

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Complaint of United)
Services Automobile Association,)
)
Complainant,)
)
v.) Case No. 14-1176-GA-CSS
NiSource, Inc.,)
)
and)
)
Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.,)
)
Respondents.)

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) Pursuant to R.C. 4905.26, the Commission has authority to consider written complaints filed against a public utility by any person or corporation regarding any rate, service, regulation, or practice relating to any service furnished by the public utility that is in any respect unjust, unreasonable, insufficient, or unjustly discriminatory.
- (2) Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia) is a natural gas company as defined in 4905.03, and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission.
- (3) On July 3, 2014, United Services Automobile Association (USAA), as subrogee of Roger and Joy Ellen Wood (insureds), filed a complaint against NiSource, Inc. (NiSource), and Columbia (jointly, Respondents). In its complaint, USAA alleged that Respondents failed to provide reasonable, necessary, and/or adequate natural gas service as required by the Revised Code and the Ohio

Administrative Code, resulting in a fire that caused damage to USAA's insureds' property.

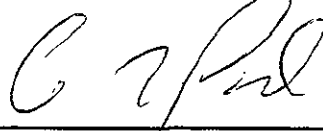
- (4) On July 23, 2014, Respondents filed an answer to USAA's complaint. In their answer, Respondents generally denied the allegations set forth in the complaint and set forth affirmative defenses. Additionally, Respondents filed a motion to dismiss the complaint.
- (5) On August 11, 2014, USAA filed a response to Respondents' motion to dismiss, as well as an amended complaint that, among other things, released NiSource as a respondent.
- (6) By Entry issued August 26, 2014, the attorney examiner permitted USAA's complaint to be amended and scheduled a settlement conference. The settlement conference was held on December 2, 2014; however, at that time, the parties were unable to reach a settlement.
- (7) On December 29, 2014, Columbia filed a motion for leave to file an answer to USAA's amended complaint. As part of its December 29, 2014 motion, Columbia also filed a motion to dismiss the amended complaint. On January 13, 2015, USAA filed a memorandum contra Columbia's motion to dismiss. On January 20, 2015, Columbia filed a reply memorandum in support of its motion to dismiss the amended complaint.
- (8) On November 13, 2015, the attorney examiner granted Columbia's motion for leave to file an answer and denied Columbia's motion to dismiss the amended complaint. Further, the attorney examiner scheduled the case for a hearing on February 16, 2016.
- (9) Thereafter, on November 20, 2015, the parties filed a joint motion to dismiss the case. In their motion, the parties advise that they have resolved all issues raised in the amended complaint and have agreed to a settlement. Further, the parties request that the Commission dismiss the case.
- (10) In light of the settlement of the complaint, the Commission finds that this case should be dismissed and closed of record.

It is, therefore,

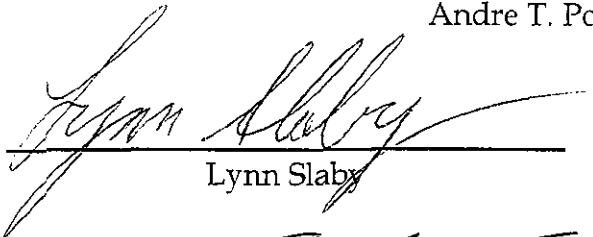
ORDERED, That the joint motion to dismiss be granted and that Case No. 14-1176-GA-CSS be dismissed and closed of record. It is, further,

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

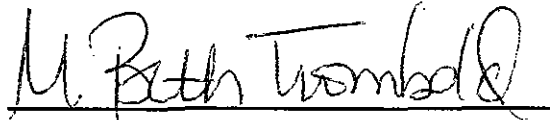
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



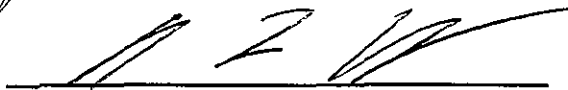
Andre T. Porter, Chairman



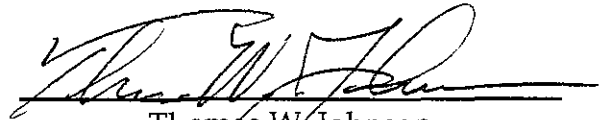
Lynn Slaby



M. Beth Trombold



Asim Z. Haque

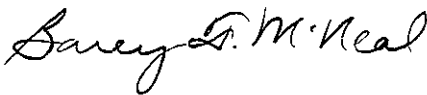


Thomas W. Johnson

MWC/sc

Entered in the Journal

JAN 06 2016



Barcy F. McNeal
Secretary