BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:)
)
PETITION OF ATMOS ENERGY)
CORPORATION FOR WAIVER)
OF 2021 METER TESTING UNDER) Docket No. 21- <u>00109</u>
TPUC RULE 1220-04-0526(e))

PETITION FOR WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT THAT METER TESTING UNDER TPUC RULE 1220-04-05-.26(e) BE COMPLETED IN CALENDAR YEAR 2021

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy" or "Company") respectfully requests that the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("Commission") approve a waiver of the requirement that Atmos Energy complete its periodic meter testing obligations under TPUC Rule 1220-04-05-.26(e) in the calendar year 2021.

In support of this Petition, Atmos Energy respectfully submits the following:

1. Full name and address of the principal place of business of the company are:

Atmos Energy Corporation 5430 LBJ Freeway S 1800 Dallas, TX 75240

2. All correspondence and communications with respect to this Petition should be sent to the following:

Brannon C. Taylor Vice President, Rates & Regulatory Affairs KY/Mid-States Division Atmos Energy Corporation 810 Crescent Centre Dr. Ste. 600 (615) 771-8301 – Facsimile Erik C. Lybeck, Esq.
Neal & Harwell, PLC
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Nashville, TN 37203
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- 3. Atmos Energy is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Texas and Virginia and is engaged in the business of transporting, distributing and selling natural gas, including in areas of Tennessee.
- 4. Under TPUC Rule 1220-04-05-.26(e), gas utilities (including Atmos Energy) are required to "make periodic tests of meters, associated devices and instruments, to assure their accuracy." These tests are to be completed "within the calendar year" "[u]nless otherwise authorized by the Commission." Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-04-05-.26(e).
- 5. As has been set forth in its reports to the Commission filed in Docket No. 20-00047, Atmos Energy has implemented a wide-ranging set of procedures to ensure the safety of the Company's customers and employees, and of the communities served by the Company, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- 6. Among these safety procedures was the suspension of periodic meter testing, in March of last year to help limit the spread of the coronavirus.
- 7. Meter testing involves temporarily interrupting gas service to a premise while the existing meter is replaced with a new meter and the resumption of gas service requires a qualified individual to enter the premises.

8. In Docket No. 21-00017 the Commission found that Atmos should be relieved of its obligation to complete meter testing associated with calendar year 2020 and that Atmos Energy's requirement to complete meter testing for calendar year 2021 within this calendar year should be waived.

9. Atmos Energy is an essential service provider and seeks to limit interaction between employees and customers where necessary. Requiring the resumption of the meter testing program at this time would unnecessarily increase human interaction and could result in additional spread of the coronavirus.

10. In further support of this Petition, Atmos Energy relies upon the Pre-Filed Testimony of Brannon C. Taylor.

WHEREFORE, Atmos Energy respectfully requests that the Commission waive the Company of the obligation to perform meter testing associated with calendar year 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

NEAL & HARWELL, PLC

By:

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