

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

September 28, 2011

IN RE:

PETITION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC.  
FOR AN ADJUSTMENT TO ITS RATES, APPROVAL OF  
CHANGES TO ITS RATE DESIGN, AMORITIZATION OF  
CERTAIN DEFERRED ASSETS, APPROVAL OF NEW  
DEPRECIATION RATES, APPROVAL OF REVISED TARIFFS  
AND SERVICE REGULATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF A NEW  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM AND GTI FUNDING

DOCKET NO.  
11-00144

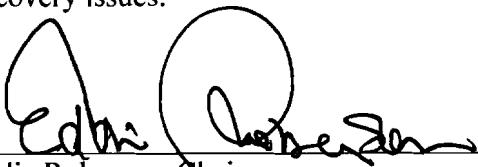
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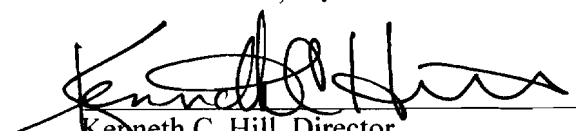
ORDER CONVENING A CONTESTED CASE AND APPOINTING A HEARING OFFICER


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This matter came before Chairman Eddie Roberson, Director Kenneth C. Hill, and Director Mary W. Freeman of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA" or the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on September 12, 2011 for consideration of the *Petition* filed by Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Piedmont" or the "Company") on September 2, 2011 requesting approval to increase its overall rates. The tariff accompanying the *Petition* has an effective date of March 1, 2012. During the Authority Conference, the panel voted unanimously to convene a contested case proceeding and to appoint Director Kenneth C. Hill to act as Hearing Officer for the purpose of preparing the matter for a hearing before the panel, including, but not limited to, entering a protective order, setting a procedural schedule to completion, and ruling on petitions to intervene and discovery issues.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

  
Eddie Roberson, Chairman

  
Kenneth C. Hill, Director

  
Mary W. Freeman, Director