

Spire Inc. and Spire Tennessee Inc. – Henry M. Walker, Esq., Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, 1221 Broadway, Ste. 2400, Nashville, TN 37203.

Consumer Advocate Division of the Office of the Tennessee Attorney General – Shilina B. Brown, Esq., Karen H. Stachowski, Esq. and Vance Broemel, Esq., Office of the Attorney General, P.O. Box 20207, Nashville, TN 37202.

I. PRELIMINARY ISSUES

A. Joint Applicant’s Motion for Leave for Substitution of Witness and Adoption of Testimony. The Administrative Judge announced that an Order Granting Motion for Leave for Substitution of Witness was filed prior to the Pre-Hearing Conference. The Order allows the substitution of the Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony of Renee Metzler for the Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony of Andrew Etheridge, who will be unavailable to testify on the date of the Hearing.

B. Joint Applicant’s Motion to Appear Pro Hac Vice. The Administrative Judge announced that an Order granting the Pro Hac Vice admission of Brian S. Heslin was filed prior to the Pre-Hearing Conference.

C. Notice of Hearing and Public Comment. On February 6, 2026, the Administrative Judge issued a *Notice of Hearing* notifying the public that a hearing will be held at **10:00 a.m. CST on Tuesday, February 17, 2026**. Members of the public are encouraged to participate by filing written comments in the docket file and/or presenting verbal comments during the hearing.

II. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

During the Pre-Hearing Conference, the length and timing of the order of proof was discussed. The following order of the hearing was then established and agreed upon:

A. OPENING STATEMENTS

The Joint Applicants, Piedmont and Spire Tennessee, will each present an opening argument as will the Consumer Advocate. Opening Statements will be presented in the following order: Spire Tennessee (Matthew J. Applington, Vice President and Chief Legal Officer for Spire Inc.) will be

permitted a maximum of 10 minutes to present its opening statement. Piedmont (Brian S. Heslin, Deputy General Counsel for Duke Energy Corporation) will be permitted a maximum of 10 minutes to present its opening statement. The Consumer Advocate will be permitted a maximum of 12 minutes to present its opening statement.

B. EXHIBITS & DOCUMENTS

The parties should exchange any demonstrative exhibits related to a witness's pre-filed testimony by Thursday, February 12, 2026, at noon (CST). Exhibits that are part of the docket record may be identified in an Exhibit List. Non-docketed exhibits should be provided. 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, 15 copies of an exhibit should be provided for the court reporter, each Commissioner on the panel, Legal Staff, and the Utilities Division staff. Additional copies will be needed to provide to the other parties.

C. TECHNOLOGICAL AND OTHER SPECIAL REQUESTS

The parties should inform the Administrative Judge of any requirements as to visual display aids and technology that might be needed during the hearing. So that the appropriate arrangements may be made, all such requests and information should be provided via email to the Administrative Judge at aaron.conklin@tn.gov by Thursday, February 12, 2026.

D. WITNESSES

During direct examination, each witness for the Joint Applicants will be permitted a maximum of 10 minutes to summarize his/her pre-filed testimony; Consumer Advocate witness Dixson will be permitted a maximum of 10 minutes to summarize his pre-filed testimony and Consumer Advocate witnesses Kaml and Dittmore will each be permitted a maximum of 20 minutes each to summarize

his pre-filed testimony. In addition, each witness remains subject to recall for rebuttal purposes and should remain available throughout the length of the proceedings. The witnesses will testify in the following order:

- **Joint Applicants** will present five witnesses:
 1. Joe Hampton (Direct) (10 minutes)
 2. Brittany Mathis (Direct and Rebuttal) (10 minutes)
 3. David Yonce (Direct and Rebuttal) (10 minutes)
 4. Mike Switzer (Direct and Rebuttal) (10 minutes)
 5. Renee Metzler (Rebuttal) (10 minutes)
- **The Consumer Advocate** will present three witnesses:
 1. David N. Dittmore (Direct) (20 minutes)
 2. Clark D. Kaml (Direct) (20 minutes)
 3. Bradley O. Dixon (Direct) (10 minutes)

E. EXAMINATION OF WITNESSES AND QUESTIONS BY THE COMMISSION

While redirect examination of a witness is allowed, the parties are reminded to limit questions on redirect to matters elicited during cross-examination that require clarification. It is not appropriate to raise new issues during redirect examination. Re-cross examination is not permitted except in the event that a new issue is raised during the immediately preceding redirect examination. The Commission's Advisory Staff has the opportunity to ask questions following cross-examination, before redirect examination. The parties should be aware that the Commissioners might ask questions at any time during a witness's testimony, as well as following cross-examination.

