Lucas A. Fykes
Direct: 614.405.8716

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Re: Ronald F. Pugsley vs. The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio, Case No. 20-1365-GA-CSS

Dear Mr. Pugsley:

In accordance with 4901-1-05(D), requiring service of pleadings, please find attached Dominion Energy Ohio's Answer to your Complaint filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio in Case No. 20-1365-GA-CSS. If you have questions, please let me know.

Lucas A. Fykes

One of the Attorneys for The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio

Enclosure: August 27, 2020 Answer of DEO

2021 OCT 12 PM 2:59

The KeyBank Building • 88 East Broad Street, Suite 1590 • Columbus, Ohio 43215 180 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2020 • Chicago, Illinois 60601

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

RONALD F. PUGSLEY)
Complainant,) }
v.) Case No. 20-1365-GA-CSS
THE EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY D/B/A	
DOMINION ENERGY OHIO)
)
Respondent.)

Mary Sugar

ANSWER

In accordance with Ohio Adm. Code 4901-9-01(D), the Respondent, The East Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio (DEO or the Company), for its answer to the complaint of Ronald F. Pugsley (Complainant), states:

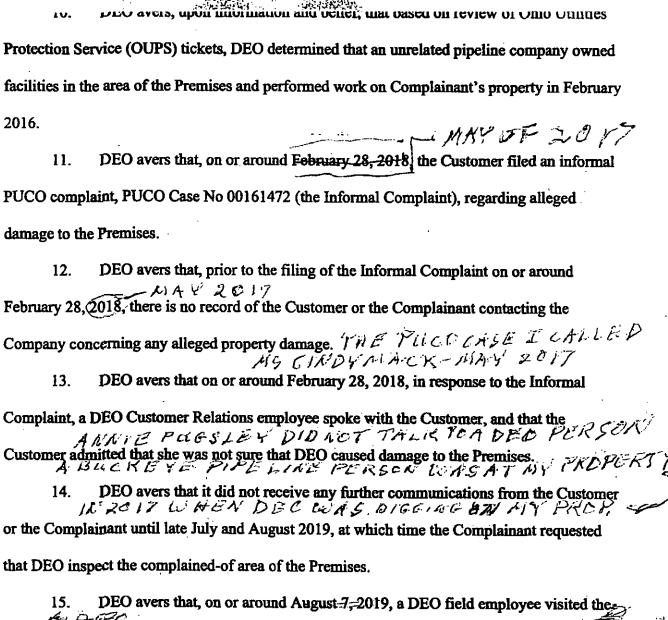
FIRST DEFENSE

- 1. DEO avers that Annie Pugsley is a residential customer (the Customer) currently receiving natural gas service from DEO in Shawnee Township in Allen County at 2253 Arcadia Ave, Lima, OH 45805 (the Premises) and is the primary account holder for the account ending in 6024 (the Account). DEO also avers that the Complainant is neither a co-applicant nor an authorized user for the Account, but upon information and belief, is the spouse of the Customer.
- 2. DEO generally avers that it neither performed nor ordered the performance of any excavation work at or around the Premises during 2017, the time at which the damage was alleged to occur; that any excavation work performed on DEO's behalf in the area of the Premises occurred in 2012, many years before the damage alleged in the Complaint; and that DEO is aware of no facts or other basis on which DEO could be deemed responsible for the damage alleged to occur. DEO further generally avers that it has repeatedly cooperated with

155 D 1014 TSALL 1017 Customer and Complainant and responded to their inquiries, and that the majority of the responses below address such communications.

- 3. DEO avers that it has no knowledge of the whereabouts of the dirt allegedly removed from Complainant's property in May 2017 but that DEO neither removed it nor ordered its removal.
- 4. DEO avers that the Company does not have any pipeline near the complained-of area on the Premises.
- 5. DEO avers that in 2012, the Company installed a gas main line and a service line along Arcadia Avenue on the same side of the road as the Premises (the Gas Main and Service Line).
- 6. DEO avers that it did not destroy a ditch, create a trough, remove dirt, or otherwise perform any excavation work on the Premises in 2017 or at any other time after 2012 when the Gas Main and Service Line were installed.
- 7. DEO avers that it did not hire a contractor to perform excavation work on the Premises in 2017 or at any other time after 2012 when the Gas Main and Service Line were installed.

