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Dear Chairman Schriber,

PUCO

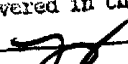
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Sincerely,



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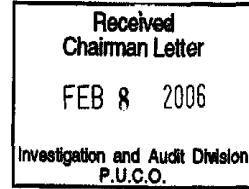
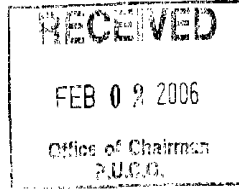
805 Chestnut St.
Nremont, OH 43420-4241
January 27, 2006

RECEIVED-DOCS

MAR 17 2006

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Office of the Chairman
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

P.U.C.C.



To whom it should concern,

Recently I wrote a letter to my home town newspaper, The News-Messenger, for publication. The same letter was E-MAILED to Toledo Channel 24. I will not bore you with the introductory paragraphs, but for your edification I will bore you with the last three.

"As far as I am concerned, the PUCO is one of our most worthless state departments. Perhaps they should be investigated. The PUCO is supposed to be the 'watchdog' protecting utility customers from unnecessary or exorbitant rate hikes. The 'watchdog' appears to be receiving some very meaty bones from the utilities they are supposedly policing. They have been rubberstamping rate increases for years.

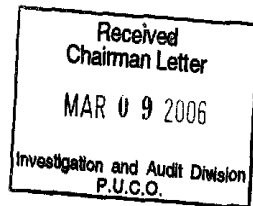
When PUCO is asked to explain their reasoning for these up to 50% rate increases they, echoing the utilities, plead that the 'market' sets the prices. The 'market' - that faceless, unknowable entity that cannot be petitioned or sued - is their out. That absolves them from blame.

Well, I blame them. Until the utilities they oversee become totally transparent as far as their profits are concerned, I will also blame them for any deaths that occur this winter due to what I perceive as corporate greed."

I realize that this letter will be read not by the chairman but by someone whose job it is to filter out the unimportant from the important. It is, therefore, my job to persuade you that this letter is one of the important ones.

I am one of many Ohio citizens who want explanations and not excuses. We want to know why, for example, Columbus Gas has seen their profits rise 450% over the last ten years. We want to know what all of those extra charges on our bills actually mean. I feel I know where that 450% profit comes from - it is from consistent, double-digit rate increases.

Karen Kingsborough



Letter to Alan R. Schriber, Chairman, PUCO

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

180 E. Broad St.,

Columbus, OH 43215

<http://www.PUCO.ohio.gov/>

January 27, 2006

Dear Chairman Schriber,

In a world where the energy sector of the global economy has been affected by enormous changes – from threats to the market from South American oil producers to the conflict in the Persian Gulf to the effects of Hurricane Katrina – one thing has remained constant for the last decade: Natural gas prices have increased in Northwest Ohio.

Since 1994, we have seen consistent increases in natural gas costs in Northwest Ohio, an area already historically burdened with high utility costs. In June, 2005, Ohio Public Utilities Commissioner Judy Jones filed a dissent (PUCO Case #05-597-GA-UEx) in which she said that "as a matter of principal" she would not support any rate changes until the base rates and expenses of the Columbia Gas' distribution services were audited. "Since the Commission still has not had a complete financial analysis of the full financial picture of Columbia," Jones could not support rate increases and "continue(d) to believe that this is bad public policy."

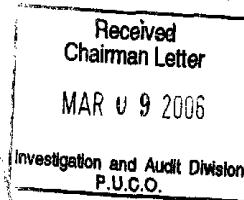
The price of gas affects us all. The effects of high energy costs don't stop when people pay their gas bills. They stack the deck against us when we try to interest national and international businesses in moving into Toledo and make it harder to keep our people working. Small business people often face tight budgets and even tighter profit margins and high gas prices also mean fewer dollars are spent in local businesses. This reduction of economic activity means less business for stores and restaurants and less work for people in the retail sector.

Consumers are, of course, directly affected. Higher utility costs find their way into the lives of consumers in a number of ways. In a year where the average family in Ohio has seen their gas bills rise 45%, households have been forced to make tough decisions. Struggling families, in order to stay within tight budgets, shouldn't be forced to choose between adequately heating their homes and feeding their children or visiting the doctor.

WE THE UNDERSIGNED THEREFORE ASK THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION FOR A FULL AUDIT OF COLUMBIA GAS' COSTS AND EXPENSES AND DEMAND AND, IN LIGHT OF THEIR CURRENT SUBSTANTIAL PROFITS, THAT COLUMBIA GAS SHOW CAUSE AND DISCLOSE THOSE SCHEDULES NECESSARY TO DETERMINE IF THEIR CURRENT RATES AND PROFIT CONTINUES TO BE APPROPRIATE.

Roggie McClain
2819 Chestnut
Toledo, Ohio
43608

419.726.5293



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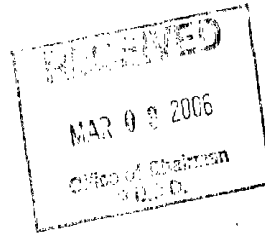
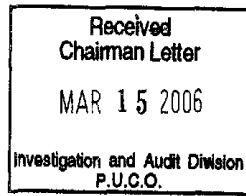
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Thomas C. Stephens (Stephens)
5440 SNOWDEN DR.
TOLEDO, OH 43623
419-472-2654



Dear Chairman Schriber,

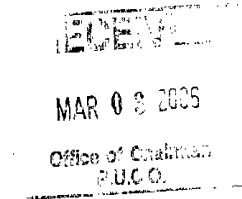
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Stutzman".



Dear Chairman Schriber,

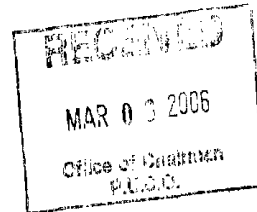
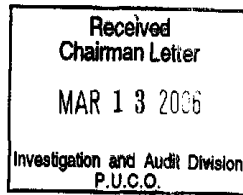
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Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Betty Stutzman.



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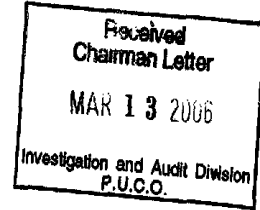
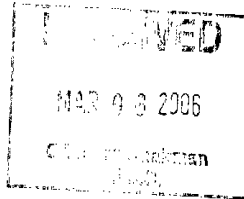
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Lien Ector

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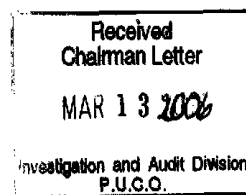
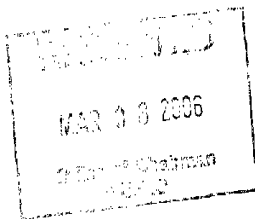
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Sincerely,

John & Martha Taylor



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