
) SS:
SUMMIT COUNTY,)

I, Anika W. Patrick, a Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that these proceedings were taken by me and reduced to Stenotypy, afterwards prepared and produced by means of Computer-Aided Transcription and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the proceedings so taken as aforesaid.

I do further certify that these proceedings were taken at the time and place in the foregoing caption specified.

I do further certify that I am not a relative, employee of or attorney for any party or counsel, or otherwise financially interested in this action.

I do further certify that I am not, nor is the court reporting firm with which I am affiliated, under a contract as defined in Civil Rule 28(D).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Akron, Ohio on this 25th day of August, 2008.


Anika W. Patrick, RMR, CRR

My commission expires March 13, 2010.

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08 (2)	55:5	31:23	2000 (2)	
94:1 95:16	11808 (1)	17.50 (8)	14:12 100:16	<hr/>
08-169-GA-A...	18:8	48:12 55:13	2002 (1)	3
1:9 7:14	12 (5)	62:13 63:5	54:2	3 (5)
09 (1)	14:5 31:22 32:1	71:18 92:16,20	2005 (1)	59:18 100:1,15
99:25	32:18 50:9	101:13	14:11	100:15,17
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1 (7)	13 (1)	18 (1)	15:16 16:8	3.45 (1)
50:24 56:25	113:24	95:5	25:21	18:20
57:1 95:5,5,5,6	131st (1)	18th (1)	2008 (3)	3.510 (1)
1,219 (1)	36:12	1:19	1:19 15:16	19:15
32:20	13305 (1)	180 (1)	113:16	3.7 (1)
1.1 (1)	22:8	2:8	2010 (3)	18:20
95:19	1331 (1)	1800 (1)	96:6,8 113:24	3.82 (1)
1.24 (1)	31:8	2:16	203 (1)	57:22
104:13	13620 (1)	18903 (1)	55:10	30 (3)
1.3 (2)	69:15	77:16	21st (1)	39:24 80:17
59:1 104:25	13708 (1)	18909 (1)	10:16	94:14
1.5 (1)	52:14	62:10	211 (3)	30th (3)
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1.6 (2)	63:18	97:16	23 (1)	30,000 (1)
94:23 98:11	13905 (1)	1912 (1)	95:5	96:4
1.8 (1)	73:22	98:15	24 (1)	300 (3)
97:21	14400 (1)	1967 (1)	57:21	40:5 60:17
1/2 (3)	13:12	19:14	24th (1)	87:24
9:18 55:9 57:11	14774 (2)	1980 (1)	96:8	31007 (1)
10 (12)	102:19,19	107:24	24/7 (1)	86:4
2:16 24:8 32:14	15 (9)	1980s (1)	31:15	32 (1)
38:6 50:20	24:8 49:4 60:18	95:3	240 (1)	53:6

325 (2) 3:6 7:25	43215-3485 (1) 2:17	58 (1) 85:1	73 (2) 95:21 96:10	9615 (1) 41:12
33.6 (1) 9:17	43215-3793 (1) 2:9	<hr/> 6 <hr/>	74 (2) 31:24 32:21	98 (1) 95:10
348 (1) 97:20	44107 (2) 13:13 77:17	6:00 (2) 10:15,15	75 (2) 8:20 32:25	99 (1) 100:2
35 (2) 107:23,25	44115 (1) 31:9	6:01 (1) 1:19	7606 (1) 109:4	
35,000 (1) 38:5	45 (1) 21:14	60 (11) 32:21 34:24	78 (1) 67:17	
359 (1) 97:25	45.5 (1) 9:18	54:4,13,13,15 72:3 74:2	<hr/> 8 <hr/>	
36.7 (2) 54:16,17	453 (1) 97:17	110:11,11,12	8 (2) 40:6 57:2	
38 (1) 104:14	4824 (1) 48:6	600 (1) 3:7	8:23 (1) 112:4	
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4 (4) 9:18 14:16 53:1	5 (6) 55:9,12 56:19	614/466-8574 (... 2:18	82 (1) 33:2	
54:16	57:2 87:17	614/469-3939 (... 3:9	824 (1) 74:22	
4.42 (1) 96:15	100:1	614/644-8955 (... 2:10	83 (1) 32:24	
4.72 (1) 57:23	5.5 (2) 54:10,12	62 (1) 53:22	84 (1) 14:9	
40 (1) 39:24	5.70 (7) 55:13 56:20	6445 (1) 68:23	88th (2) 43:22 48:6	
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4053 (1) 83:6	50 (2) 79:8 94:4	68 (1) 106:22	9,700 (1) 31:21	
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43215 (1) 8:1	53 (1) 32:14	7/12/08 (1) 95:17	9122 (1) 70:6	
43215-2673 (1) 3:8	54 (1) 95:25	70 (2) 53:7 100:9	94,000 (1) 98:2	
	5407 (1) 1:17	70s (1) 72:12		

