

RESOLUTION OF
THE CITY/~~VILLAGE~~ OF
GROVE CITY

STATE OF OHIO

A RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE INCLUSION OF CENTRAL OHIO GAS RATE COALITION MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES IN PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO CASE NO. 84-67-GA-AIR AS FILED BY COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC. ON 12 FEBRUARY, 1984 AND TO PRAY THAT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO NOT ACCEPT THE COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC. MOTION FOR AN ORDER CONSOLIDATING CONSIDERATION OF THE SAID APPLICATION WITH COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS AGAINST MUNICIPAL RATES.

WHEREAS, the council of the City ~~XXXXXX~~ of Grove City is a member of the Central Ohio Gas Rate Coalition and has passed Ordinance No. C-17-84 expressing its desire to have its Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. base rate set uniformly with the member municipalities of the Central Ohio Gas Rate Coalition which are as follows:

WHEREAS, the council of each of the above-named municipalities has likewise passed an ordinance expressing its desire to have its Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. base rate set uniformly with the other above-listed municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned ordinances, together with letters which were signed by the mayors of each municipality expressing the intent of each municipality to pursue a uniform gas base rate under the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 743.28 have been delivered to Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. has long been an opponent of the concept underlying Central Ohio Gas Rate Coalition and all uniform rate coalitions in its service territory, and;

WHEREAS, furthermore, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. has in the past demonstrated its opposition to the concept underlying the Central Ohio Gas Rate Consortium and all uniform rate coalitions by, among other methods, the filing of a tandem of fifteen divisional filings beginning 11 March, 1983 and including over 100 municipalities most of which passed resolutions opposing their inclusion in the particular configuration of filings; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. Case No. 84-67-GA-AIR is merely the latest Company tactic to pressure individual municipalities into immediately passing rate ordinance so as not to be included in the regional filing; and

WHEREAS, based on the regional rate filing, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. is attempting to pre-empt municipalities from obtaining proper analysis of the Company's rate proposals by tactically impressing upon municipal officials that if the Company's rate proposal is not passed by a Company-determined deadline, the municipality will be locked into the higher regional rate without recourse; and

WHEREAS, by the design of the regional rate, Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. has positioned itself so that it may propose any arbitrary rate increase to a municipality and may further pressure the municipal officials into accepting by ordinance that rate without ample time or opportunity for scrutinizing the reasonableness of the rate; and

WHEREAS, the tactics employed by Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. in the above-cited regional rate case seek to circumvent the intent of the Ohio Constitutions' Home Rule provision and the Legislatures' intent for good faith negotiations under Ohio Revised Code Section 743.28 authorizing uniform rate negotiations;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Council of the City ~~XXXXXX~~ of Grove City in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That the City/~~Village~~ of Grove City opposes the above-cited rate case filing, due to its complete disregard for the expressed desire of the member municipalities of the Central Ohio Gas Rate Coalition to have a uniform gas base rate determined by the collective cost of service without influence by outside areas' cost of service.

SECTION 2. That the City/~~XXXXXX~~ of Grove City requests that Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. file for the dismissal of the above-cited regional rate case and direct any subsequent filing to be considerate of the historical boundary lines of the voluntary uniform rate coalitions by not fragmenting the coalitions and not forcing them to set their rate with rural and suburban service territories.

SECTION 3. That the City/~~Village~~ of Grove City prays that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is mindful of the fact that the Columbia Gas of Ohio Inc. plan is nothing more than a devise to abuse Home Rule ratesetting and destroy uniform rate coalitions and, accordingly, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio is requested to not consolidate the above regional rate case with any individual municipal complaint case, as is likely to be moved for by Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., and instead that the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio consolidate the above-cited municipalities with one another as a single complaint case.

SECTION 4. That the City/~~Village~~ of Grove City requests that, should Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., wish to pursue a rate case at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio on any single municipality that is a member of the Central Ohio Gas Rate Consortium, such case be filed in consolidation with all the above-named municipalities of the Central Ohio Gas Rate Consortium in pursuit of an uniform base rate.

SECTION 5. That the City/~~Village~~ of Grove City requests that Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc. extend the spirit of good faith and cooperation in the uniform rate negotiations.

SECTION 6. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution of the Office of the Consumers' Counsel with the understanding that copies of its will be delivered with like resolutions from the other member municipalities of the Central Ohio Gas Rate Consortium to Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., and the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

SECTION 7. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare of the City/~~Village~~ of Grove City, and shall become effective at the earliest time permitted by law upon its adoption as an emergency measure.

Adopted on: March 5, 1984

Jack E. Weyand
President of Council

Attest:
James L. Cook
Clerk of Council

Date Presented to Mayor March 5, 1984
Date of Approval: March 5, 1984

Robert E. Evans
Mayor