

# TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY



502 Deaderick Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

May 29, 2014

James H. Jeffries, IV, Esq.  
Moore & Van Allen PLLC  
100 North Tryon Street, Suite 4700  
Charlotte, NC 28202

**Re: *Petition of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. for Approval of Negotiated Franchise Agreement with the Metropolitan Government of the City of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee, TRA Docket No. 14-00020***

Dear Mr. Jeffries:

We have reviewed the Notice of Franchise Extension filed in the above-styled matter by Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. on March 6, 2014. Piedmont seeks the first five-year extension of its franchise agreement with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. The Authority approved the franchise agreement, contained in Metropolitan Ordinance No. BL2003-36, by its Order Approving Franchise Agreement entered on November 29, 2005 in TRA Docket No. 04-00097. The approved franchise agreement provides that it may be renewed beyond its initial period of ten years for four consecutive five-year additional periods if, prior to the commencement of the additional period, the Metropolitan Council adopts a resolution affirming the continuance of the agreement. On January 21, 2014, the Metropolitan Council adopted Resolution No. RS2014-951 extending the franchise agreement for the first five-year additional period.

In light of Metropolitan Council's resolution to extend the franchise agreement, and given that no other provision of the agreement has changed, we acknowledge that Piedmont's franchise agreement with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County has been extended through the first five-year additional period in accordance with the terms of the franchise agreement previously approved by the Authority. Accordingly, no further action by the Authority to extend the franchise agreement is needed at this time. Piedmont, however, should provide notice to the Authority prior to the expiration of the first five-year additional period if it intends to extend the franchise agreement for another additional period.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

David Foster  
Chief of Utilities

cc: R. Dale Grimes, Esq.