

BASS

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January 7, 2014

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Executive Director Earl Taylor
c/o Sharla Dillon
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Re: ***In re: Petition of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. for Accounting Order
Docket No. 13-00119***

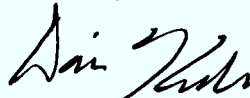
Dear Mr. Taylor:

Enclosed please find an original and five (5) copies of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc's Joint Proposed Procedural Schedule.

This material is also being filed electronically today by way of email to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority docket manager, Sharla Dillon. Please file the original and four copies of this material and stamp the additional copy as "filed." Then please return the stamped copy to me by way of our courier.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address or telephone number listed above.

Sincerely,



David Killion

cc: James H. Jeffries, IV
Joe Shirley, Consumer Advocate and Protection Division
Shiva K. Bozarth

12530716.1

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:

**PETITION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS
COMPANY, INC. TO ADJUST THE JUNE 30,
2012 ACA ENDING BALANCE FOR PRIOR
PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS**

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DOCKET NO. 13-00119

JOINT PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Piedmont"), the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Tennessee Office of Attorney General ("CAPD"), and Party Staff (collectively the "Parties"), through counsel and pursuant to the Hearing Officer's December 19, 2013 *Order Granting TRA Staff's Motion to Intervene*, hereby jointly submit the following proposed initial procedural schedule in this docket.

The proposed procedural schedule described below is designed to allow for the orderly disposition of two preliminary issues in this proceeding raised by the CAPD and Party Staff. These preliminary issues are: (1) whether the costs underlying the proposed adjustments in Piedmont's ACA account are legitimate gas costs eligible for inclusion in that account; and (2) whether Piedmont's proposed ACA account adjustments are barred under the terms of the audit report approved by the TRA in Docket No. 07-00174 (collectively the "Preliminary Issues"). Resolution of either of these two issues contrary to Piedmont's interest could eliminate the need for further proceedings before the TRA or the consideration of other issues in this docket. Accordingly, the undersigned counsel propose to establish procedures designed to facilitate the possible resolution of one or both of these issues prior to establishing testimony filing dates and submit that such process promotes administrative efficiency and the considered resolution of

Piedmont's Petition in this docket. These procedures include an opportunity for discovery, a commitment by the parties to work towards a stipulated statement of facts containing an agreed statement of as many material facts as possible, and an opportunity to file and respond to dispositive motions on the Preliminary Issues if deemed appropriate by any party. Adoption of the initial proposed procedure schedule set forth herein has at least the potential of eliminating the need for a hearing in this matter and even if a hearing is required, should streamline the matters at issue in that proceeding.

Based on the foregoing, the undersigned parties propose the following initial procedural schedule and process for this proceeding:

January 17, 2014	Initial Discovery Requests on Preliminary Issues
January 23, 2014	Objections to Initial Discovery Requests
January 28, 2014	Responses to Objections to Initial Discovery Requests
February 5, 2014	Responses to Initial Discovery Requests
February 12, 2014	Statement of Stipulated Facts
February 26, 2014	Filing of Dispositive Motions ¹
March 7, 2014	Response to Dispositive Motions by Targeted Party

Following the completion of this process, the parties suggest that an additional pre-hearing conference be scheduled to address any necessary additional proceedings in this docket.

Respectfully submitted, this the 7th day of January, 2014.

¹ All dispositive motions shall be in a form anticipated by and subject to the requirements of the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure.

PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY, INC.

R. Dale Grimes

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**CONSUMER ADVOCATE AND PROTECTION
DIVISION**

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