

FILE

7050 Freeland Dr.
Elyria, Ohio 44035
Sept. 15, 2008

PUCO
180 East Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215


RE: 08-0072-GA-AIR

Gentlemen;

I have been advised that Columbia Gas is requesting a rate increase in its base rate of approximately 100 % in the first year and approx. 52 % the next year. (from \$6.50 to \$12.97 and to \$19.76). In light of the present situation of most people, the increase would be catastrophic to individuals who would be forced to pay it.

For example, my Social Security income increased 2.25% from last year and my Medicare cost increased 3.6 %. My average increase in Social Security over the last 5 years has been 4% and Medicare cost increased 8.8%. I really don't know where the additional money would come from in addition to the expected additional cost of acquiring the gas. I feel sure that there are other worse off than myself.

I don't doubt that they need additional money but the requested amount is way beyond reality.


Gerald K. Smith

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV

2008 SEP 17 PM 12:01

PUCO

This is to certify that the images appearing are an
accurate and complete reproduction of a case file
document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician Ann Date Processed 9/17/08