

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

November 13, 2003

IN RE:

**PETITION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
FOR APPROVAL OF A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT
WITH BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE**

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**DOCKET NO.
03-00484**

ORDER APPOINTING A HEARING OFFICER

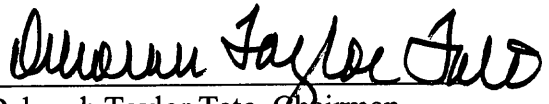
This matter came before Chairman Deborah Taylor Tate, Director Pat Miller and Director Ron Jones of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on October 21, 2003, for consideration of the *Petition of Atmos Energy Corporation for Approval of Franchise Agreement with Bedford County, Tennessee* ("Petition") filed on August 22, 2003.

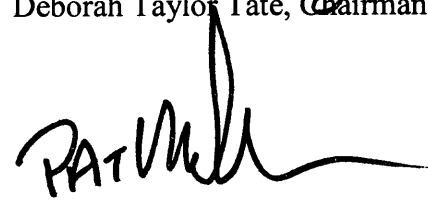
At the above-referenced Authority Conference, the Directors unanimously appointed the General Counsel or his designee to act as Hearing Officer in this matter to make findings of fact and conclusions of law, as necessary, and to render an initial decision on the merits of the *Petition*, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-301 and 65-2-111 and such other legal authority as may be provided by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The General Counsel or his designee is appointed Hearing Officer in this matter to make findings of fact and conclusions of law, as necessary, and to render an initial

decision on the merits of the *Petition*, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-301 and 65-2-111 and such other legal authority as may be provided by law.


Deborah Taylor Tate, Chairman


Pat Miller, Director


Ron Jones, Director