EXHIBIT

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has assigned for public hearing at this time and place Case Nos. 07-829-GA-AIR, 07-830-GA-ALT, 07-831-GA-AAM, 08-169-GA-ALT, and 06-1453-GA-UNC, which are captioned, 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 and other Related Matters.

I was present at the local public hearing held in Garfield Hts, Ohio, on August 18, 2008, at 6:00 am/pm. I am opposed to the proposal for the reasons expressed by those who have already testified.

Name (Please print)	Address
ANGELA LASCOLA	GARF. HTS. OHIO 13304 HAVANA RD.
DANIEL L SOBONA	9615 CARDWELL - CL-O 44105
Therese Kante	13104 Eastwood Blvd.
Elsie Y. Voorhies	¹⁴¹²² 19606 Shadstone P. Warr. Hts Ohio
Stanley Dykes	1640 Wood Rd. Cleve Hgts Ohio 44121
ANITA SWENSEN	146 HUNTINGTON, NORTHFIELD, OHIO 44107
John Sorub	25105 Ashland Ave G.H.
MICHAEL SCHUBKEGEL	^{MAPLE HEIGHTS} 18909 MAPLE HTS BLVD
Constance R. Doan	4501 MC Gregory Ave 44105
Mark F. Roth	^{GARFIELD} 12321 GARLAND AVE Hgts 44125
Dandy Pogan	^{Chagrin Falls} 18961 Rivers Edge DR E- OH 44023

EXHIBIT

1

818168 AWP
COURT REPORTERS
OF AKRON CANTON AND CLEVELAND

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Name (Please print)	Address
CAROL KAINEC	374 UNION ST, BEAUFORD, OH 44146
David Kish	4914 E 83 rd St Garfield Hts, OH 44125
Joseph G SZUMSKI	5530 OAKWOOD AVE MAPLE HTS OH 44137
ILONA THARNER	11409 McCracken RD GARFIELD HTS, OH 44125
JOELI Gazyb...	12909 MAPLE LEAF DR. GARFIELD HTS, OH 44125
MICHAEL LAWSON	45 W. VIRGINIA AVE. VERMILION, OH
Jolanda Polyz...	5408 Roland Dr Garfield Hts
Reilyn B. Talavica	4500 Hillside Rd, Independence
RICHARD THERICO	It H
Levi J...	4511 McCulligan Ave Newburg 44105
MARY WALKER	12824 SHADY CAX 44125

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Name (Please print)	Address
Claire Ullemeyer	101 Cowles Ave Bedford, O 44146
Steve Kautz	13104 Eastmont Dr. Bld.
Charles E. Yarbrough	198 Wandle Ave Bedford OH 44146
Harry Brumby	12508 YORK Blvd Garfield Hts
MARY Parham	13808 North Dr Garfield HTS 44105
Bernice NUTTER	15606 WALDEN AVE CLEVE. O. 44128
Ed & Mary Phan	44137 18504 LEWIS DR. Maple HTS
John GERALD RIDENOUR	11506 GRANGER, G.H.
Kleves W. Tancik	4989 Willozbrook Dr. 44125
THERESA SCOTT	17370 Curry Lane, Auburn Township, OH 44023
Tim Warren	12933 Carpenter Rd. Garfield HTS, OH
Kim Warren	12933 Carpenter Rd. Garfield HTS, Ohio 44125

