

Utah Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Phone: 801-530-6716
Fax: 801-530-6796

UTAH PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

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RE: "DOCKET NO. 07-057-13 In the Matter of the Application of Questar Gas Company to Increase Distribution Non-Gas Rates and Charges to Make Tariff Modifications. As Filed by the Commission on Monday, December 22, 2008"

Dear Commission members:

I was stunned to hear about the proposed increase in CNG for my newly purchased Honda Civic GX. I debated whether or not to make this purchase as I waited the 6 months for my car to arrive. Although the cost of the car was quite a bit higher than the regular Civic or even the hybrid, the State of Utah was clearly encouraging the switch by providing many incentives, including HOV access, tax credits, free parking, and CNG prices that were the envy of the country. Even though the tanks are small and stations are not plentiful, I decided that I would make the switch even though the AMT tax will negate the Federal tax credit. I'm all for weaning ourselves off of foreign oil and cleaning up the air around here. So here I was, just weeks after buying the car, and this news hits. I am also a residential user with Questar and although I might have been subsidizing the fuel purchase for CNG users, and I feel that it was money well spent. It can't be a large amount and everybody benefits the use of these vehicles.

If you continue with this ruling to force natural gas prices to increase you will have reversed the biggest incentives for buying new or converting older vehicles, and in fact, will in my opinion, slap the face of all of those who made the decision to switch. CNG prices could easily climb above gasoline prices or be so close as to make CNG adopters never realize a payback on their purchase. On one hand Utah seems to be a great supporter of alternative fuels, but then here comes the PSC to take away the biggest incentive of all.

As a proud citizen of this great State, I ask that this ruling be reconsidered. Keep Utah at the forefront of alternative fuel encouragement and pave the way for our nation's oil independence, we all win when people step up for this purpose.

Thank you,
Brian Ellis