

NE

Ohio

**Public Utilities
Commission**

09-1937-GA-CSS

RLUC11250921

Case Number

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV. Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

2009 DEC 10 PM 1:39

Attn: Docketing
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43215

Formal Complain Form

PUCO

Richard Lucente Sr
Customer Name

4121 Riverview Lane
Customer Address

Lotain Ohio 44055
City State Zip

Against

163941500010004
Account Number

4204 Riverview Lane
Customer Service Address (if different from above)

Columbia Gas
Utility Company Name

Lotain Ohio 44055
City State Zip

Please describe your complaint. (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

This started several years ago when Columbia Gas had a sub contractor move several hundred meters in the homewood area of Lotain, all the meters that were put outside the homes were put on the opposite side of the homes away from the driveways, my son's home is the only one put in the driveway out of several hundred, when I asked why they put it in the driveway the man said no one was at home.

Richard Lucente Sr.
Signature

440-277-0734
Customer Telephone Number

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Christian DR Date Processed 12/10/09

I told him that someone had to be home in order for them to run the flex gasline in the attic of the home and hook it up to where the old meter was inside the house. Then the guy tell me that it was easier to run it that way, I said to him that I didn't want it in the driveway that someone could hit it. The fence that is at the end of the driveway it actually a double gate and there was a trailer and boat in the back yard and this was going to be a problem. I called Columbia gas several times and nothing was ever done. I contacted my Council at large woman Ann Molnar and she tried to help but nothing was done by Columbia gas after several years of trying someone told me to go to the P V C O so I did and at least I am getting some response, Columbia gas offered to put a pole in to protect the meter which would only make it more difficult to get into the back where the boat & trailers are. They also said they would move the meter if I paid them, I told them that I was down there and talked to the people that put the meter in the driveway when this happened and wanted it moved then and they refused. it is the only one in the area put in a driveway all others on opposite side of houses. Why would anyone put a gas meter in a driveway so it could be hit, also the drains from the gutters empty on the driveway side of the house which will cause corrosion to the piping fasters. I would appreciate anything you can do. My 2 neighbors work for Columbia gas and said they should of never put it in the driveway. I also furnished Columbia gas with regulations on putting a meter in a driveway.

I live 6 houses down the street from my son's and have tried from day 1 to get this problem corrected, has nothing to do with garage, gas shutoff notice or anything else as columbia gas is trying to say and this is strictly a safety issue.

Thank You

Richard Lucente Sr.
4204 Reservoir Lane.
Lorain, Ohio 44055
440-277-0734

PS I would like the PUCO to get columbia to move meter to opposite side of house out of driveway at no cost to me since they should of never put it in the driveway.

ARTICLE 3. GAS FITTING CODE

4-301. **PERMIT REQUIRED.** Any person desiring to install, extend or replace any gas piping and/or install major gas appliances, such as water heaters, floor furnaces, central heating plants, incinerators or gas engines, which use natural or artificial gas as a motive power, in any building or on any premises within the city, shall make application in writing to the building official describing and giving the location of the work proposed. (Code 1988)

4-302. **PERMIT FEES.** For permit fees relating to gas fitting and piping see section 4-406 of this chapter. (Code 1988)

4-303. **INCORPORATING NATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE.** The code known as "American National Standard - National Fuel Gas Code", 1988 edition, sponsored by American Gas Association, 1515 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22209, and the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., Battery March Park, Quincy, Massachusetts 03369, is hereby incorporated by reference as provided and authorized by statutes of the State of Kansas, as the minimum standards of installation and construction of gas piping and appliances, except as herein provided. (Ord. 851, Sec. 1)

4-304. **GAS LINE OFFSET FROM OTHER LINES AND CONCEALED GAS LINES ABOVE GRADE.** (a) Gas Line Ditches: Gas line ditches shall be at least three feet distance from any other utility ditch measured from side wall to nearest side wall of adjoining ditch. Depth of ditch shall be 36 inches.

(b) Where gas piping shall run in a concealed chase, the chase where pipe enters shall have a minimum of two holes bored through top plates. Holes shall be no less in diameter than size of hole or holes bored for pipe or pipes and in no case shall be of such size as would weaken top plates.