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Name (Please print)	Address
MARK SWINKIN	13821 CEDAR RD #205
Mary Ryan	5014 E 114 ST Garfield Hts OH 44125
Ann Roberts	Garfield HTS Ohio 44105
Melody Reed	13714 Hawth -
PATRICIA EMRISKO	NEWBURGH 4409 MCGREGOR AVE HTS OH
Hazel Reed	15610 Tallent Ave (1212) OH
Jackie Albers	Maple HTS 5312 Beechwood Ave
IVERNER COLLIER	4252 E. 176 ST CLEVELAND, 44128
Rosemary Palmer	31541 Anna Lane Bay Village, OH 44109
Donna Mary C. Guzysnski	5011 Wiltonbrook Dr Cuy Hts 44125
Bob Scott	17370 CURRY LN CHAGRIN FALLS OH 44023
Rose Schwonek	9829 David Rd Garfield Hts, Ohio

PUCO Hearing Garfield Heights
August 18th, 2008

Stephen Wertheim,
Director 211/First Call For Help
1331 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44115
P: 216 436 2225 F: 216 436 2252

I want to thank the PUCO tonight for the opportunity to share some concerns regarding the rising cost of utilities in Northeast Ohio as it affects the persons who contact 211 daily. My name is Stephen Wertheim and I come to you today representing United Way 211/First Call for Help a 24/7 health and human services information and referral line in Cuyahoga, Geauga, and Medina Counties. I want to give you a sense of some of the utility calls we have received in the past year. We have as recently as two years ago got about 9,700 utility-related requests for service annually. In the last 12 months of this year we have made about 17,000 referrals for families needing utility payment assistance, a 74% increase. As a matter of fact over the last 12 months our top 10 requests were in order food pantries, utilities, homeless shelter, Tax preparation, Rent Payment Assistance, Home Rental Listings, Job Finding Assistance, Financial Assistance, Mortgage Foreclosure Assistance, and Landlord Tenant Assistance. Six out of our top ten are housing related needs. 62% of our request last year were housing related.

It is no better in the suburbs utility payment assistance requests were in the top ten of 53 suburbs in Cuyahoga County. Only Hunting Valley, Moreland Hills, and Gates Mills did not have a utility related request. In the last 12 months we have seen an even larger increase in the number of seniors needing utility assistance. 1,219 seniors age 60-74 have called us needing utility bill payment assistance a 114% increase above just two years ago. And we have seen an increase of 83% during the same period for Senior 75 and older. We received a call this month from an 83 year old woman who had no more furniture to sell off. She was crying over the phone that she did not know how she was going to pay her bill.

I am here tonight to tell you that our callers throughout Cuyahoga County continue to call us at ever greater numbers for utility assistance. This is happening before any rate increase takes place. We are facing a double bind of less HEAP funding for the heating season. Last year there was 2.5 million dollars in energy assistance for Cuyahoga County. This year we are told to expect less than 1.5 million dollars to deal with increased need.

I understand that costs have increased but unless you control ever rising rates we will have a major crisis in this County. More seniors will be forced out of their homes and into expensive long term care. We will see more foreclosure and the swelling of homeless families as they can no longer afford to live in their apartment or homes. We here see that all the above issues are tied together. It is up to you to find solutions, not exacerbate the problem. Thank you.

DENNIS J. KUCINICH
10TH DISTRICT, OHIO

2445 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5871

14400 DETROIT AVENUE
LAKEWOOD, OHIO 44107
(216) 228-8850

PARMATOWN MALL
7904 DAY DRIVE
PARMA, OHIO 44129
(440) 845-2707



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

www.kucinich.house.gov

CHAIRMAN,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC POLICY

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

August 4, 2008

Mr. Alan R. Schriber
Chairman
Public Utilities Commission Of Ohio
180 E Broad St
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3705

Dear Chairman Schriber:

I strongly oppose Dominion East Ohio's proposed rate increases, which, if approved, will cost Ohioans nearly \$100 million more per year. I ask that you reject any attempt on the part of Dominion to downplay its strong financial standing and outlook in an effort to rationalize rate increases which would, according to its own 2007 annual report, "support a 12% return on equity."

In 2007, Dominion, the parent company of Dominion East Ohio, posted a net income of \$2.5 billion, an 84% increase from the year before and a 240% increase from 2005.

While the report issued by your staff correctly denies Dominion East Ohio's proposed 7% rate hike for usage, which totals approximately \$75 million annually, it replaces this request with an approximate 4% increase through inflating the fixed distribution rate. It straps a disproportional burden on the backs of those consumers who have chosen to conserve, many of whom are low-income. An additional \$12 per month charge before gas even begins to flow would be detrimental to many.

