

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**September 10, 2025**

**IN RE:**

**PETITION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS COMPANY,  
INC. FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2025 ANNUAL REVIEW  
OF RATES MECHANISM PURSUANT TO TENN. CODE  
ANN. § 65-5-103(d)(6)**

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**DOCKET NO.  
25-00036**

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**PRE-HEARING ORDER**

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Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-5-306 and Commission Rule 1220-1-2-.12, this matter came before the Administrative Judge of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (“Commission” or “TPUC”) at a Pre-Hearing Conference held via teleconference on September 4, 2025. The Pre-Hearing Conference was held to establish the orderly conduct of the Hearing on the *Settlement Agreement* scheduled during the Commission Conference to be held at 10:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, September 15, 2025. Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (“Piedmont”) and the Consumer Advocate Division of the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General (“Consumer Advocate”), the Parties in this matter, participated in the Pre-Hearing Conference. On August 25, 2025, the Parties filed the *Stipulation and Settlement Agreement* (“*Settlement Agreement*”) to resolve Piedmont’s 2025 *Annual Rate Review Mechanism Filing* (“*Petition*”). Misty Lyons filed Supplemental Settlement Testimony supporting the terms of the settlement on August 26, 2025. If the panel does not approve the *Settlement Agreement*, a hearing on the merits of the *Petition* will immediately follow.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> If a hearing on the *Petition* is held, the Administrative Judge will issue a separate Order establishing the procedure for the hearing on the merits of the *Petition*.

## **I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

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

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

On September 5, 2025, a *Notice of Hearing on Settlement Agreement* was issued notifying the public that a Hearing on the *Settlement Agreement* will be held during the Commission Conference scheduled to begin at **10:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, September 15, 2025**. Members of the public may participate by presenting verbal comments during the Hearing and/or filing written comments in the docket file by completing the comment form at <https://www.tn.gov/tpuc/agency/public-participation-/tpuc-online-public-comment-form.html> or by sending an email to [contact.tpuc@tn.gov](mailto:contact.tpuc@tn.gov) with a reference to **Docket No. 25-00036** in the subject line of the email.

### **B. OPENING STATEMENTS**

Piedmont will give brief opening remarks followed by remarks from 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 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, the Executive Director, and the Utilities Division Directors and Deputy Director.

### **D. TECHNOLOGICAL AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUESTS**

The Parties informed the Administrative Judge that provisions for visual display aids and technology are not necessary for the Hearing.

#### **E. WITNESSES**

Piedmont will call its witness, Misty Lyons, to summarize the *Settlement Agreement*. Piedmont's other witnesses, Conitsha Barnes and Keith Goley, will be available on the phone to answer questions but will not testify.

The Consumer Advocate will not present witnesses but will have its witnesses, Clark Kaml and Hal Novak, available for questions.

#### **F. QUESTIONS BY THE COMMISSION**

The Commissioners and Commission Staff will have an opportunity to ask questions following the witness testimony. In addition, the Parties should be aware that the Commissioners might ask questions at any time during a witness's testimony.

#### **G. CLOSING ARGUMENTS**

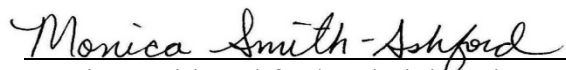
The Parties will present brief closing remarks. Closing remarks will be presented first by the Consumer Advocate, then by Piedmont.

#### **H. PRELIMINARY MATTERS/MOTIONS**

The Parties should make the Administrative Judge aware of any preliminary matters as soon as possible in advance of the Hearing.

#### **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

The Hearing on the *Settlement Agreement* scheduled during the Commission Conference beginning at **10:00 a.m. (CDT) on Monday, September 15, 2025**, shall be conducted in accordance with this Pre-Hearing Order unless otherwise ordered by the Chairman/Presiding Commissioner.

  
Monica Smith-Ashford, Administrative Judge