

I use natural gas for space and/or water heating at my home, or a business that I own, or both, in Utah. It is delivered by Questar Gas Company, and the bills are paid by me, or on my behalf, or by a landlord who then bills me or includes utilities in my rent, or in some other way that ensures that, sooner or later, it costs me more when rates increase.

The Utah Division of Public Utilities and the Utah Committee of Consumer Services have joined the Gas Company in a Stipulation (or agreement), which they have jointly asked the Public Service Commission of Utah to approve. In a hearing on 20 October, the Commission received only testimony supporting the agreement; no party opposed it, or vigorously cross-examined its proponents. If the Commission approves the Stipulation, rates are likely to increase by more than \$4 million a year for at least four years.

I am not satisfied that, in joining the agreement and limiting its testimony to supporting arguments, the Division has fulfilled its statutory obligation "to provide the ... Commission with objective and comprehensive information, evidence and recommendations" that will "provide for just (and) reasonable ... rates", and "protect the long-range interest of consumers" (Utah Code Annotated 54-4a-6).

Nor am I satisfied that the Committee, acting likewise, has properly "assess(ed) the impact of" the rate increase "on residential consumers and ... small commercial enterprises", or that it is "be(ing) an advocate ... of positions most advantageous to a majority of residential consumers ... and those engaged in small commercial enterprises" (UCA 54-10-4).

I respectfully request that the Commission grant Claire Geddes (of 3542 Honeycomb Road, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121; telephone: (801) 943-3654; e-mail: geddes@xmission.com) intervenor status in this matter, because I expect that her participation will result in the Commission receiving more comprehensive information and evidence, and hearing a more complete range of perspectives on Questar's Application than it so far has, including more vigorous and effective advocacy in my interests and those of most other customers of Questar Gas, and views that better reflect mine.

Signature See Signature Page

To:

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