

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

April 17, 2014

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

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

This matter came before Chairman James M. Allison, Vice Chairman Herbert H. Hilliard and Director Robin Bennett of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on April 14, 2014 for the purpose of determining whether to convene a contested case proceeding and appoint a Hearing Officer. On February 21, 2014, Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. filed a Petition requesting authorization to amortize and refund to customers excess accumulated deferred income taxes. A *Petition to Intervene* was filed by the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General on February 28, 2014.

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 act as Hearing Officer to prepare this matter for hearing, including but not limited to, entering a protective order, establishing a procedural schedule and ruling on intervention requests.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Chairman James M. Allison, Vice Chairman Herbert H. Hilliard and Director Robin Bennett concur.

ATTEST:



Earl R. Taylor, Executive Director