F. CLOSING ARGUMENTS

Closing arguments will be presented in the following order: Consumer Advocate and Joint Applicants. The Joint Applicants will give a singular closing argument. The Consumer Advocate and the Joint Applicants each will be given a maximum of five minutes to present closing arguments.

G. PRELIMINARY MATTERS/MOTIONS

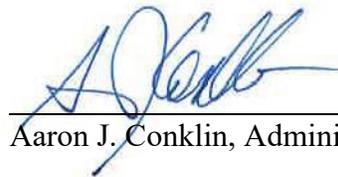
The parties should make the Administrative Judge aware of any preliminary matters as soon as possible in advance of the hearing.

H. SUMMARY OUTLINE OF HEARING

For the convenience of the presiding panel and the parties, a *Procedural Outline of Hearing* has been provided as Attachment A to this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED THAT:

The Hearing scheduled to be held during the Commission Conference beginning at **10:00 a.m. CST on February 17, 2026**, shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements and deadlines set forth in this Pre-Hearing Order unless otherwise ordered by the Chairman or presiding Commissioner.



Aaron J. Conklin, Administrative Judge

ATTACHMENT A

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

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

PROCEDURAL OUTLINE OF HEARING

Time/Date: During Commission Conference held on February 17, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (CST)

Hearing on the Merits

Hearing Convened by Presiding Commissioner and Introductions

A. Preliminary Issues

B. Opening Statements:

- 1) Spire Tennessee (10 minutes)
- 2) Piedmont (10 minutes)
- 3) Consumer Advocate (12 minutes)

C. Witness Summaries:

<u>Spire Tennessee Witness</u>	Joe Hampton
- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –	
Summary of pre-filed testimony	Ten (10) minutes
Cross-examination	Consumer Advocate
Re-direct examination	Spire Tennessee
Re-cross examination	(if requested & determined appropriate)
Questions	TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

Spire Tennessee Witness

Brittany Mathis

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –
- Summary of pre-filed testimony Ten (10) minutes
- Cross-examination Consumer Advocate
- Re-direct examination Spire Tennessee
- Re-cross examination (if requested & determined appropriate)
- Questions TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

Spire Tennessee Witness

David Yonce

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –
- Summary of pre-filed testimony Ten (10) minutes
- Cross-examination Consumer Advocate
- Re-direct examination Spire Tennessee
- Re-cross examination (if requested & determined appropriate)
- Questions TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

Piedmont Witness

Mike Switzer

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –
- Summary of pre-filed testimony Ten (10) minutes
- Cross-examination Consumer Advocate
- Re-direct examination Piedmont
- Re-cross examination (if requested & determined appropriate)
- Questions TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

Piedmont Witness

Renee Metlzer

- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –
- Summary of pre-filed testimony Ten (10) minutes
- Cross-examination Consumer Advocate
- Re-direct examination Piedmont
- Re-cross examination (if requested & determined appropriate)
- Questions TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

<u>Consumer Advocate Witness</u>	David N. Dittmore
- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –	
Summary of pre-filed testimony	Twenty (20) minutes
Cross-examination	Piedmont/Spire Tennessee
Re-direct examination	Consumer Advocate
Re-cross examination	(if requested & determined appropriate)
Questions	TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

<u>Consumer Advocate Witness</u>	Clark D. Kaml
- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –	
Summary of pre-filed testimony	Twenty (20) minutes
Cross-examination	Piedmont/Spire Tennessee
Re-direct examination	Consumer Advocate
Re-cross examination	(if requested & determined appropriate)
Questions	TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

<u>Consumer Advocate Witness</u>	Bradley O. Dixon
- Oath Administered/Witness Sworn –	
Summary of pre-filed testimony	Ten (10) minutes
Cross-examination	Piedmont/Spire Tennessee
Re-direct examination	Consumer Advocate
Re-cross examination	(if requested & determined appropriate)
Questions	TPUC Commissioners and/or Advisory Staff

D. Closing Argument

- Consumer Advocate (5 minutes)
- Piedmont/Spire Tennessee (5 minutes)

E. Public Comment

F. Hearing Adjourned