

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF
MARK KUPELIAN,**

COMPLAINANT,

v.

CASE NO. 22-158-GA-CSS

**THE EAST OHIO GAS COMPANY DBA
DOMINION ENERGY OHIO,**

RESPONDENT.

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on May 18, 2022

I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission grants the request to dismiss the complaint, with prejudice, filed by The East Ohio Gas Company dba Dominion Energy Ohio.

II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 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} The East Ohio Gas Company dba Dominion Energy Ohio (DEO) is a natural gas company as defined in R.C. 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 March 1, 2022, Mark Kupelian (Complainant) filed a complaint against DEO. Complainant explained that he had plans for an addition to his kitchen, which would entail relocation of the gas meter just outside the kitchen. According to Complainant, DEO had informed him that relocating the gas meter at Complainant's request requires that he pay for a new service line made of plastic. Complainant

contended that the existing steel service line functions well and has experienced no issues. Complainant further asserted that, when an oil furnace at his home was replaced with a gas furnace, heating efficiency improved; therefore, there was no increase in gas load and no need for a plastic gas line. Complainant also objected to DEO's estimated cost of moving the gas meter, which he contended is more than twice the national average cost. Complainant concluded that DEO's meter relocation policy is arbitrary, unjust, and unreasonable.

{¶ 4} On March 18, 2022, DEO filed a motion for additional time to answer the complaint and a request for expedited treatment. DEO requested until April 4, 2022, to file its answer. DEO explained that it was involved in settlement discussions with Complainant and believed that a mutually agreeable resolution of the matter was possible. DEO added that Complainant did not object to DEO's request.

{¶ 5} In a March 31, 2022 Entry, the attorney examiner granted DEO's motion requesting additional time, until April 4, 2022.

{¶ 2} DEO filed its answer on April 4, 2022, contending that the complaint has been satisfied and the matter settled. DEO requested an order dismissing the complaint with prejudice. DEO also noted that, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-9-01(F), Complainant has 20 days to file a written response agreeing or disagreeing with DEO's assertion of settlement; if no response is filed, the Commission may presume that satisfaction has occurred and dismiss the complaint.

{¶ 3} Complainant did not file a response by April 24, 2022, regarding DEO's assertion that the matter has been settled. Accordingly, this complaint shall be dismissed with prejudice.

III. ORDER

{¶ 4} It is, therefore,

{¶ 5} ORDERED, That DEO's request to dismiss the complaint, with prejudice, be granted. It is, further,

{¶ 6} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

COMMISSIONERS:

Approving:

Jenifer French, Chair

M. Beth Trombold

Lawrence K. Friedeman

Daniel R. Conway

Dennis P. Deters

JML/hac

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

5/18/2022 2:50:07 PM

in

Case No(s). 22-0158-GA-CSS

Summary: Entry granting the request to dismiss the complaint, with prejudice, filed by The East Ohio Gas Company dba Dominion Energy Ohio. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio