

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

May 18, 2018

IN RE:

**PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY'S RESPONSE
TO THE FEBRUARY 6, 2018 ORDER OPENING AN
INVESTIGATION AND REQUIRING DEFERRED
ACCOUNTING TREATMENT ISS BY THE TPUC**

**DOCKET NO.
18-00040**

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

This matter came before Chairman David F. Jones, Commissioner Herbert H. Hilliard and Commissioner Keith Jordan of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (TPUC or Commission), the voting panel assigned to this docket, during a regularly scheduled Commission Conference held on May 14, 2018 for the purpose of determining whether to convene a contested case proceeding and appoint a Hearing Officer. On March 29, 2018 Piedmont Gas Company (Piedmont) filed its Compliance Filing and Report in which Piedmont discussed how the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act impacts the utility's financial operations, any resulting excess deferred tax reserve, and proposes a method for how certain benefits should be addressed.

During the Conference, the Commissioners voted unanimously to convene a contested case proceeding and appoint the Commission's General Counsel, or her designee, to act as Hearing Officer to prepare this matter for hearing, with authority to handle all preliminary matters, including but not limited to, establishing a procedural schedule, considering dispositive motions, ruling on intervention requests and discovery issues, and entering a protective order, as needed.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Chairman David F. Jones, Commissioner Herbert H. Hilliard and Commissioner Keith Jordan concur.

ATTEST:



Earl R. Taylor, Executive Director