## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Complaint of Daniel K. Ellison and Kimberly Dot Ellison,	) ) )
Complainants,	) )
V.	) Case No. 11-4895-GA-CSS
The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion East Ohio,	) ) )
Respondent.	)
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The attorney examiner finds:

- (1) On August 26, 2011, Daniel K. Ellison and Kimberly Dot Ellison (complainants) filed a complaint against The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a/ Dominion East Ohio (DEO) alleging that, in May 2011, DEO inappropriately terminated complainants' gas service without notice. According to complainants, DEO alleged that tampering occurred with complainants' gas meter and DEO will not restore service until complainants pay the outstanding balance on their DEO account. Complainants deny that they tampered with their meter.
- (2) On September 19, 2011, DEO filed its answer to the complaint, stating that it terminated gas service to complainants' property on May 3, 2011, due to tampering. DEO also explains that it is requiring complainants to pay the outstanding balance on their account prior to reconnecting service.
- (3) On September 22, 2011, complainants filed a motion requesting that the Commission order complainants' gas service be restored during the pendency of the complaint, because the weather is turning colder and complainants are currently without heat. On September 29, 2011, DEO filed a memorandum contra this motion.

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(4) On September 27, 2011, an attorney examiner from the Commission's legal department contacted counsel for complainants and DEO in order to expeditiously schedule a settlement conference for the week of October 3, 2011, to facilitate discussion of the issues in this case, including the potential reconnection of complainants' gas service. At that time, due to a scheduling conflict of complainant's counsel, the parties agreed to attend a settlement conference on September 30, 2011. Thereafter, an entry scheduling the September 30, 2011 settlement conference was issued.

- (5) On September 29, 2011, DEO and complainants filed a joint motion to continue the settlement conference to any day of the week of October 17 through 21, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. In support of their motion, the parties state that Daniel K. Ellison is unable to take off work to attend the settlement conference and counsel for DEO has a scheduling conflict and he will also be unable to attend the settlement conference.
- (6) Despite the attorney examiner's efforts to facilitate settlement of the issues in this case in an expeditious fashion, especially in light of the complainants' concern that the weather is turning colder and they have no gas service for heat, the parties now seek to postpone the settlement conference until the week of October 17, 2011. The attorney examiner will grant the parties' joint motion to continue the settlement conference.
- (7) Accordingly, the September 30, 2011 settlement conference shall be continued to October 17, 2011, at 1:30 p.m., in Room 1246, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the parties' joint motion to continue the settlement conference be granted. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a settlement conference be continued to and held on October 17, 2011, at 1:30 p.m., in Room 1246, 12th Floor, at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3793. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon all parties of record.

## THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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By: Scott E. Farkas

Attorney Examiner

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Entered in the Journal SEP 3 0 2011

Betty McCauley

Secretary