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## BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Complaint of )
The Suburban Fuel Gas, Inc.,

Complainant,

v.

Case No. 86-1747-GA-CSS

Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.,

Respondent,

Relative to various alleged violations of the Ohio Revised Code.

## ENTRY

The attorney examiner finds:

- 1) On August 29, 1986, The Suburban Fuel Gas, Inc. (Suburban) filed a complaint with the Commission against Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia). The complaint alleged that Columbia and Suburban are competitors, particularly in Wood County, Ohio. Suburban alleged that Columbia is offering general service customers within Columbia's northwestern region, which includes parts of Wood County, lower rates than the general service rates of Columbia on file with the Commission. Suburban alleged that the lower rates are being charged on a discriminatory basis without regard to the service characteristics or requirements of customers similarly situated and for the purpose of destroying competition.
- On January 6, 1987, the Commission denied Columbia's motions to dismiss the complaint and ordered Columbia to answer the complaint by January 26, 1987.
- 3) On January 27, 1987, Columbia answered the complaint. Columbia denied that it offered or provided service in a manner which violated its filed tariffs, contracts, or relevant state statutes, that it had offered or charged unlawfully discriminatory rates, or that it had charged rates or performed services for the purpose of destroying competition. Columbia denied all substantive allegations of the complaint.

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- Reasonable grounds for complaint have been stated as required by Section 4905.26, Revised Code. A public hearing should be scheduled to commence at 10:00 a.m., on April 7, 1987, at the offices of the Commissic 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Chio 43266-0573.
- 5) In Commission proceedings, the complainant has the burden of proving the allegations of the complaint. At the hearing it shall be the complainant's responsibility to appear and be prepared to present evidence in support of the complaint.
- 6) The Secretary of this Commission should cause the following legal notice to be published once not less than 15 nor more than 30 days prior to the hearing in at least one newspaper of general circulation in Wood County:

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that The Suburban Fuel Gas, Inc. of Cygnet, Ohio has filed a complaint with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio against Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. The complaint alleges that Columbia has offered or charged unlawfully discriminatory rates and has provided customer service lines and main extensions in a manner that violates Columbia's tariffs for the purpose of destroying competition between Suburban and Columbia. A public hearing on this matter, Case No. 86-1747-GA-CSS will be held on April 7, 1987, 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 a public hearing on this matter be held in accordance with Finding No. 4. It is, further,

ORDERED, That notice of the hearing be published in accordance with Finding No. 6. It is, further,

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CAMERA OPERATOR

DATE PROCESSED 2

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ORDERED, That copies of this entry be served upon each party of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Colleen L. Mooney Attorney Framiner

CLM/vrt

Entered in the Journal

FEB 2 1987

A True Copy

Nancy U. Wolpe Secretary

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in

Case No(s). 86-1747-GA-CSS

Summary: Entry Entry scheduling hearing to be held on April 7, 1987, at 10:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission. (AE) electronically filed by Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing