

**From:** [PUCO Consumer Call Center](#)  
**To:** [Puco Docketing](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO - CASE #: 00764638 [ ref:\_00Dt0GzXt\_5008y4UBm1:ref ]  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 4:24:47 PM



**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO  
Consumer Service Division  
Memorandum**

**CASE ID:** 00764638

**CUSTOMER:** Tabitha Palmer

**SERVICE ADDRESS:** 2912 Dresden Street, Columbus, Ohio 43224

**AIQ:** Columbia Gas of Ohio

\*\*\*To ensure your response attaches to the appropriate case, please reply to this email without changing the subject line. Thank you!\*\*\*

**DOCKETING CASE #:** 21-0637-GA-AIR

**SUBJECT:** Columbia Gas of Ohio - Protest Rate Case

Please docket the associated customer comment and/or attached in the case number referenced above under "Public Comments". This information was received by the Consumer Services Division through alternate channels and is being forwarded to be filed formally. This information is not the opinion of Staff and should not be viewed as such.

Description: With the recent "intentional" power outages by AEP, many people are looking into backup generators and solar solutions. I believe you have an opportunity to "be the good guy" and limit the proposed rate hike to the 10 million dollars suggested to PUCO by the Consumer Counsel and then competing with AEP for revenue by incentivizing residents to buy gas dryers, water heaters, furnaces, outdoor fireplaces, wall heaters, grills and refrigerators to safeguard their homes against (AEP) power outages. With gasoline prices increasing, CNG vehicles are also looking more attractive.

I object to the (base) rate hike as your proposal would increase my monthly distribution charge from \$16.75 to \$46.31, regardless of the

amount of gas I conserve (my current bill is less than your proposed distribution charge). In the next five years, I understand you propose for this charge to increase to \$80 per month, guaranteeing your revenue at the expense of my ability to budget by reducing my usage. I feel an increase in the price of units of gas used is fairer and more equitable for residential customers who have already been hit hard by the pandemic, rising interest rates and a lack of available housing.

I have never believed that utilities should be privately owned, but if Columbia Gas wants to stay in control of this market, you will need to adapt to serve your customer base and their behaviors. The Consumer Council's ask for a \$10 million bill-payment assistance program for low-income and working-poor consumers, funded by Columbia's stockholders, wouldn't be as necessary if you don't raise the base rate.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tabitha Palmer

This message and any response to it may constitute a public record and thus may be publicly available to anyone who requests it.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** PUCO Consumer Call Center [contactthepuco@puc.state.oh.us]

**Sent:** 6/21/2022 4:22 PM

**To:** tabi.ann.palmer@gmail.com

**Subject:** PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO - Case #: 00764638 [ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_5008y4UBm1:ref]



Case Number: 00764638

Dear Tabitha Palmer:

Thank you for contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) regarding Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. (Columbia Gas) and its application to increase its rates.

The PUCO is responsible for ensuring that utilities across the state provide safe and reliable services. Great care is taken to review the utilities' financial records to make certain that the rates set do not result in the over-collection of revenue.

On June 30, 2021, Columbia Gas filed an application to increase its distribution rates. Columbia Gas has also requested various changes to its tariff and the continuation or addition of several riders.

The PUCO staff is in the process of investigating the facts and issues in the company's application and preparing a staff report. A local public hearing will be also be scheduled. The PUCO will fully examine all issues and evidence presented before it comes to a decision in this case.

The company's application and all related documents are available at [www.PUCO.ohio.gov](http://www.PUCO.ohio.gov), case no. 21-0637-GA-AIR. Click on the link to "Docketing information System" (DIS). You can then enter the case number in the "Case Lookup" search field. Additionally, I have filed your comments in the case docket; as a result, your comments will form a permanent part of the record.

Should you have any additional utility-related questions, please do not hesitate to contact the PUCO Call Center at (800) 686-PUCO (7826) or visit our website at [www.PUCO.ohio.gov](http://www.PUCO.ohio.gov).

Sincerely,

**Pamela Frye**

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Service Monitoring and Enforcement Department  
Customer Service Supervisor - Water  
(800) 686-PUCO (7826)  
[www.PUCO.ohio.gov](http://www.PUCO.ohio.gov)

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----- Original Message -----

**From:** PUCO Consumer Call Center [noreply@puc.state.oh.us]

**Sent:** 6/21/2022 1:31 PM

**To:** tabi.ann.palmer@gmail.com

**Subject:** PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO - Your Case #00764638



Dear Tabitha Palmer:

Thank you for contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO).  
Your case number is 00764638.

A PUCO Call Center Representative will contact you as soon as possible  
to discuss your case.

Sincerely,

PUCO Call Center  
(800) 686-PUCO (7826)  
[www.PUCO.ohio.gov](http://www.PUCO.ohio.gov)

 <https://www.facebook.com/PUCOOhio>

This message and any response to it may constitute a public record and thus may be  
publicly available to anyone who requests it.

ref:\_00Dt0GzXt.\_5008y4UBm1:ref



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the Phish Alert Button if available.



**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities  
Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on  
6/21/2022 4:37:12 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 21-0637-GA-AIR, 21-0638-GA-ALT, 21-0639-GA-UNC, 21-0640-GA-  
AAM**

Summary: Public Comment of Tabitha Palmer, via website, electronically filed by  
Docketing Staff on behalf of Docketing