

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

October 20, 2011

IN RE:

**PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC.
PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN OF
SHARED GAS COST SAVING FOR THE PERIOD
JULY 1, 2010 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011**

)
)
)
)
)
)

**DOCKET NO.
11-00143**

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

This matter came before Director Kenneth C. Hill, Director Sara Kyle, and Director Mary W. Freeman of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on September 26, 2011 for consideration of the annual report of shared gas cost savings for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 filed by Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. on August 30, 2011. 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 Hearing Officer to handle any preliminary matters, including entering a protective order.¹

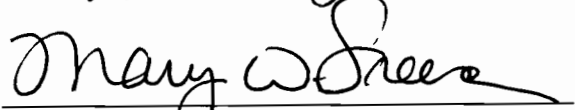
IT IS SO ORDERED.



Kenneth C. Hill, Director



Sara Kyle, Director



Mary W. Freeman, Director

¹ Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. was directed to submit a proposed protective order no later than 2:00 p.m. on October 6, 2011.