

UTILITIES OVERVIEW



The Stark County area is served by large, seasoned companies, which provide all of the basic utilities and services needed by any business.

Well-managed, competitively priced utilities, which are operating with long-term capacity, are a key component to the success of Stark County in attracting new business and industry. The county offers one of the lowest combined utility rate schedules in the state of Ohio.

Situated at the hub of transmissions lines, Stark County provides an ideal location for businesses that rely on electric power. Electric service is provided primarily by Ohio Edison (A First Energy Company) and AEP (American Electric Power), which have ample reserves to accommodate business needs reliably.

Offering ample and dependable gas service to the county is Dominion East Ohio Gas and Columbia Gas of Ohio. Both offer low and high-pressure gas.

Diversity and capacity describe the telecommunications environment in Stark County. SBC provides state-of-the-art equipment and communications options to the area. Multiple long distance and cellular carriers give businesses a complete range of services to choose from.

Stark County also offers an abundant supply of water, which is treated by municipal water treatment facilities, which are currently operating at 60-70% of capacity with ample ability to accept new business growth.

Waste treatment is handled efficiently in the area. For sewer and wastewater treatments, most areas of Stark County are served by municipal sewer systems, operating with sufficient excess capacity. For solid waste disposal, the area has multiple landfill sites.

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Local telecommunications service, voice and data, is provided by [SBC Ohio](#). SBC Ohio has personnel dedicated to economic development and to support local business requirements and priorities.

In concert with an aggressive economic development approach to telecommunications, Stark County can offer:

- State of the art switching systems utilizing digital electronic software
- Digital technology
- Access to broadband fiber-optic technology
- Direct dial access to major long distance carriers with points of presence (POPS) within Stark County
- Reliable Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and WiFi service Offerings
- Enhanced 9-1-1 emergency service
- Competitive rates

Standard, unique, or customized telecommunications and computer service capabilities can be installed in coordination with your business schedule in a timely fashion. In addition, the communications service providers have available personnel who provide confidential, no cost, planning assistance to ensure optimum design and faultless installation of their telecommunications systems.

Contact Steve Kristan at 330-498-2021 (voice) or sk1459@sbc.com (email) for additional information.

Source: SBC, 2005



GAS UTILITIES



DOMINION EAST OHIO

Dominion East Ohio, founded in 1898 as East Ohio Gas, has built an historic foundation of providing safe, reliable natural gas energy to residential, commercial and industrial customers in Canal Fulton, Canton, Louisville,

Massillon, Hartville, East Canton and North Canton. Perry Yard, our Canton Division office, is located at 4725 Southway Street SW.

Dominion East Ohio is the largest natural gas distribution subsidiary of Dominion Resources Inc., based in Richmond, Va. Our extensive underground compression and storage system, centered in Stark County, assures area customers of constant, year-round pressure and less price fluctuation than with many other natural gas utilities. Dominion East Ohio uses new, cost-efficient, clean-burning natural gas technologies to provide its services. The company also helps new or existing businesses locate potential plant sites and plan and coordinate relocations or expansions from start to finish. We provide such economic development services free of charge.

For more information about Dominion East Ohio contact:

[Tracy Stevens](#)

Phone: (330) 478-3104

Fax: (330) 478-3727



Columbia Gas of Ohio, a public utility headquartered in Columbus, sells natural gas and provides transportation services to its customers in Ohio. The company serves 1.8 million of Ohio's approximately 3 million natural gas customers. Columbia is the state's largest natural gas utility, serving

more than 1,000 communities in 64 of Ohio's 88 counties--a service territory covering approximately 25,400 square miles.

The company is a leader in the development of natural gas technology and products, as well as innovative programs such as Customer Choice. The Choice program provides all of Columbia's costumers the opportunity to reduce their energy costs by purchasing their natural gas from non-utility suppliers, while Columbia Gas of Ohio continues to deliver the gas and provides all local services.