(c) If gas pipe runs horizontally in wall, which is not recommended, and a fitting occurs in a concealed chase, then two holes shall be required as aforementioned.

(Ord. 851, Sec. 2)

4-305. **MANUAL GAS SHUT OFF VALVES.** Part 3.10.2 in the National Fuel Gas Code, 1988, shall be amended to read:

(a) A shut-off valve shall be installed in the gas service line before it enters the building on the outside of the building and shall be

located above ground in the riser black pipe or the horizontal pipe going into the building.

(b) No shut-off valve shall be located in the crawl space of a building or mobile home, unless a gas fired furnace or water heater is installed in the crawl space and then a shutoff valve shall be installed at or as near as possible to the unit being served, but shall in no way exclude the shutoff valve required on the exterior line of the building in the proceeding paragraph.

(Ord. 851, Sec. 3)

- 4-306. **GAS LINE DEPTH.** Part 3.1.2a. of the National Fuel Gas Code shall be amended to read:

Cover Requirements: Underground piping system shall be installed with at least 36 inches of cover. (Ord. 851, Sec. 4)

- 4-307. **DELETION.** Part 3.4.5b of the 1988 National Fuel Gas Code is hereby deleted. (Ord. 851, Sec. 5)

- 4-308. **GAS METER LOCATION.** Article 2.7.2b of the 1988 National Fuel Gas Code shall be amended to read:

Gas meters may be placed adjacent to a city alley way or within a utility easement or may be placed near the house at the property owners discretion. Gas meters shall not be placed where they will be subjected to damage, such as adjacent to a private driveway, under a fire escape, in public walk passages, halls, coal bins, or where they will be subject to excessive corrosion or vibration. (Ord. 851, Sec. 6)

- 4-309. **AMENDMENT.** Part 2.6.8d.5 of the National Fuel Gas Code shall be amended to read:

Steel bushings may be used only on gas fired appliances or equipment and only on the automatic control valve. (Ord. 851, Sec. 7)

- 4-310. **ENFORCEMENT.** The administrative authority shall be designated as the enforcement authority for the National Fuel Gas Code and shall have the power to enter on private premises to perform such duties as may be required by this article, to issue orders requiring the correction of defects in gas piping systems, to order the removal of piping which does not conform to the standards of this article, to reinspect the gas piping system and to issue permits and certificates of approval. (Ord. 851, Sec. 8)

4-311. **GAS UTILITY COMPANY.** The gas utility company which operates under a franchise granted by the city is hereby authorized to discontinue or refuse to supply gas for any gas piping or gas appliance which may appear to be defective or leaking, or otherwise considered to endanger life or property; provided, that the gas utility company shall immediately give notice of the discontinuance to the administrative authority and to the occupant of the building or premises where such gas supply is discontinued or refused. Service may be resumed upon inspection by the authority and satisfactory evidence that the defect or unsafe condition has been corrected. (Ord. 851, Sec. 9)

4-312. **GAS UTILITY COMPANY; AUTHORITY.** The gas utility company which operates under a franchise granted by the city is hereby authorized to discontinue or refuse to supply gas for any gas piping or gas appliance which may appear to be defective or leaking, or otherwise considered to endanger life or property; provided, that the gas utility company shall immediately give notice of the discontinuance to the inspector and to the occupant of the building or premises where such gas supply is discontinued or refused. Service may be resumed upon inspection by the building official and satisfactory evidence that the defect or unsafe condition has been corrected. (Code 1988)



**Public Utilities
Commission**

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December 01, 2009

Richard Lucente
4121 Riverview Ln
Lorain, OH 44055

CASE ID: RLUC11250921

Dear Mr. Lucente:

Thank you for contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). Enclosed is the necessary information for filing a formal complaint.

Please note that all filings must be made on 8-1/2 by 11 inch paper. You must provide one original and 10 copies of the complaint.

If you have any questions about this or any other regulated utility-related matter, please contact the PUCO Consumer Hotline at 1-800-686-PUCO (7826). For more information regarding the PUCO, visit us on the web at www.PUCO.ohio.gov.

Sincerely,

Dianne Doss
Public Utilities Administrator, Natural Gas
Service Monitoring and Enforcement Department

Enclosure