BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

April 18, 2016

| IN RE: |) | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| PETITION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION TO REVISE PERFORMANCE BASED RATEMAKING MECHANISM TARIFF |)) | DOCKET NO. 16-00028 |

ORDER CONVENING A CONTESTED CASE, SUSPENDING TARIFF FOR SIXTY (60) DAYS, AND APPOINTING A HEARING OFFICER

This matter came before Chairman Herbert H. Hilliard, Director Kenneth C. Hill and Director Robin Morrison of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority"), the voting panel assigned to this docket, at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on April 15, 2016 for the purpose of determining whether to convene a contested case proceeding and appoint a Hearing Officer. On March 15, 2016, Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos") filed a *Petition to Revise Performance Based Ratemaking Mechanism Tariff Rider* requesting Authority approval of changes to its tariff regarding gas purchasing activities and shared gas cost savings between Atmos customers and stockholders. The Consumer Protection and Advocate Division of the Office of the Attorney General filed a *Petition to Intervene* on March 21, 2016. Atmos has not filed an objection to the *Petition to Intervene*.

During the Authority Conference, the Directors voted unanimously to convene a contested case proceeding, suspend the proposed tariff for sixty (60) days from the April 15, 2016 Authority Conference, and appoint the Authority's General Counsel or her designee to act as Hearing Officer to prepare this matter for hearing, including establishing a procedural schedule, entering a protective order, ruling on intervention requests and discovery issues, and further suspension of the proposed tariff, if necessary.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Chairman Herbert H. Hilliard, Director Kenneth C. Hill and Director Robin Morrison concur.

ATTEST:

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Earl R. Taylor, Executive Director