

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF
RONALD KALINOSKI,**

COMPLAINANT,

V.

CASE NO. 22-229-EL-CSS

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

RESPONDENT.

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on November 14, 2023

{¶ 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 Gas Ohio Gas Company d/b/a Dominion Energy Ohio (Dominion or Respondent) is a natural gas company as defined in R.C. 4905.03 and a public utility as defined in R.C. 4905.02. Accordingly, Dominion is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.

{¶ 3} On March 18, 2022, Ronald Kalinoski (Complainant) filed a complaint against Dominion alleging that Dominion's monthly charges for natural gas transportation service are excessive, particularly when compared to historic changes to inflation and interest rates.

{¶ 4} On April 7, 2022, Dominion filed its answer, in which it acknowledges that Complainant is its natural gas service customer, denies all the other allegations set forth in the complaint, and sets forth several affirmative defenses. Specifically, Dominion denies that monthly charges to Complainant's account for gas transportation or delivery charges

have been excessive, stating instead they have been charged Complainant's account in a manner consistent with all applicable statutes, rules, tariff provisions, and orders of the Commission.

{¶ 5} By Entry dated April 18, 2022, the attorney examiner scheduled a settlement teleconference for May 11, 2022. However, the parties did not reach a settlement of the case at that time.

{¶ 6} Complainant filed additional information in the docket, including responses to Dominion's answer and questions directed to the mediator, on April 15, 2022; April 19, 2022; and June 21, 2022.

{¶ 7} By Entry dated September 14, 2023, the attorney examiner ordered the parties to file a report outlining the status of settlement discussions. The Entry also ordered the parties to confirm whether they could attend an evidentiary hearing if necessary on October 24, 2023.

{¶ 8} On September 28, 2023, Complainant filed a report stating he was prepared to proceed with an October 24, 2023 evidentiary hearing.

{¶ 9} On October 4, 2023, Respondent filed correspondence indicating that, while Respondent believes this case presents no underlying factual dispute, the company is nonetheless available for an October 24, 2023 evidentiary hearing.

{¶ 10} By Entry dated October 6, 2023, the attorney examiner scheduled this matter for an evidentiary hearing on October 24, 2023.

{¶ 11} On October 20, 2023, Complainant sent a request via email to continue the October 24, 2023 hearing because of a family health emergency. Counsel for Respondent agreed to continue the date. Through further email correspondence, the parties and attorney examiner arrived at a date that should accommodate Complainant's evolving family health situation.

{¶ 12} Therefore, the attorney examiner schedules this matter for an evidentiary hearing on January 30, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time. The hearing will take place at the Commission offices, Hearing Room 11-D, 11th Floor, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The parties should register at the lobby desk and then proceed to the 11th Floor to participate in the hearing.

{¶ 13} Additionally, the attorney examiner schedules a telephonic status conference for January 23, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. To enter the conference, the parties must dial (614) 721-2972 and enter the passcode 590926745# when prompted.

{¶ 14} As is the case in all Commission complaint proceedings, Complainant has the burden of proving the allegations of the complaint. *Grossman v. Pub. Util. Comm.*, 5 Ohio St.2d 189, 214 N. E. 2d 666 (1966).

{¶ 15} It is, therefore,

{¶ 16} ORDERED, That a telephonic status conference be scheduled for January 23, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., as indicated in Paragraph 13. It is, further,

{¶ 17} ORDERED, That the evidentiary hearing be scheduled for January 30, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., as indicated in Paragraph 12. It is, further,

{¶ 18} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon each party of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/ Clint R. White

By: Clint R. White
Attorney Examiner

PAS/dr

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities
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in

Case No(s). 22-0229-GA-CSS

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry scheduling a telephonic status conference for January 23, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., as indicated in Paragraph 13, and scheduling the evidentiary hearing for January 30, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the Commission offices, Hearing Room 11-D, 11th Floor, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 electronically filed by Debbie S. Ryan on behalf of Clint R. White, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission.