

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**May 8, 2020**

**IN RE:**

**PETITION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY,  
INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTEGRITY  
MANAGEMENT RIDER TO ITS APPROVED RATE  
SCHEDULES AND SERVICE REGULATIONS**

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**DOCKET NO.  
19-00107**

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**PRE-HEARING ORDER**

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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 May 4, 2020. The Pre-Hearing Conference was held to establish the orderly conduct of the Hearing on the *Petition of Piedmont Natural Gas Company for Approval of An Integrity Management Rider to Its Approved Rate Schedules and Service Regulations* scheduled during the Commission Conference to be held at 9:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, May 11, 2020. Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (“Piedmont”) and the Consumer Advocate Unit in the Financial Division of the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General (“Consumer Advocate”), the parties in this matter, participated in the Pre-Hearing Conference.

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

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

#### **A. NOTICE OF HEARING & PUBLIC COMMENT**

On May 1, 2020, a *Notice of Hearing* was issued notifying the public that a Hearing on the *Petition of Piedmont Natural Gas Company for Approval of An Integrity Management Rider to Its Approved Rate Schedules and Service Regulations* will be held electronically via WebEx during the Commission Conference scheduled to begin at **9:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, May 11, 2020**. Members of the public are encouraged to participate by filing written comments in the docket file by 2:00 p.m. (CDT) Friday, May 8, 2020, and/or presenting verbal comments during the Hearing.

#### **B. OPENING STATEMENTS**

After any preliminary matters are considered, each party may present opening statements. Piedmont 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 pre-filed 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. The parties will display any documents used as exhibits on the video screen for everyone to see. Each document will then be marked as an exhibit. Following the Hearing, the parties will email the exhibits to the Hearing Officer, who will forward them to the court reporter.

#### **D. TECHNOLOGICAL ISSUES**

Since the Hearing is being conducted completely via WebEx video, there are special considerations the parties should observe to make sure that the Hearing flows smoothly:

- Parties should log into the Conference at **8:30 a.m.** (CDT) on May 11, 2020, to make sure everyone is connected to the Conference;
- It is best to connect to video via a laptop or tablet and to use a phone to call in for the audio;

- Everyone should place their microphones on mute when not speaking; and
- Identify yourself prior to speaking.

#### **E. WITNESSES**

Each party's witness will present a summary of their pre-filed testimony. In addition, each witness should be advised that they remain subject to recall for rebuttal purposes and should remain available throughout the length of the proceedings. Piedmont will call its witness, Pia Powers, first. The Consumer Advocate will present its witness, William H. Novak, last.

#### **F. EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES AND QUESTIONS BY THE COMMISSION**

After each witness's summary, the opposing party will have an opportunity to cross-examine the witness. 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 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**

The parties will present closing arguments and forgo filing post-hearing briefs. Closing arguments will be presented first by the Consumer Advocate, then Piedmont.

#### **PRELIMINARY MATTERS/MOTIONS**

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

#### **SUMMARY OUTLINE OF HEARING**

For the convenience of the presiding panel and the parties, a *Procedural Outline of Hearing*

has been provided as an attachment to this Order.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

The electronic WebEx Hearing scheduled during the Commission Conference scheduled to begin at **9:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, May 11, 2020**, shall be conducted in accordance with this Pre-Hearing Order unless otherwise ordered by the Chairman/Presiding Commissioner.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monica Smith-Ashford". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Monica Smith-Ashford, Hearing Officer

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

<b>IN RE:</b>	)	
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**PROCEDURAL OUTLINE OF HEARING**

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Time/Date: **May 11, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. (CDT)**  
Electronically via WebEx

**Hearing on the Merits**

Hearing Convened by Chair /Presiding Commissioner and Introductions

A. Opening Statements:

- 1) Piedmont
- 2) Consumer Advocate

B. Witness Summary:

**Piedmont Witness**

**Pia Powers**, Managing Director – Gas Rates  
& Regulatory for Piedmont

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –

Summary of pre-filed testimony

About Ten (10) minutes

Cross-examination

Consumer Advocate

Questions

TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

Re-direct examination

Piedmont

Re-cross examination

(if requested & determined appropriate)

**Consumer Advocate Witness**

**Hal Novak, WHN Consulting**

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn -

Summary of pre-filed testimony

About Ten (10) minutes

Cross-examination

Piedmont

Questions

TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

Re-direct examination

Consumer Advocate

Re-cross examination

(if requested & determined appropriate)

C. Closing Statements:

1) Consumer Advocate

2) Piedmont

D. Public Comment

E. Hearing Adjourned