

**BASS BERRY + SIMS<sup>PLC</sup>**

R. DALE GRIMES

TEL: (615) 742-6244  
FAX: (615) 742-2744  
dgrimes@bassberry.com

A PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

150 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 2800  
NASHVILLE, TN 37201  
(615) 742-6200

www.bassberry.com



December 30, 2014

**Via Hand-Delivery**

The Honorable Earl Taylor  
Executive Director  
Tennessee Regulatory Authority  
c/o Sharla Dillon  
502 Deaderick Street, Fourth Floor  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

***Re: Petition of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. for Authorization to Amortize  
and Refund to Customers Excess Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes  
Docket No. 14-00017***

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Enclosed please find an original and five (5) copies of the parties' Joint Status Report in the above docket, submitted pursuant to the Authority's Notice of Filing Joint Status Report, filed May 28, 2014.

This material is also being filed by way of email to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority Docket Manager, Sharla Dillon. Please file the original and four (4) copies of this filing 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.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

R. Dale Grimes

Enclosure

cc: Wayne Irvin

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

IN RE:	)	
	)	
PETITION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY,	)	
INC. FOR AUTHORIZATION TO AMORTIZE AND	)	Docket No. 14-00017
REFUND TO CUSTOMERS EXCESS ACCUMULATED	)	
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES	)	

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**JOINT STATUS REPORT**

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Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Piedmont" or the "Company") and the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of Tennessee Attorney General ("Consumer Advocate") (collectively the "Parties"), through counsel, respectfully submit this joint status report. The Authority's Notice of Filing Joint Status Report issued December 3, 2014 in the above-named docket requires that the Parties file a joint status report on the progress of their discussions by December 31, 2014.

Piedmont and the Consumer Advocate report that they believe that they have negotiated the terms of a potential settlement as to the issues raised in this docket, subject to the approval of the Attorney General, appropriate approvals by the Company's management, and the negotiation and execution of a stipulation and settlement agreement. Additional time is needed to work out the discrete details of such settlement and to reduce such settlement to written form. Accordingly, the Parties propose the filing of another Joint Status Report on or before January 31 regarding the progress of such discussions and proposed stipulation and settlement agreement.

Respectfully submitted, this the 30th day of December, 2014.

**Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**

*R. Dale Grimes*

R. Dale Grimes  
Bass, Berry & Sims PLC  
150 Third Avenue South, Suite 2800  
Nashville, TN 37201  
Telephone: 615-742-6244

*James H. Jeffries IV*

James H. Jeffries IV  
Brian S. Heslin  
Moore & Van Allen PLLC  
100 North Tryon Street, Suite 4700  
Charlotte, NC 28202-4003  
Telephone: 704-331-1090

*by RDG  
w/permission*

**Consumer Advocate and Protection Division  
Office of the Attorney General**

*Wayne M. Irvin*

Wayne M. Irvin  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Advocate and Protection Division  
Office of the Tennessee Attorney General  
P.O. Box 20207  
Nashville, TN 37202-0207  
Telephone: (615) 532-5512

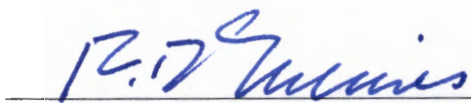
*by RDG  
w/permission*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the attached was served upon the parties in this action by depositing a copy of the same in the United States Mail, First Class Postage Prepaid, addressed as follows:

Wayne M. Irvin  
Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Advocate and Protection Division  
Post Office Box 20207  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

This the 30th day of December, 2014.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. M. Irvin", is written over a horizontal line.