

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**May 13, 2004**

**IN RE:**

**PETITION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION  
FOR APPROVAL OF FRANCHISE AGREEMENT  
WITH GREENEVILLE, TENNESSEE**

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**DOCKET NO.  
04-00074**

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**ORDER APPOINTING A HEARING OFFICER**

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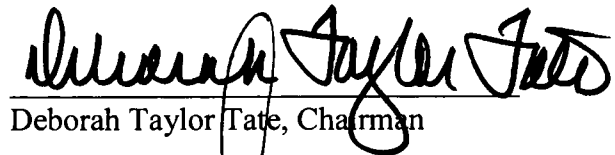
This matter came before Chairman Deborah Taylor Tate, Director Pat Miller and Director Sara Kyle of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on April 12, 2004, for consideration of the *Petition of Atmos Energy Corporation for Approval of Franchise Agreement with Greeneville, Tennessee* ("Petition") filed on March 2, 2004.

Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-107 requires that any privilege or franchise granted to any public utility by the State of Tennessee or by any political subdivision thereof be approved by the Authority. Such approval is to be granted only after a hearing and upon a determination by the Authority that the privilege or franchise is necessary and proper for the public convenience and properly conserves the public interest.


During the April 12, 2004 Authority Conference, the panel voted unanimously to appoint the Authority's General Counsel or his designee to act as the 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 Authority's 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



Sara Kyle, Director