For more information about Columbia Gas of Ohio contact:

Darnita Bradley

Manager Local Governmental Policy

Columbia Gas of Ohio

200 Civic Center Drive

Columbus, Ohio 43215

Office 614-460-4615

Fax 614-460-6971

Cell 614-620-4463



ELECTRIC UTILITIES



American Electric Power is one of the nation's largest investor-owned utility-holding companies. Based in Columbus, Ohio, AEP operates electric utility companies in Ohio, Arkansas, Indiana, Michigan, Kentucky, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia providing 4.9 million customers with electricity. A local office is located at 301 Cleveland Ave, SW, Canton, Ohio, and serves the communities of Canton, East Canton, Minerva, Louisville and North Canton.

Our electric utility companies help customers manage electrical loads and monitor power quality and also advise on new electro technologies. AEP is much more than just an electric utility. Through the company's subsidiaries and affiliates, AEP provides consulting, engineering, and technical services around the world, helping business owners to plan, build and operate large power plants or small substations. AEP can also provide capital for joint ventures, invest in international and domestic co-generation and independent power facilities and privatizations of generation and transmission systems. Their 40 coal, hydro and nuclear generating plants are connected with 38,000 miles of high voltage transmission lines and 186,000 miles of distribution lines with the capability to produce more than 38,000 megawatts of electricity.

AEP's utility company rates are lower than the national average for electricity. The company is developing the systems and products to offer low-cost, reliable power anywhere in the United States. Also, in Ohio, our customers can select a competitive electric service provider certified by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio.

Because we believe the community itself is the key factor in most plant locations, AEP's Internet site (<http://www.aep.com/>) features an Industrial Building/Site database as a powerful tool for site location consultants or prospective companies seeking a location. The database is updated and improved frequently, and includes links to the Ohio Department of Development and communities with their own home pages.

For more information about AEP's rates and programs, contact:

[Chuck Corbitt](#)

Manager of Economic Development

850 Pech Center Drive

Gahanna, OH 43230

Phone: 614-883-6881

Fax: 618-883-7915



Ohio Edison, A FirstEnergy Company

FirstEnergy is a diversified energy company headquartered in Akron, Ohio. Our investor-owned electric utility system is the nation's fifth largest, serving 4.4 million customers within 36,100 square miles of Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Our subsidiaries and affiliates are involved in the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, as well as energy management and other energy-related services.

Ohio Edison, A FirstEnergy Company, provides electric service to approximately 1.2 million customers within 8,900 square miles of northeastern and central Ohio including Massillon, Alliance, and Hartville in Stark County. Ohio Edison and our subsidiary, Penn Power, serve some of the largest customers in the world such as Daimler-Chrysler, General Motors, Goodyear, Wal-Mart, Republic Engineered Products, Navistar, and General Electric.

Ohio Edison provides a variety of programs and services to commercial and industrial customers to help increase energy efficiency awareness and promote the use of high-efficiency electric equipment and systems. We offer assistance to business customers with review and consultation regarding operating efficiency and energy conservation, electrical construction and maintenance services and the use of high-efficiency systems and new electrotechnologies.

To help ensure the economic stability and continued prosperity of the communities we serve, our Economic Development Executives across the area work with local agencies to make the most of development opportunities. With a wealth of information, tools and comprehensive programs, our economic development professionals remain a key resource to site selection consultants, local chambers and government agencies, as well as area businesses looking to grow.

For more information, contact Ray Martinez at 1-800-633-4766.

WATER AND SEWER SERVICES



WATER

Long-heralded as a regional advantage in the Great Lakes region, the abundant availability of water is a major strength in Stark County. The majority of the water treatment facilities in Stark County are currently operating with ample excess capacity to allow for increased demand.

Contact numbers are listed below.

Alliance: 330-829-2241

Canal Fulton: 330-854-2044

Canton: 330-489-3306

Louisville: 330-875-9936

Massillon: 330-833-4156

North Canton: 330-499-4801

WASTE WATER AND SEWAGE SYSTEMS

The majority of wastewater treatment plants are operating with sufficient excess capacity to accommodate further increase in demand. Peak flows have generally been associated with heavy storms.

Alliance: 330-829-2220

Canal Fulton: 330-854-6885

Canton: 330-489-3080

Louisville: 330-875-3161

Massillon: 330-833-3304

North Canton: 330-499-4801