

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

September 7, 2012

IN RE:

**PETITION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION
FOR A GENERAL RATE INCREASE**

)
)
)
)

**DOCKET NO.
12-00064**

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

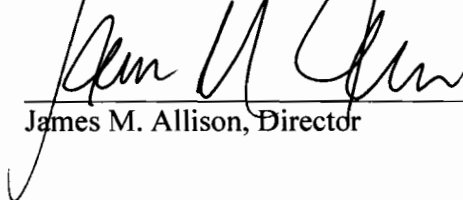
This matter came before Director Sara Kyle, Director Herbert H. Hilliard and Director James M. Allison of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on August 20, 2012 for the purpose of determining whether to convene a contested case hearing and appoint a Hearing Officer. On June 22, 2012, Atmos Energy Corporation filed a Petition for a general rate increase. A *Petition to Intervene* was filed by the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General on July 11, 2012.

During the Authority Conference, the Directors voted unanimously to convene a contested case proceeding and to appoint the Authority's General Counsel or her designee to serve as Hearing Officer for the purpose of preparing the case for hearing, including but not limited to, entering a protective order, establishing a procedural schedule, and ruling on intervention requests and discovery issues.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


Sara Kyle, Director


Herbert H. Hilliard, Director


James M. Allison, Director