

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Investigation)
of Racine Gas and Service Company,)
to determine if a receiver should) Case No. 86-2012-GA-COI
be appointed for the protection of)
the public.)

In the Matter of the Investigation)
Rutland Fuel Company to determine)
if a receiver should be appointed) Case No. 86-2013-GA-COI
for the protection of the public.)

In the Matter of the Investigation)
of Syracuse Home Utilities Company)
to determine if a receiver should) Case No. 86-2014-GA-COI
be appointed for the protection)
of the public.)

ENTRY

The Commission, coming now to consider the above-entitled matters, makes the following findings:

- 1) Racine Gas and Service Company (Racine), Rutland Fuel Company (Rutland), and Syracuse Home Utilities Company (Syracuse) are gas or natural gas companies as defined by Section 4905.03(A)(5)(6), Revised Code, and public utilities as set forth in Section 4905.02, Revised Code. Therefore these companies are subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 2) It has come to the attention of the Commission that Racine, Rutland, and Syracuse may not in the future continue to be able to supply their customers' natural gas needs. Specifically, the Commission is aware that Columbia Gas Transmission Company (Columbia), the supplier of natural gas to Racine, Rutland, and Syracuse, has filed actions to abandon service to these three Ohio public utilities on account of their substantial debts which are owed to Columbia. The Commission is concerned that should Columbia's actions be successful, the customers of these three utilities may no longer have gas service.
- 3) Under Section 4905.60, Revised Code, whenever the Commission is of the opinion that any public utility has failed or is about to fail

to obey any order made with respect to it, or is permitting, or about to permit, anything contrary to or in violation of law, or of an order of the Commission, the Commission may request the attorney general to commence and prosecute appropriate civil remedies in the name of the state.

- 4) The Commission is initiating these investigations to determine if Racine, Rutland, and Syracuse may be about to lose their gas supply and to render themselves unable to perform their duty to serve their customers. The Commission wishes to determine with these investigations if it will be necessary to ask the attorney general to seek receivers in order to assure that natural gas service to the customers of these three utilities will continue. Case No. 86-2012-GA-COI will concern Racine, Case No. 86-2013-GA-COI will concern Rutland, and Case No. 86-2014-GA-COI will concern Syracuse.
- 5) In order to make these determinations whether receivers should be appointed, there should be a public hearing on these matters on Friday, November 21, 1986 at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573. In order to facilitate matters the three hearings will be held on the same day consecutively, but any determinations with regard to the three individual companies will be made separately.
- 6) At the hearings, Racine, Rutland, and Syracuse should show cause why they believe that receivers should not be appointed to assure that their customers continue to receive gas service. The three utilities should be prepared to discuss separately and in detail how they intend to reduce their indebtedness and to manage themselves in a manner consistent with the rules and regulations of this Commission.
- 7) The Secretary of the Commission should cause the following legal notice to be published once, not less than fifteen days nor more than thirty days prior to the hearing, in at least one newspaper of general circulation in Meigs County, Ohio.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has initiated investigations to determine if Racine Gas and Service Company, Rutland Fuel Company, and Syracuse Home Utilities Company should have receivers appointed for the protection of the public. Public hearings on these matters have been scheduled to commence on Friday, November 21, 1986 starting at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573. Further information may be obtained by contacting the Commission.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Commission investigations to determine if Racine, Rutland, and Syracuse should have receivers appointed for the protection of the public be initiated. It is, further,

ORDERED, That public hearings on these matters be held on Friday, November 21, 1986 starting at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0573. It is, further,

ORDERED, That notice of the hearing be published in accordance with Finding No. 7. It is, further,

ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon Racine Gas and Service Company, Rutland Fuel Company, and Syracuse Home Utilities Company.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Thomas V. Chema
Thomas V. Chema, Chairman

William H. Brooks
William H. Brooks

Gloria L. Gaylord
Gloria L. Gaylord

Ashley C. Brown
Ashley C. Brown

Alan R. Schriber
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CLM:KSD

ENTERED IN THE JOURNAL OCT 22 1986
(DATE)

P. M. Angel