

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

February 4, 2026

**IN RE:** )  
 )  
**APPLICATION OF PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS** )  
**COMPANY, INC. AND SPIRE TENNESSEE INC.** )  
**FOR APPROVAL OF A TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY** ) **DOCKET NO. 25-00074**  
**TO PROVIDE UTILITY SERVICES PURSUANT TO** )  
**TENN. CODE ANN §65-4-113 AND RELATED** )  
**AUTHORIZATIONS** )

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**ORDER GRANTING PERMISSION TO PLEAD AND PRACTICE PRO HAC VICE**

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This matter is before the Administrative Judge upon the *Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice* (“*Motion*”), filed by Paul S. Davidson, attorney for Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (“Piedmont”) and Spire Tennessee Inc. (“Spire Tennessee”) (collectively, “Applicants”) and Henry M. Walker, attorney for Spire Inc. and Spire Tennessee on behalf of Matthew J. Aplington. The *Motion* was filed on February 2, 2026, and seeks permission for Mr. Aplington to appear on behalf of the Applicant in the above-captioned proceeding.

The *Motion* states Mr. Aplington is a licensed attorney in good standing and admitted to practice law in the State of Missouri, and further, that no disciplinary actions or investigations are pending against him.<sup>1</sup> The *Motion* is accompanied by an affidavit from Mr. Aplington in which he agrees to subject himself to the jurisdiction of the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee and the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) in

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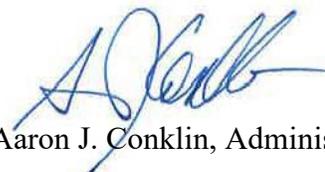
<sup>1</sup> See Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 19.

any manner arising out of his conduct in such proceedings and agrees to be bound by the rules governing the conduct of attorneys appearing before the Commission. In addition, Mr. Aplington states that he has never had an application for pro hac vice admission denied, nor any pro hac admission revoked.

Upon review, the Administrative Judge finds that the *Motion* complies with Rule 19 of the Rules of the Tennessee Supreme Court and Tenn. Comp. R. & Reg. 1220-1-2-.04(7). Accordingly, the *Motion* filed on behalf of Mr. Aplington for permission to practice before the Commission in the proceedings in this matter is approved.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

The *Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice* filed by Paul S. Davidson and Henry M. Walker on behalf of Matthew J. Aplington, Vice President and Chief Legal Officer for Spire Inc., is GRANTED.



Aaron J. Conklin, Administrative Judge