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August 27, 2008 AUG 29 PM 12: 25

PUCO

Attention: Docketing Division

180 E. Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Case No. 07-829-GA-AIR

To Whom It May Concern:

I have attempted to keep abrest of Dominion/East Ohio Gas impending rate increase and the PUCO's action on such.

To me, this is very similar to our current political situation. It depends on who you listen to and what you believe as to the authenticity of the rate increase. I wonder if this is just another rate increase on consumer commodities and wonder about the costs; I hear the commercials proposing the use of natural gas as an alternate to gasoline for our automobiles; and the abundance of natural gas that has yet to be brought to the surface of our land. Yet, Dominion still talks about the shortage and how that drives up the costs. The full page adds in the Beacon Journal are certainly expensive. Who absorbs those costs?

Over time, I have implemented conservation methods in my home to reduce the usage and save on the costs. However, those actions seem to have had no affect on my costs. I have been on budget payments for several years and each year the budgeted amounts vary. Last year my monthly payments increased from \$54.00 per month to \$120.25 per month. That increase supposely was due to usage increase. I realize weather conditions and thermostatic settings have a big influence on usage, but according to weather conditions, our winter conditions have modified somewhat the last few winters.

According to Dominions news paper adds, some of the proposed increase is due to their plans to install new meters and pipe lines. I fully recognize those items are needed over time spans, but why go to the expense all of a sudden? Is it because they recognize that the PUCO will approve their proposed rate increases? Why not spread the cost of those new modifications over a longer period of time in order to lessen the impact of their consumers?

So, I'm of the opinion that Dominion/East Ohio Gas' customers are captive accounts and the PUCO are just rubber stamp political administrators. I hope you can prove me wrong. I am on a fixed income (retired) and the cost increases are affecting me greatly. I will appreciate a response to this letter.

Thank you.

Daniel Barden 617 Bath Hill Blvd. Akron, OH 44333

Daviel Borden

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RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIY

2008 AUG 29 PM 12: 27

PUCO

FILE

07-829-GA-AIR

August 26, 2008

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

1299 Tonawanda Av Akron, OH 44305 2008 AUG 29 PM 12: 26

PUCO

Attn: Docketing Division 180 E. Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215 PUCO

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in regards to the rate increase. I live alone on a very small fixed income.

My home is a small three bedroom ranch which through the years I have done my best to make as energy efficient as possible i.e.:

Insulation has been added to the attic.

The exterior walls have been insulated.

The windows have been replaced with energy efficient windows.

New insulated storm doors were installed.

The siding was replaced a few years ago with vinyl siding, at which time the home was wrapped with additional insulating wrap.

The furnace was replaced with a more energy efficient furnace.

Approximately 99% of my light bulbs have been replaced with energy efficient florescence bulbs.

I hang my laundry outside when the weather permits.

Adjust the window coverings as the sun and seasons dictate.

In addition to all of this my thermostat is set at 65 degrees in the winter and I rarely use air-condition. If I do the thermostat is set at 79 degrees.

I do not know what more I could possible do and afford to conserve yet my budget billing was increased 177% from my last quarter budget. If rates are increased more, I do not know which I will be forced to forfeit in order to pay the utilities.

I am willing to work but find that very few companies are willing to hire older people. Will you be willing to give me even a part-time position?

Sincerely,

Madelyn Martin

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PS. The only time hot water is used is when dishes are cleaned.