COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

THE FILING OF SEVEN (7) SPECIAL INDUSTRIAL) CASE NO. CONTRACTS BY ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION) 2016-00052

ORDER

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos") has submitted filings through the Commission's electronic Tariff Filing System requesting approval of seven special contracts ("Service Agreements") to provide large volume natural gas service for certain industrial customers at specified rates. Atmos requested confidential treatment of the contract rates and certain other information contained in the Service Agreements, redacted copies of which are attached hereto as the Appendix. Atmos proposed varied effective dates for the Service Agreements.

Having reviewed the proposed filings, and being otherwise sufficiently advised, we find that further proceedings are necessary to determine the Service Agreements' reasonableness. We further find that the review process should take place within the context of a docketed proceeding due to issues raised regarding Atmos's special contracts in Case No. 2013-00148¹ and addressed by the Commission in the final Order in that case. While recognizing that the contracts' effective dates could be based on the dates of Commission approval thereof, in order to provide for a procedural structure that is typical of Commission proceedings, the Commission finds that the seven Service

¹ Case No. 2013-00148, Application of Atmos Energy Corporation for an Adjustment of Rates and Tariff Modifications (Ky. PSC Apr. 22, 2014).

Agreements should be suspended pursuant to KRS 278.190(2) for five months from their earliest possible effective dates.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- This proceeding is established to investigate the reasonableness of the seven proposed Service Agreements.
- 2. The Service Agreements filed in TFS2015-00781, TFS2015-00782, TFS2015-00783, TFS2015-00784, and TFS2015-00785, which were all filed on December 16, 2015, are suspended for five months from January 15, 2016, up to and including June 14, 2016.²
- 3. The Service Agreement filed in TFS2016-00012, which was filed on January 11, 2016, is suspended for five months from February 10, 2016, up to and including July 9, 2016.³
- 4. The Service Agreement filed in TFS2016-00019, which was filed on January 19, 2016, is suspended for five months from February 18, 2016, up to and including July 17, 2016.⁴
- 5. Nothing shall prevent the Commission from issuing further orders prior to the end of the suspension periods.

² These Service Agreements were filed through the Commission's electronic Tariff Filing System on December 16, 2015. Because Atmos did not provide 30 days' notice of the proposed rates, the earliest possible effective date for these Agreements is January 15, 2016, which is 30 days after the filing dates.

³ This Service Agreement was filed through the Commission's electronic Tariff Filing System on January 11, 2016. February 10, 2016, is the earliest possible effective date for this Agreement, which is 30 days after the filing date.

⁴ This Service Agreement was filed through the Commission's electronic Tariff Filing System on January 19, 2016. February 18, 2016 is the earliest possible effective date for this Agreement, which is 30 days after the filing date.

By the Commission

ENTERED

JAN 2 9 2016

KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

Executive Director

*Atmos Energy Corporation 3275 Highland Pointe Drive Owensboro, KY 42303

*Mark Martin VP Rates & Regulatory Affairs Atmos Energy Corporation 3275 Highland Pointe Drive Owensboro, KY 42303