Dominion will tell you that its operating, material, maintenance, and fuel costs have increased in the past several years and months. What they won't tell you is that the cost-of-living for the average consumer has increased substantially as well over the same period of time. Electric prices are up; gasoline prices are through the roof; prescription drug prices are up; grocery prices are up. A seemingly modest natural gas bill increase could lead to low-income individuals and families having to choose between groceries, prescription drugs, or transportation in the winter months ahead.

Over 15,500 homeowners in Cuyahoga County fell victim to foreclosure in 2007. Early numbers for 2008 suggest this trend is only worsening. High utility bills were undoubtedly a contributing factor. Such an increase would contribute to additional foreclosures in the future.



For those with a natural gas furnace, natural gas is a basic necessity. Payment is not optional. Rate hikes like this hit hardest those who are already living at the edge of their means. We must not let Dominion dump its purported costs onto low-income and fixed income people like seniors, while Dominion continues to rack up profits.

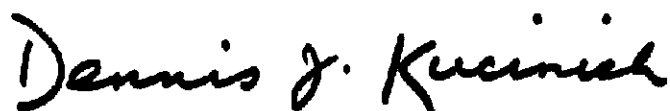
According to the publication *BusinessWeek*, the President and CEO of Dominion received a total calculated compensation of \$15,118,207 in 2007. This amount represents an average of 39% of the annual increase for customers of Dominion East Ohio which the PUCO staff recommended.

In addition, the proposed distribution rate increase does not even fully take into consideration millions of dollars in increased costs that consumers will face if the proposed \$2.6 billion 25-year Pipeline Infrastructure Replacement plan, or the \$126 million automated meter reading device plan, is approved in this case. Such programs will increase profit for Dominion in the long-run through increasing consistency of customer use and operational efficiency, respectively. Dominion should invest on its own in these programs without passing the costs onto consumers. PUCO approval of such charges to be passed on to customers will mean short-term consumer investment in Dominion's long-term profit margin.

I thank you for holding a series of public hearings on this important issue, including this one here in Garfield Heights. I respectfully remind you that the reason for the PUCO's existence is to ensure that adequate consumer protections are in place. A decision to allow Dominion East Ohio to raise its rates in response to its alleged increases in costs would be a slap in the face to millions of consumers who are facing more and more increased costs of their own everyday.

The PUCO should seize this vital opportunity to protect the public from any proposed rate increases by Dominion East Ohio.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis J. Kucinich". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress

DJK:si

August 18, 2008

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

Kenneth McCarthy
1306 Commonwealth Avenue
Mayfield Heights, OH 44124-1748

Dear Chairman Schriber:

Subject: Case numbers 07-829-GA-AIR, 07-830-GA-ALT,
07-831-GA-AAM, 08-169-GA-UNC, and
06-1453-GA-UNC

Thank you for holding some of these hearings in the evening.

With the numerous components of these cases netting to a revenue increase for Dominion East Ohio (DEO), the ^{primary} issue is: How large should that increase be?

The proposed decrease in the delivery charge will certainly be of a temporary nature. ^{THAT TOO WILL ALSO GO UP. K.M.} However, the two hundred and seven percent (207%) increase in the annual fixed charges from sixty-eight dollars and forty cents (\$68.40) to two hundred and ten dollars (\$210.00) is astronomical!

I would hope that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio will reduce the fixed-charge rate of increase to something that does not amount to usury.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Kenneth McCarthy



DOMINION EAST OHIO GAS

07-829-GA-AIR

ANYONE WANTING TO TESTIFY IN THE ABOVE CASE, PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS BELOW:

NAME

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

- ✓ 1. Denise Sabola 9615 Cardwell Ave.
- ✓ 2. Deborah A KOPROWSKI 5212 EAST 88th STREET #106K
- ✓ 3. Tim Love 15815 Libby
- ✓ 4. Steve Inzak 14400 Detroit Ave.
U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich Lakewood, OH 44107
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.



