

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

April 11, 2019

IN RE:

**RESPONSE OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION TO
THE COMMISSION'S ORDER OPENING AN
INVESTIGATION AND REQUIRING DEFERRED
ACCOUNTING TREATMENT**

)
)
)
)
)
)

**DOCKET NO.
18-00034**

PRE-HEARING ORDER

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-306(d) and Commission 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 4, 2019. The Pre-Hearing Conference was held to establish the orderly conduct of the Hearing on the *Joint Petition to Approve Stipulation and Settlement Agreement* scheduled during the Commission Conference to be held at 1:00 p.m. (CDT) on Monday, April 15, 2019. Atmos Energy Corporation (“Atmos”) and the Consumer Advocate Unit of the Financial Division of the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General (“Consumer Advocate”), the parties in this matter, participated in the Pre-Hearing Conference.

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The following order of the Hearing has been established and agreed upon:

A. NOTICE OF HEARING & PUBLIC COMMENT

On April 5, 2019, a *Notice of Hearing* was issued notifying the public that a Hearing on the *Joint Petition to Approve Stipulation and Settlement Agreement* will be held during the

Commission Conference scheduled to begin at **1:00 p.m. (CDT) on Monday, April 15, 2019.**

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 may present opening statements. Atmos will present its opening statement first, followed by the Consumer Advocate.

C. EXHIBITS & DOCUMENTS

The parties should exchange any demonstrative exhibits related to a witness's testimony before that witness appears on the stand. 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 on the panel, Legal Staff, and the Utilities Division Director.

D. TECHNOLOGICAL AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUESTS

The parties informed the Hearing Officer that provisions for visual display aids and technology are not necessary for the Hearing.

E. EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES

Atmos will call its witness, Jennifer Story, to summarize the *Joint Petition to Approve Stipulation and Settlement Agreement*. The Consumer Advocate will not present a witness but will have its witnesses available for questions. The parties have agreed to waive cross-examination.

F. CLOSING REMARKS

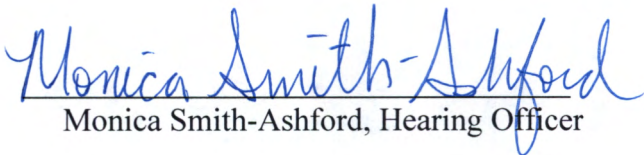
The Consumer Advocate will present its closing remarks first, followed by Atmos.

G. PRELIMINARY MATTERS/MOTIONS

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

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The Hearing on the *Joint Petition to Approve Stipulation and Settlement Agreement* scheduled during the Commission Conference to be held at **1:00 p.m. (CDT) on Monday, April 15, 2019**, shall be conducted in accordance with this Pre-Hearing Order unless otherwise ordered by the Chair/Presiding Commissioner.


Monica Smith-Ashford, Hearing Officer