

FILE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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PUCO

Jon A. Olivito, )  
 )  
 Complainant, )  
 )  
 v. )  
 )  
 Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. )  
 )  
 Respondent )

Case No. 02-2681-GA-CSS

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ANSWER  
 OF  
 COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.

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Now comes the Respondent, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. ("Columbia"), and files its Answer to the Complaint filed herein on October 17, 2002.

Columbia denies the allegations contained in the Complaint.

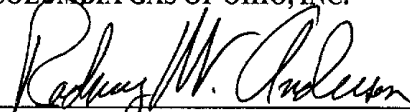
DEFENSES

1. Columbia hereby files a general denial of all of the allegations in the Complaint.
2. The Complaint fails to state reasonable grounds for the Complaint as required by Section 4905.26 of the Ohio Revised Code.
3. The only request for relief made by the Complainant is contained on the third page of the Complaint, where the Complainant requests the Commission to start a class action suit against Columbia, alleging theft by deception by Columbia. Clearly, this claim

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and requested relief is a pure tort claim and therefore outside the jurisdiction of the  
Commission.

Respectfully submitted by  
**COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.**

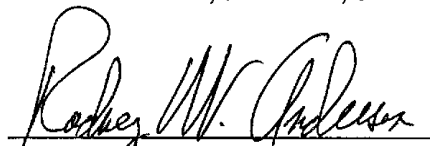


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**Attorney for Respondent**  
**COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing Answer by mailing same by regular, first class U.S. mail to Jon A. Olivito, 501 Buena Vista Boulevard, Steubenville, Ohio 43952, this 6th day of November, 2002.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rodney W. Anderson", is written over a horizontal line.

Rodney W. Anderson

Attorney for

**COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC.**