

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

August 28, 2018

IN RE:)
)
ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION'S 2018 ARM) **DOCKET NO.**
FILING) **18-00067**

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

This matter is before the Hearing Officer of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("Commission" or "TPUC") to establish a procedural schedule for the orderly administration of these proceedings. At the request of the Hearing Officer, Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy" or the "Company") and the Consumer Protection and Advocate Division of the Office of the Attorney General ("Consumer Advocate"), the parties in this matter, filed the *Joint Filing of Proposed Procedural Schedule* on August 21, 2018. The goal and design of any procedural schedule is to efficiently move the proceedings forward to a hearing and final conclusion on the merits. Nevertheless, a procedural schedule's effectiveness directly depends on cooperation by the parties in meeting the individual benchmark dates.

The Hearing Officer also requested that the parties incorporate into the Procedural Schedule a date for each party to respond to the questions below and a date for each party to reply to the other party's responses. The questions are as follows:

1. Whether the Annual Review Mechanism should be modified to eliminate (a) the Forward Looking Test Year filing requirement and (b) the associated annual rate adjustment based on the Forward Looking Test Year filing; while retaining (c) the Annual Reconciliation of actual results to the Authorized Return on Equity and (d) the associated annual rate adjustment based on the Annual Reconciliation Revenue Requirement necessary to adjust the actual

return on equity to the Authorized Return on Equity for the year immediately completed, all determined in accordance with the Approved Methodologies. Please discuss the rationale, including advantages and disadvantages, of retaining or eliminating the Forward Looking Test Year filing requirement and associated annual rate adjustment based on the Forward Looking Test Year filing. If the Forward Looking Test Year filing requirement and associated annual rate adjustment based on the Forward Looking Test Year filing are eliminated, please set forth with specificity and discuss in detail the changes to the Company's tariff and/or Approved Methodologies necessary to implement this modification.

2. Whether the provision for interest at the rate of the Overall Cost of Capital compounded for two years to be added to the Annual Reconciliation Revenue Requirement (whether positive or negative) should be modified if the Forward Looking Test Year filing requirement and associated annual rate adjustment based on the Forward Looking Test Year filing are eliminated from the Annual Review Mechanism. If any modification is recommended: (a) describe the modification in detail; (b) discuss the rationale supporting the modification; (c) detail any advantages and/or disadvantages of making the modification in relation to the Company's capability to earn its Authorized Return on Equity annually on a continuing basis; and (d) set forth with specificity and discuss in detail any related changes to the Company's tariff and/or Approved Methodologies necessary to implement the modification. If no modification is recommended, please discuss in detail the reasons for retaining the provision for interest stated in the Annual Review Mechanism tariff.

3. Whether any other modification(s) to the Annual Review Mechanism should be made to provide that the Company earns its Authorized Return on Equity on an ongoing annual basis. For each such modification: (a) describe the proposed modification in detail; (b) discuss the rationale supporting the modification; (c) detail any advantages and/or disadvantages of making the modification in relation to the Company's capability to earn its Authorized Return on Equity annually on a continuing basis; and (d) set forth with specificity and discuss in detail any related changes to the Company's tariff and/or Approved Methodologies necessary to implement the recommended modification.

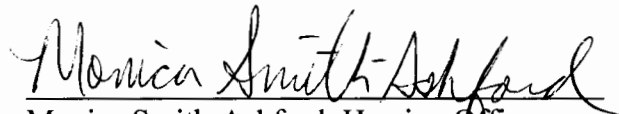
Note: Please use the definitions set forth in the Company's Annual Review Mechanism tariff when reading and responding to these questions.

The parties should limit their responses only to the issues raised in the questions. Each party should respond to the questions, and each party will be given an opportunity to reply to the responses. The responses should be provided in the form of pre-filed testimony and/or legal

briefs, if necessary. In addition, in the responses and replies, the parties should use the terms as they are defined in Atmos Energy's tariff.

Based on the agreements made by Atmos Energy and the Consumer Advocate regarding the procedural schedule, the Hearing Officer hereby establishes the Procedural Schedule set forth in **Exhibit A** attached to this Order.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED.


Monica Smith-Ashford, Hearing Officer

DOCKET NO. 18-00067
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

August 28, 2018

DUE DATE	FILING
August 20, 2018	2 nd Round Discovery Requests by Consumer Advocate
August 27, 2018	2 nd Round Discovery Responses by Atmos Energy
September 17, 2018	Pre-Filed Testimony/Briefs by Parties in Response to TPUC Questions
	Consumer Advocate's Pre-Filed Testimony (filed by 2:00pm central)
September 26, 2018	Rebuttal Testimony/Briefs by Parties in Response to TPUC Questions
	Atmos Energy Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony (filed by 2:00 pm central)
October 3, 2018	Pre-Hearing Motions Due
October 8, 2018	TBD
October 15, 2018	Target Hearing Date

- Nothing herein restricts the Parties from voluntarily participating in additional informal discovery.
- Copies of all discovery exchanged between the Parties shall be filed with TPUC within 3 business days of the exchange of information.
- For all spreadsheets, a copy shall be submitted in Excel format with working formulas intact. This includes spreadsheets that are exhibits to Pre-Filed Testimony.
- Rebuttal Testimony is limited only to issues raised in the Intervenor's Direct Testimony and should include the page and line number of the Intervenor's testimony that is being rebutted.

EXHIBIT A