### STATE OF TENNESSEE

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August 29, 2003

Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate Chairman Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243

RE:

ANDY D. BENNETT
CHIEF DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

LUCY HONEY HAYNES

ASSOCIATE CHIEF DEPUTY

ATTORNEY GENERAL

PETITION OF CHATTANOOGA GAS COMPANY, NASHVILLE GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC., AND UNITED CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION FOR A DECLARATORY RULING REGARDING THE COLLECTIBILITY OF THE GAS COST PORTION OF UNCOLLECTIBLE ACCOUNTS UNDER THE PURCHASED GAS ADJUSTMENT ("PGA") RULES

Docket No. 03-00209

#### Dear Chairman Tate:

Enclosed is an original and thirteen copies of a Motion for Protective Order of the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General in the above-referenced matter. Kindly file the attached in this docket. By copy of this letter, we are serving all parties of record. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (615) 532-3382. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shilina L. Chatterpee Shilina B. Chatteriee

Assistant Attorney General

(615) 532-3382

**Enclosures** 

cc:

Lynn Questell, Esq. Hearing Officer All Parties of Record

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# IN THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:	)
	)
PETITION OF CHATTANOOGA GAS	) DOCKET NO. 03-00209
COMPANY, NASHVILLE GAS COMPANY,	)
A DIVISION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL	)
GAS COMPANY, INC., AND UNITED	j
CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF	j
ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION FOR A	)
DECLARATORY RULING REGARDING	j
THE COLLECTIBILITY OF THE GAS	·
COST PORTION OF UNCOLLECTIBLE	)
ACCOUNTS UNDER THE PURCHASED	í
GAS ADJUSTMENT ("PGA") RULES	,

MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE AND PROTECTION DIVISION OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY IN GENERAL IN RESPONSE TO DISCOVERY PROPOUNDED BY ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

The Tennessee Attorney General, Paul G. Summers, through the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division ("Consumer Advocate"), hereby moves the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA"), through its appointed Hearing Officer, for a protective order limiting the discovery sought by Petitioner, Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos"). A copy of the discovery requests filed on July 28, 2003 are attached.

As grounds in support of its motion, made pursuant to Rule 26.03 of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, the Consumer Advocate would show: 1) the discovery requests were untimely filed at 4:30 PM on July 28, 2003, in contravention of the scheduling orders of the Hearing Officer in this docket and TRA Rule 1220-1-1-.11(1); 2) the requests clearly seek the legal work product of the Consumer Advocate; 3) the request is overly broad and burdensome; 4) the requests seek information that is confidential and privileged under the attorney-client

privilege and the governmental deliberative process privilege; 5) the requests seek information from experts who may not testify at the hearing of this matter; and 6) the requests are not reasonably calculated to lead to discovery of admissible evidence in this matter.

For the foregoing reasons, the Consumer Advocate requests that the discovery of Atmos be limited to the information voluntarily provided by the Consumer Advocate in response to the July 28, 2003 discovery requests.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL G. SUMMERS

Vance Broemel

**Assistant Attorney General** 

Charligie

B.P.R. # 11421

Shilina B. Chatterjee

**Assistant Attorney General** 

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via hand delivery or facsimile or U.S. Mail on August 29, 2003.

Deborah Taylor Tate Chairman Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Richard Collier, Esq. General Counsel Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505 (615) 741-5015

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