

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

October 1, 2009

IN RE:

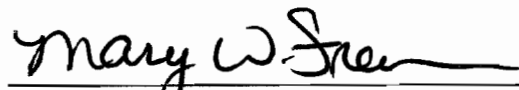
**PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY'S
PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN FOR THE
PERIOD JULY 1, 2008 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009**

**DOCKET NO.
09-00125**

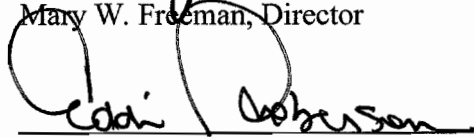
**ORDER CONVENING A CONTESTED CASE
AND APPOINTING A HEARING OFFICER**

This matter came before Director Mary W. Freeman, Director Eddie Roberson and Director Kenneth C. Hill of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on September 21, 2009 for consideration of Piedmont Natural Gas Company's Performance Incentive Plan for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 filed on August 31, 2009. During the Authority Conference, the panel voted unanimously to convene a contested case proceeding and to appoint the Authority's General Counsel or his designee to act as the Hearing Officer to handle any preliminary matters, including entering a protective order.¹

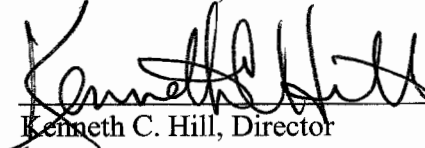
IT IS SO ORDERED.



Mary W. Freeman, Director



Eddie Roberson, Director



Kenneth C. Hill, Director

¹ Piedmont Natural Gas Company was directed to submit a proposed protective order no later than October 1, 2009.