

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Additional Information

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**Columbia Gas of Ohio to Spend \$1 Million for
State Road, Parma Area Pipeline Replacement Project**
Project to Enhance Natural Gas Service

A portion of State Road and some contiguous streets, including Winthrop Avenue, Standish Avenue, Alden Avenue, Dellwood Drive, South Park Boulevard, Goebel Drive, and West 29th Street, in Parma will soon benefit from Columbia Gas of Ohio's pipeline improvement program.

Approximately 8,200 feet of natural gas main line will be replaced or uprated in the area as Columbia upgrades existing steel pipe with plastic pipe. The project will cost approximately \$1 million. The work is planned to start in early spring and will be completed by early fall.

"We have to keep in mind," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero, "any inconvenience now will pay big dividends down the road by modernizing and enhancing our infrastructure. This is a great opportunity – having a positive impact on our neighborhoods and our entire community once the work is all done."

Customers impacted by this project will be contacted via letter prior to the start of the scheduled work. The work will require a brief interruption of natural gas service. Columbia Gas will make personal contact with customers prior to shutting-off service and to schedule re-light appointments. Columbia Gas officials will hold an Open House at the Joseph J. Jacubic American Legion Post 572, 6483 State Road, Parma, to discuss the project and answer questions. The Open House will be on Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

As a reminder, all Columbia employees and contractors carry identification cards bearing their name, photograph and identification number and will be happy to show it.

Some customers may also have their indoor meters moved to the outside of the house. This work will be done at no additional cost to the customer.

Columbia Gas of Ohio will spend nearly \$2 billion over the next 25 years to improve its 19,000 mile underground pipeline system.

Columbia Gas of Ohio, with headquarters in Columbus, is one of the nine energy distribution companies of NiSource, Inc. (NYSE: NI). Serving approximately 1.4 million customers in 60 of Ohio's 88 counties, it is the largest natural gas utility in the state. NiSource distribution companies serve approximately 3.8 million gas and electric customers primarily in seven states. More information about Columbia Gas of Ohio is available at: ColumbiaGasOhio.com.

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