

April 22, 2013

COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC
Director, Safety Inspection Division
200 Civic Center Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Sir:

Please note: all of the following quotations are from your letter to me of 4/4/13.

Recently I received a letter from COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC (copy enclosed) threatening the discontinuation of our business agreement, if we didn't permit one of your employees to enter our home for a federal law "Mandatory Safety Inspection". My wife called your representatives at the number given on the notice: 800-344-4977. She asked for the name and details of the "federal law" that supposedly warranted this "Mandatory Safety Inspection". The answers she received were quite vague and completely unsatisfactory.

This "Mandatory Safety Inspection" is not posted on your web site. See link: <http://www.columbiagasohio.com/residential/rights-responsibilities/natural-gas-safety>

Before we participate in this "Mandatory Safety Inspection" we would like to understand this issue more clearly. What are the details regarding the aforementioned "federal law", including the date this law was passed by Congress, which is the only body in the United States authorized to make "federal law". As the US Constitution only gives Congress the authority to pass 'regulatory laws' for interstate commerce, it is difficult to understand how the short distance from your curb shut-off valve and onto our property

can be considered interstate commerce. We do not live on a state line.

As this aforementioned "federal law" does not apply to all of COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC customers (per your web site), we are wondering why we are being targeted.

We have been customers of COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC since 1984. As I recall, we signed an agreement whereas you would provide us gas service and we would send you monthly payments for that service. While COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC has responded promptly to our request for a service call when we smelled a leak, at no time during these past 29 years have you requested to do an unwarranted "safety inspection".

To my knowledge nothing has altered or changed our original agreement, yet employees of COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC are now requiring unwarranted access to the privacy of our home to continue our service agreement.

Who is paying for this "Mandatory Safety Inspection"? Is COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC receiving tax dollars per each home inspection performed or will the customers of COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC be charged for the inspection of homes under the false pretense of interstate commerce?

To amenablely resolve this issue and secure our continued long standing provider/customer relationship, please send me the following:

1. Copy of federal law mandating that COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC do in-home safety inspections on properties that **are not engaged** in interstate commerce, i.e. not situated on a state line.
2. Copy of an official statement indicating who will bear the cost of these unwarranted inspections

3. Copy of the official criteria used to determine which customers this "federal law" is being applied to
4. Copy of the form the COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC employees will be using - so I can identify the details being analyzed and recorded for the "safety inspection"
5. List of the parties who are to be given a copy of (or access to) the "safety inspection" results
6. Copy of the contract between COLUMBIA GAS OF OHIO, INC and myself whereas I agreed to at random intrusive in-home inspections, as a condition of service

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Enclosure