

GAHANNA GAS AGGREGATION

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

11/1/2008

WHAT IS AGGREGATION?

Aggregation is the process that allows consumers to pool their utility usage to form a buying group. The hope is that by combining a large number of users into one buying group, competitive rates can be secured due to enhanced purchasing power. Gahanna works together with Upper Arlington, Dublin, and Bexley in this effort.

DID THE RESIDENTS WANT THE CITY TO BECOME A GAS AGGREGATOR?

In 2003, voters approved a ballot issue granting the City the authority to become a natural gas aggregator and implement an opt-out program.

DOES THE CITY RECEIVE FINANCIAL BENEFIT FROM CUSTOMERS BEING ENROLLED IN THE AGGREGATION PROGRAM?

No. The City receives no money at all and simply offers this program as one more alternative for customers to purchase natural gas.

WHAT IS GAHANNA'S 2009 AGGREGATION RATE?

The 2009 rate (1/1/09 thru 12/31/09) is a fixed rate of \$1.12 per ccf.

I HEAR THAT WE HAVE TO PAY COUNTY SALES TAX WITH IGS, BUT NOT WITH COLUMBIA GAS. DOESN'T THAT MEAN WE PAY 6.75% MORE FOR IGS GAS?

- When Columbia Gas supplies your gas, you pay 4.93% "Excise Tax" that you don't pay if you purchase your gas from a private supplier (e.g. IGS).
- When IGS (or any private supplier) supplies your gas, you pay 6.75% "Franklin County Sales Tax" that you don't pay if you purchase your gas from Columbia Gas.
- This means that any time you purchase gas from any private supplier, you will pay 1.82% more in tax.

WOULD I BE REQUIRED TO USE THE GAS SUPPLIER THAT RECEIVES THE CITY'S APPROVAL?

No. You have the option to opt-out of the program at any time with no early termination fee.

WHO DO I CALL IF I WANT TO OPT-OUT OR JOIN GAHANNA'S AGGREGATION PROGRAM?

You would contact IGS at 1-800-280-4474.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER BEFORE DECIDING ON A GAS SUPPLIER?

- Are there any deposit requirements?
 - Do you charge any early termination fees? If so, how much?
 - Do you charge any switching, membership, or other fees?
 - Are you certified by the PUCO?
 - Is your rate fixed, or does it change?
 - If it is a variable rate, how does it change?
 - Is there a customer incentive for signing up?
 - Are there any built-in price increases or decreases?
 - Are there any special add-on services?
 - How long is the contract for this offer?
 - Does your service cover all months of the year?
 - What happens when my contract expires?
 - Will I receive one or two bills a month?
- Compare suppliers at www.puco.ohio.gov click on "Apples to Apples Comparison Charts" and then "Columbia Gas of Ohio"

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OPT-OUT GAS AGGREGATION?

You can contact the Deputy Director of Public Service, Dottie Franey, at 614-342-4003 to have questions answered.