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- 8. DEO avers that it does not have employees with the position title "overseer" and further, that it has no knowledge of a conversation that the Complainant alleges occurred with a DEO representative in May 2017.
- 9. DEO avers that no DEO employee visited the Premises to mark the pipelines in DEO 15 CALLING THERR EMPLETEE A LEAR TO 15 2017 or any other time after 2012 when the Gas Main and Service Line were installed and further, that DEO does not use employees but contractors to perform this task.



Premises in response to the Complainant's request. At that time, the employee incorrectly

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advised that the Gas Main and Service Line had been installed in 2014, instead of 2012, when ACT 2017 HER RECORDS SAY 2017 WHEN SHE MARKED THE they were actually installed. The DEO employee correctly advised that DEO had not performed work at the Premises in 2017, when the alleged damage occurred, and that other entities MO CHIER CONYANT Performing work on the property may have been responsible for alleged property damage.

THOUGH DEO TRIED TO BLAME BUCKETE P. PETIND

- telephone conversation with representatives of the pipeline company who performed work at the Premises in February 2016 concerning the Premises, but denies that DEO stated during that WOONE PERFORMED WORKON MY PROF. IN 2016 CONLY 2017 conversation that DEO had done excavation work at the Premises in 2017.
- 17. DEO avers that, on or around August 27, 2019, DEO was informed that the Complainant claimed to have a letter allegedly implicating DEO sent by the pipeline company who performed work at the Premises in February 2016 but that to date, despite requesting the letter from the Complainant, DEO has not received a copy of the letter.

 IN EO WAS CIVEN PHENE NUMBERS SHE COULD
- 18. DEO is without sufficient knowledge or information to admit or deny the CALL THE OTHER CO, VERIFIED DEO WAS THE DOWN THE remaining allegations in the complaint, and generally denies any allegations not specifically DIGETY IN 2017 admitted or denied in this Answer in accordance with Ohio Adm. Code 4901-9-01(D).

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

SECOND DEFENSE

19. The complaint does not comply with the Commission's rules requiring "a statement which clearly explains the facts." Ohio Adm. Code 4901-9-01(B). Many of the allegations are not in numbered-paragraph, but narrative, form; many of the allegations and statements in the complaint are compound; and many of the allegations omit numerous details necessary to answer them. The Company, has attempted, to the best of its ability, to answer the allegations, but reserves the right to amend its answer in the event it has incorrectly understood the allegations.

THIRD DEFENSE

20. The complaint fails to set forth reasonable grounds for complaint, as required by R.C. 4905.26.

FUUK IH DEFENSE

21. The complaint does not set forth a claim for which relief may be granted.

FIFTH DEFENSE

22. DEO at all times complied with the Ohio Revised Code Title 49; the applicable rules, regulations, and orders of the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio; and the Company's tariffs. These statutes, rules, regulations, orders and tariff provisions bar Mr. Pugsley's claims.

SIXTH DEFENSE

23. DEO avers that the complaint is barred by waiver and estoppel.

SEVENTH DEFENSE

24. DEO reserves the right to raise other defenses as warranted by discovery in this matter.

EIGHTH DEFENSE

25. Claims alleged in the complaint are not within the subject-matter jurisdiction of the Commission.

WHEREFORE, DEO respectfully requests an Order dismissing the complaint and granting it all other necessary and proper relief.

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Dated: August 27, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Christopher T. Kennedy

Mark A. Whitt (0067996)
Christopher T. Kennedy (0075228)
Lucas A. Fykes (0098471)
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(All counsel willing to accept service by email)

ATTORNEYS FOR THE EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY D/B/A DOMINION ENERGY OHIO

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

ERROR: syntaxerror, that a conv of the foregoing Answer was served by mail to the following OFFENDING COMMAND: --nostringval--

STACK:: this 27th day of August, 2020:

Ronald F. Pugsley 2253 Arcadia Ave Lima, OH 45805

/s/ Lucas A. Fykes
One of the Attorneys for The East Ohio Gas
Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio

My Dullin, as you know, I called the Clevland and columbus box associations, no lawyes was interested so I quess mr Brown is my advocate I'm sure he can represent me as well as Ther lauryess. I have mes longed the letter & wanted you to see but the white Stuttevant LLP gives your GOOD edea of the miss dated they used I guess to confuse people The True date is May 1st the May 11th 2817. il under stand the contractor Dominion used to dig and take away my top soil and chist and caused my lone to be flooded is from Van West Op is I couldn't get the contractor name Thanks for cong delp you and Ms Brown is able to do for my wife and ma spein 89 Dan 87 years of age Ronald Pregsley





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