DOMINION EAST OHIO GAS
07-829-GA-AIR

ANYONE WANTING TO TESTIFY IN THE ABOVE CASE, PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS BELOW:

NAME

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

1. RICHARD PHILLIPS 1508 TONSON DR 44125
2. NORMAN KASIEWICZ 4916 E 111 ST 44125
3. Steven Dasek 13305 BANGOR AVE 44125
4. Stanley Dykes 1640 Wood R CLEVE
5. ~~HERMAN RUSSELL~~ 14774 SUMMIT AVE ~~MAPLE HTS, OH 44137~~
6. CAROL KAINEC 324 UNION ST BEDFORD, OH 44146
7. Harry Dodd 7-Hills, OH 44131
8. ~~Virginia Wood~~ 181
9. TIM WALTERS 4510 Broadale 44109
10. MARK KOTU 12321 GARLAND AVE. 44125
11. Stephen Wertheim 1331 Euclid Av. 44115
12. Mary Ryan 5014 E 114 St 44125
13. JOE TURK 5119 EAST 131
- 14.

NUCODOMINION EAST OHIO GAS
07-829-GA-AIRANYONE WANTING TO TESTIFY IN THE ABOVE CASE, PLEASE PRINT YOUR
NAME AND ADDRESS BELOW:

NAME

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

1. Mance A. Caputo 4824 E. 86th St
- ✓ 2. William Weeman 1810 ORCHARD AVE ARDEN 44202
- ✓ 3. Ralph Konkowskie 13708 Oakview 44125
- ✓ 4. MICHAEL SCHUBINKE 18909 MHK MH
- ✓ 5. ERIC PILLIER 6512 BROCKHILL DR.
- ✓ 6. MARK SVINKIN 13821 Codon Rd
- ✓ 7. Les Fook 78 East Schaefer Rd.
Brooklyn Hts. OH
- ✓ 8. Tim GARRITY 6445 Kimberly Dr.
GARFIELD HTS., OH. 44125
- ✓ 9. Van Cutchfield 13620 North
- ✓ 10. Mary Parham 13808 North Dr 44105
- ✓ 11. Ann Roberts 13816 North Dr 44105
- ✓ 12. Blakely Reed 13714 North Pine 44105
- ✓ 13. Alan Knoch ALAN KNOCH
9122 Inman Cir 44105
- ✓ 14. Anthony E. Hyl 13905 York Rd GA HTS
HAFE
- ✓ 15. KENNETH MCCARTHY 1306 COMMONWEALTH AVE.
MAYFIELD HTS., OH 44124



DOMINION EAST OHIO GAS
07-829-GA-AIR

ANYONE WANTING TO TESTIFY IN THE ABOVE CASE, PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS BELOW:

NAME

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

1. Maggie Jellinek 4637 E. 85 St. Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44005
Cuyahoga Falls, OH
2. GARY SMITH 224 GLENCAST RD.
SAGINAW HILLS, OH 44067
3. Jim Romanik 18903 Nottingham Rd 44110
4. Daryl Lawson 4053 Canterbury Rd N. Olmsted OH 44070
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____



DOMINION EAST OHIO GAS
07-829-GA-AIR

ANYONE WANTING TO TESTIFY IN THE ABOVE CASE, PLEASE PRINT YOUR
NAME AND ADDRESS BELOW:

NAME

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

1. ^{QNS} EDWARD W. MILLS 4986 OSBORN ROAD GARFIELD HTS OH 44128

2. JOHN McNAMARA 31007 Logan Ct Westlake OH 44195

3. Jo Ann Balazy 6104 Turney Rd Garfield Hts OH 44125

4. MARVIN STOLTZ 6657 BRETTON RIDGE DRIVE
NORTH OLMS TED OHIO 44070-508

5. Julia Watt 4695 ^{REAR} HORTON GARFIELD HTS OHIO
8033 ^{REAR} 44125

- 6. _____
- 7. _____
- 8. _____
- 9. _____
- 10. _____
- 11. _____
- 12. _____
- 13. _____
- 14. _____

GARFIELD HEIGHTS



DOMINION EAST OHIO GAS
07-829-GA-AIR

ANYONE WANTING TO TESTIFY IN THE ABOVE CASE, PLEASE PRINT YOUR
NAME AND ADDRESS BELOW:

NAME

ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE

1. KAREN RUSSELL

14774 SUMMIT AVE

Maple Hts, OH 44137

2.

3.

4.

5.

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