

TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

RECEIVED

2007 JUL 06 PM 3:33

T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM

Eddie Roberson, Chairman
Pat Miller, Director
Sara Kyle, Director
Ron Jones, Director

460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

July 6, 2007

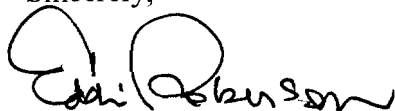
Director Sara Kyle
Director Ron Jones
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Roberson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

RE: Tariff Filing to Modify and Add Language Regarding Transportation Service
TRA Docket 07-00020

Dear Directors Kyle and Jones:

Please find the attached motion that I plan to make in our scheduled Authority Conference on July 9, 2007, in the above-referenced docket. For your convenience, I am filing this today in order that you have sufficient time for review before we deliberate.

Sincerely,



Eddie Roberson, Ph.D.
Chairman

/vln

Attachment

c: Docket File 07-00020

Chairman Roberson's Motion
Docket No. 07-00020

On January 10, 2007, Atmos Energy Corporation filed a tariff to modify and add language regarding transportation service. Following the filing of a petition to intervene by the Atmos Intervention Group, the panel voted on March 26, 2007 to suspend the effective date of the tariff, to allow any entity to file a complaint with the Authority in accordance with TRA Rule 1220-1-2-.02(4) and to allow Atmos to respond to any complaints. In addition, the panel voted to appoint the Authority's General Counsel or his designee as Hearing Officer to consider the filings and make a recommendation to the panel as to whether a contested case proceeding should be convened.

On March 26, 2007, SouthStar Energy Services, LLC d/b/a Georgia Natural Gas filed a petition to intervene, as did Stand Energy Corporation on April 3, 2007. Atmos Intervention Group and SouthStar each filed a complaint on April 2, 2007. Atmos responded on April 9, 2007. The Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General filed a petition to intervene on June 26, 2007, along with a motion to consolidate this docket with TRA Docket Nos. 07-00081 and 07-00105. Atmos and SouthStar responded on July 6, 2007.

On July 3, 2007, the Hearing Officer issued her report and recommendation recommending that the panel convene a contested case proceeding and re-suspend the tariff until October 1, 2007. I agree and move that we accept the Hearing Officer's Report and Recommendation filed on July 3, 2007, convene a contested case and re-suspend the tariff until October 1, 2007.

Regarding the Motion for Consolidation, as noted in my motion in Docket No. 07-00105, I serve as the Hearing Officer in that rate case. At this point, the parties are near the end of discovery in 07-00105 and we are at different stages in the other two dockets. There are different counsel and different parties in each of the dockets. The issues are not all overlapping. I find that the consolidation of these dockets would hamper efficiency, would not promote judicial or administrative economy and could lead to delays. Therefore, I move that we deny the Motion to Consolidate this Docket with Dockets 07-00105 and 07-00081.

Finally, although I do not agree with consolidation of the dockets, I am committed to an efficient and, to the extent possible, expedient resolution of all three dockets. To this end, if he will agree to serve, I move that we appoint Director Ron Jones to hear this case as a Hearing Officer on the merits.