## BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

March 19, 2010	
IN RE:	DOCKET NO.
PETITION OF CHATTANOOGA GAS COMPANY FOR )	DOCKET NO. 09-00183
A GENERAL RATE INCREASE, IMPLEMENTATION )	
OF THE ENERGYSMART CONSERVATION )	,
PROGRAMS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A )	
REVENUE DECOUPLING MECHANISM )	

## ORDER MODIFYING HEARING SCHEDULE

These matters came before the Hearing Officer during a conference call held on March 8, 2010. In a March 1, 2010 filing, Chattanooga Gas Company ("CGC") stated that its cost of capital expert witness would be unavailable during the set hearing dates of April 12-14, 2010. Based on this filing and responses from the Intervenors in this docket, the Hearing Officer made the following modification to the Hearing Schedule: the Hearing on the merits would proceed on April 12-13, 2010 with the exception of the cost of capital witnesses for CGC and the Intervenors, which would be heard when the Hearing reconvenes on April 26, 2010.

With slight modifications to the procedural schedule to accommodate responses to new testimony required by the inclusion of certain issues from Docket No. 07-00224 in this docket, the procedural and hearing schedule is modified as follows:

March 22, 2010	Motions to Compel (if necessary)
March 22, 2010	Response to Discovery re: Hickerson Testimony
March 24, 2010	Status Conference (if necessary)
March 29, 2010	Intervening parties' response to second round of discovery requests

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March 29, 2010	Intervenors' Rebuttal Testimony to Hickerson
April 5, 2010	CGC's Rebuttal Testimony and CGC's response to second round of discovery requests
April 5, 2010	Pre-Hearing Motions (including any proposed settlement agreement)
April 6, 2010 5:30 pm	Pre-Hearing Conference in Chattanooga <sup>1</sup>
April 6, 2010 6:00 pm	Public Service Standard Hearing in Chattanooga
April 12-13, 2010 10:00 am	Hearing on the Merits in Nashville <sup>2</sup>
April 26, 2010	Hearing reconvenes for cost of capital witnesses

Due to the additional time required for the completion of the Hearing, CGC agreed on March 5, 2010 not to place the proposed rates in effect prior to June 1, 2010.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Hearing Schedule is modified and the Procedural schedule is amended as set forth above.
- 2. The Tariff is suspended until June 1, 2010.

Gary Hotvedt, Hearing Officer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Pre-Hearing Conference and Service Standard Hearing will be held in the Hamilton County Court House, Room 402, 625 Walnut Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402.

In the proposed procedural schedule, the parties suggested that the Authority set a "settlement hearing before the panel" 2-3 days prior to the Hearing on the Merits, if necessary. While the Hearing Officer understands the reason for such a request, it must be pointed out that the Authority (as well as CGC) has an obligation to notify the public of the dates and times of all hearings that may affect their rates. Therefore, the Hearing Officer admonishes the parties to file any proposed settlement no later than April 5, 2010, when other pre-hearing motions are due. Such a proposed settlement could then be preliminarily discussed at the Pre-Hearing Conference and an appropriate schedule could then be set without interfering with the public's right to notice.