

IN THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE: **February 6, 2026**)
)
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)

**ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR LEAVE FOR SUBSTITUTION OF WITNESS AND
ADOPTION OF TESTIMONY**

This matter is before the Administrative Judge of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (“Commission” or “TPUC”) on the *Motion for Leave for Substitution of Witness and Adoption of Testimony* (“*Motion*”) filed by Applicants Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (“Piedmont”) and Spire Tennessee Inc. (“Spire Tennessee”) (collectively, “Applicants”) on February 3, 2026. In its *Motion*, the Applicants move to substitute the Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony of Mr. Renee Metzler, Vice President of Total Rewards and Human Resources Operations for Duke Energy Corporation (“Duke Energy”), attached as Exhibit A to the *Motion*, for the Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony of Mr. Andrew Etheridge, Director of Retirement for Duke Energy, filed on January 9, 2026.

The Applicants state that Mr. Etheridge is unavailable to testify during the February 27, 2026, Hearing of this docket, due to a long-standing family commitment previously scheduled. Ms. Metzler was directly involved in the preparation for Mr. Etheridge’s rebuttal testimony, agrees with its statements, and has agreed to adopt Mr. Etheridge’s testimony, as filed. The Applicants further state that the Consumer Advocate Division of the Office of the Attorney General

(“Consumer Advocate”) has been made aware of the *Motion* and indicated that the Consumer Advocate has no objection to the substitution.

Evidence and testimony for Commission dockets are governed by Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 65-2-109 and 4-5-313, and Commission Rule 122-01-02-.16. Commission rules require pre-filed testimony to be filed no later than ten days before the hearing unless otherwise directed by the Commission. The Administrative Judge finds that the Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony of Mr. Renee Metzler is timely filed and that it is appropriate to substitute her testimony for that of Mr. Etheridge, who is unavailable to testify during the Hearing. Further, there is no objection to the substitution of testimony. Therefore, the Administrative Judge finds that the Applicants’ *Motion* is well taken and should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT the *Applicants Piedmont Natural Gas Company Inc.’s and Spire Tennessee Inc.’s Motion for Leave for Substitution of Witness and Adoption of Testimony* is GRANTED.


Aaron J. Conklin, Administrative Judge