

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

April 6, 2018

IN RE:

**ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION - 2017 ARM
RECONCILIATION FILING**

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**DOCKET NO.
17-00091**

PRE-HEARING ORDER

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-306(d) and TPUC Rule 1220-1-2-.12, this matter came before the Hearing Officer of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (“Commission” or “TPUC”) at a Pre-Hearing Conference held via teleconference on April 3, 2018. The Pre-Hearing Conference was held to establish the orderly conduct of the hearing which will begin at **9:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, April 9, 2018**. Atmos Energy Corporation (“Atmos”) and the Consumer Protection and Advocate Division of the Office of the Attorney General (“Consumer Advocate”), the parties in this matter, participated in the Pre-Hearing Conference.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

A. Notice of Hearing & Public Comment

The purpose of the hearing is to consider Atmos’s 2017 Reconciliation Filing, filed on August 31, 2017, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-103 *et seq.* and TPUC Rules. On March 28, 2018, a *Re-Notice of Hearing* was issued notifying the public that the hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, April 9, 2018. As was included in the notice, members of the public are encouraged to participate by filing written comments in the docket file and/or presenting verbal comments during the hearing.

B. Opening Statements

After any preliminary matters are considered, each party is permitted a maximum of five (5) to ten (10) minutes to present an opening statement. Atmos will present its opening statement first, followed by the Consumer Advocate.

C. Witnesses

During direct examination, a time limit has been established for each witness to summarize pre-filed testimony. In addition, each witness remains subject to recall for rebuttal purposes and should remain available throughout the length of the proceedings. The witnesses and time limits are set forth below. Atmos will present two witnesses, and the Consumer Advocated will present one witness.

- Atmos's witnesses:

1. Gregory Waller, Manager, Rates and Regulatory Affairs with Atmos (10 minutes)
2. Jennifer Story, Director of Taxes (10 minutes)

- Consumer Advocate's witness:

1. William H. Novak, WHN Consulting (20 minutes)

D. Exhibits

Each party should have its own copy of all exhibits, including those appended to pre-filed testimony, available for reference during the hearing, and is responsible for supplying a sufficient number of copies of any exhibits that it intends to reference or discuss with a witness. A party should use its own judgment and discretion in determining the total number of copies to have on hand, but at a minimum, copies of an exhibit should be provided to the court reporter, each Commissioner, Legal Staff, and each Commission Division Director. Delaying or interrupting the proceedings to make copies is disfavored and, in the discretion of the panel, may not be permitted.

E. Technological And Other Special Requests

The parties informed the Hearing Officer that they may need a computer and projector set up for the Hearing.

F. Examination of Witnesses and Questions by the Commission

While re-direct examination of a witness is allowed, the parties are reminded that it is to be limited to matters elicited during cross-examination that require clarification. It is not appropriate to raise new issues during re-direct examination. Re-cross examination is not permitted except in the event that a new issue is raised during the immediately preceding re-direct examination. The Commission's Advisory Staff has the opportunity to ask questions following cross-examination, before re-direct examination. The parties should be aware that the Commissioners might ask questions at any time during a witness's testimony and after cross-examination.

G. Closing Arguments

Each party will have ten (10) to twenty (20) minutes to present closing arguments. The Consumer Advocate will give closing arguments first, followed by Atmos.

H. Preliminary Matters/Motions

The parties should make the Hearing Officer aware of any other preliminary matters as soon as possible in advance of the hearing.

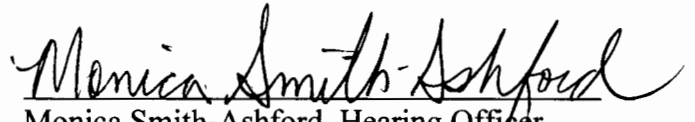
I. Summary Outline of Hearing

For the convenience of the presiding panel and the parties, a *Procedural Outline of Hearing* has been provided as Attachment A to this Order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The hearing scheduled to begin at **9:00 a.m. (CDT) on April 9, 2018**, shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements and deadlines set forth in this Pre-Hearing Order unless otherwise

ordered by the Vice Chairman or presiding Commissioner.


Monica Smith-Ashford, Hearing Officer

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PROCEDURAL OUTLINE OF HEARING

HEARING ON THE MERITS

- Scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. (CDT) on April 9, 2018

A. Hearing Convened by Vice Chairman/Presiding Commissioner & Introductions

B. Miscellaneous or Pre-Hearing matters

C. Opening Statements- 5 to 10 minutes

1. Atmos
2. Consumer Advocate

D. Witness Testimony

1) **Atmos witness**- Greg Waller

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn -

Witness Summary of Direct

Limited to 10 minutes

Cross-examination

Consumer Advocate

Questions

TPUC Advisory Staff¹

Re-direct examination

Atmos

¹ While the Commissioners may ask questions at any time, the TPUC Advisory Staff may directly question a witness between cross and re-direct examination.

2) **Atmos witness-** Jennifer Story

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn -

Witness Summary of Direct	Limited to 10 minutes
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Cross-examination	Consumer Advocate
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Questions	TPUC Advisory Staff
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Re-direct examination	Atmos
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3) **Consumer Advocate witness-** William H. Novak

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn -

Witness Summary of Direct	Limited to 20 minutes
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Cross-examination	Atmos
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Questions	TPUC Advisory Staff
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Re-direct examination	Consumer Advocate
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E. Public comments, if any

F. Closing Arguments –10-20 minutes

1. Consumer Advocate
2. Atmos

G. Hearing Adjourned