

October 17, 2008

Michael & Linda Powell 4330 Flo Morgan Rd. Portsmouth, OH 45662

PUCO Docketing Division Case #08-0072-GA-Air 180 E. Broad St. Columbus, OH 43215 RECEIVED-DOCKETING MY 2008 OCT 20 PM 1:11
PUCO

PUCO:

We were shocked to learn that the rate increase proposed by Columbia Gas is even being seriously considered. It is unbelievable that the citizens' guardian, PUCO, would allow a utility to increase any portion of their rate by 100% in the first year and 67% the following year!

We are retired and drawing from a pension at the mercy of the financial crisis this country is suffering through. We conserve as much as possible by insulating and keeping our thermostat at an uncomfortably low temperature. Our leaders, also, tell us to conserve for the good of the nation. What thanks do we get? We are penalized by paying the same rate as those who have plenty of money and don't have to consider conserving. We take advantage of the option to choose the gas supplier who will give us the best rate; but we have no option to choose the company to deliver the gas to us. When there is no competition to help keep costs down, we must depend on you, PUCO, to protect us from unfair pricing. Please don't let us down.

Sincerely,

Michael & Linda Powell

Michael Powell

Linda Powell