

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Co-)	
Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Authority)	
to Amend its Filed Tariffs to Increase the)	Case No. 21-637-GA-AIR
Rates and Charges for Gas Services and)	
Related Matters.)	

In the Matter of the Application of Co-)	
Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of)	Case No. 21-638-GA-ALT
an Alternative Form of Regulation.)	

In the Matter of the Application of Co-)	
Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval of)	
a Demand Side Management Program)	Case No. 21-639-GA-UNC
for its Residential and Commercial Cus-)	
tomers.)	

In the Matter of the Application of Co-)	
Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. for Approval to)	Case No. 21-640-GA-AAM
Change Accounting Methods.)	

**MOTION OF COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.
FOR A CONTINUANCE AND
REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED RULING**

Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia") moves to continue the evidentiary hearing in this case to commence on October 18, 2022. This motion results from mutual agreement amongst the parties that more time is needed for settlement discussions. Columbia and all intervening parties discussed these dates at its most recent settlement conference and each party expressed non-opposition. Therefore, Columbia respectfully requests that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio approve this extension. Columbia further requests an expedited ruling under Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-12(C). As of this filing, Columbia can certify that all other parties do not oppose an expedited ruling.

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

On May 28, 2021 and on June 30, 2021 Columbia filed a Notice of Intent to File and an Application for an Increase in Rates pursuant to R.C. 4909.18, respectively. On April 14, 2022, the Attorney Examiner issued an Entry establishing that on June 15, 2022, an evidentiary hearing will commence. On May 20, 2022, Columbia filed a motion for continuance and request for expedited ruling to move the evidentiary hearing from June 15, 2022 to July 13, 2022. On June 3, 2022, the Attorney Examiner granted Columbia's motion and continued the hearing to July 13, 2022. On June 29, 2022, Columbia filed a motion for continuance and request for expedited ruling to move the evidentiary hearing from July 13, 2022 to August 9, 2022. On July 1, 2022, the Attorney Examiner granted Columbia's motion and continued the hearing to August 9, 2022. During this time, Columbia and the parties have participated in many settlement conferences. At recent meetings, the parties agreed that an extension of the evidentiary hearing would assist the settlement process.

Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-13(A) empowers attorney examiners to continue hearings upon good cause shown. It is unlikely that the parties will be able to come to a settlement agreement prior to the current commencement date of the evidentiary hearing on August 9, 2022. More time is needed to continue to engage serious bargaining among capable, knowledgeable parties to determine whether settlement is possible.

Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-12(C) permits a movant to include a request for expedited treatment. The parties to this case would benefit from prompt notice regarding whether the evidentiary hearing date will change in order to remain focused on settlement discussion, rather than preparations for hearing. Columbia has discussed this fact with the parties and can certify that all parties do not object to an expedited ruling on this motion. As a result, an immediate ruling may be issued.

WHEREFORE, Columbia respectfully requests that the Commission find that good cause exists to, pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-13(A), continue the evidentiary hearing in this case to commence on October 18, 2022. Columbia further respectfully requests an expedited ruling on this Motion and can certify that no other party is opposed to these requests.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joseph M. Clark

Joseph M. Clark, Asst. Gen. Counsel
(0080711) (Counsel of Record)

John R. Ryan, Sr. Counsel (0090607)

P.O. Box 117

290 W. Nationwide Blvd.

Columbus, Ohio 43216-0117

Telephone: (614) 813-8685

(614) 285-2220

E-mail: josephclark@nisource.com

johnryan@nisource.com

Eric B. Gallon (0071465)

Mark S. Stemm (0023146)

L. Bradfield Hughes (0070997)

Devan K. Flahive (0097457)

Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur LLP

41 South High Street

Columbus, OH 43215

Telephone: (614) 227-2000

Email: egallon@porterwright.com

mstemm@porterwright.com

bhughes@porterwright.com

dflahive@porterwright.com

(Willing to accept service by e-mail)

Attorneys for

COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio's e-filing system will electronically serve notice of the filing of this document on the parties referenced on the service list of the docket card who have electronically subscribed to the case. In addition, the undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing document is also being served via electronic mail on the 28th day of July, 2022 upon the parties listed below.

/s/ Joseph M. Clark

Joseph M. Clark

Attorney for

COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.

Citizens' Utility Board of Ohio

Trent Dougherty
Hubay | Dougherty LLC
trent@hubaydougherty.com

**Environmental Law & Policy
Center**

Janean R. Weber
jweber@elpc.org

IEU-Ohio

Matthew R. Pritchard
Bryce A. McKenney
McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC
mpritchard@mcneeslaw.com
bmckenney@mcneeslaw.com

Interstate Gas Supply, Inc.

Michael Nugent
Evan Betterton
Joseph Oliker
Stacie Cathcart
michael.nugent@igs.com
evan.betterton@igs.com
joe.oliker@igs.com
Stacie.cathcart@igs.com

The Kroger Company

Angela Paul Whitfield
Carpenter Lipps & Leland LLP
paul@carpenterlipps.com

**Northeast Ohio Public Energy
Council**

Devin D. Parram
BRICKER & ECKLER LLP
dparram@bricker.com

Glenn S. Krassen
gkrassen@nopec.org

**Office of the Ohio Consumers'
Counsel**

Angela D. O'Brien
William J. Michael
Connor D. Semple
Assistant Consumers' Counsel
angela.obrien@occ.ohio.gov
william.michael@occ.ohio.gov
connor.semple@occ.ohio.gov

Brian M. Zets
Isaac Wiles & Burkholder, LLC
bzets@isaacwiles.com

Ohio Energy Group (OEG)

Michael L. Kurtz, Esq.
Kurt J. Boehm, Esq.
Jody Kyler Cohn, Esq.
BOEHM, KURTZ & LOWRY
mkurtz@BKLawfirm.com
kboehm@BKLawfirm.com
jkylercohn@BKLawfirm.com

**Ohio Manufacturers' Associa-
tion Energy Group**

Kimberly W. Bojko
Jonathan Wygonski
Carpenter Lipps & Leland LLP
Bojko@carpenterlipps.com
Wygonski@carpenterlipps.com

**Ohio Partners for Affordable
Energy**

Robert Dove
Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter Co., L.P.A.
rdove@keglerbrown.com

Ohio School Council

Glenn S. Krassen
BRICKER & ECKLER LLP
gkrassen@bricker.com

Dane Stinson
BRICKER & ECKLER LLP
dstinson@bricker.com

**Retail Energy Supply Associa-
tion**

Michael J. Settineri
Gretchen L. Petrucci
Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
mjsettineri@vorys.com
glpetrucci@vorys.com

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

7/28/2022 4:47:55 PM

in

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

Summary: Motion Motion for Continuance, Request for Expedited Ruling, and Memorandum in Support of Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. electronically filed by Mr. John R. Ryan on behalf of Columbia Gas of Ohio