

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**IN RE:** )  
 )  
**DOCKET TO EVALUATE ATMOS ENERGY ) No. 07-00225**  
**CORPORATION'S GAS PURCHASE AND )**  
**RELATED SHARING INCENTIVES )**

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**PRELIMINARY RESPONSE OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION TO THE  
CONSUMER ADVOCATE AND PROTECTION DIVISION'S FEBRUARY 25, 2008  
MOTION TO COMPEL**

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AEC respectfully submits this preliminary response to the Consumer Advocate's motion to compel. AEC agrees with the Consumer Advocate that this motion should not be set for hearing until the parties have had sufficient time to try to resolve the CAD's requests for additional discovery. Atmos has been working on the issues raised in the Consumer Advocate's Motion to Compel, both internally and in conjunction with CAD attorneys and analysts. Atmos expects that the issues raised in this motion ultimately will be resolved by agreement, through some combination of explaining what already has been produced and how to derive answers to the Consumer Advocate's questions from the documents made available, supplementation of responses, and exploration of different ways to provide the Consumer Advocate with what it needs for the case. Atmos and the CAD have been working on this process, and will continue. In the unlikely event that any disputes remain after the parties' discussions have run their course, Atmos would request that the parties then be allowed to so advise the hearing officer, and, if needed, only then submit whatever residual disputes remain. Accordingly, Atmos joins the CAD in requesting that this matter not be set for hearing this Friday, February 29, as it will not be ripe for resolution at that time. Atmos hopes and expects that this Motion to Compel will never need to be set for hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

**NEAL & HARWELL, PLC**

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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing has been served, via the method(s) indicated below, on the following counsel of record, this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008.

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