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Case No. 2017-00035

November 7, 2016

RECEIVED

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Talina Mathews Branch Manager, Tariff Branch Public Service Commission 211 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601

# RE: Case No. 2016-00052, Special Contract -

Dear Ms. Mathews,

Atmos Energy Corporation (Company) herewith submits an original non-redacted and ten (10) redacted copies of the special contract and cost analyses with the above reference customer and is to be included in Case No. 2016-00052.

Also enclosed is a Petition for Confidentiality pertaining to the terms agreed to between the Company and the above referenced customer as well as the cost analysis. This information is extremely confidential and has previously been afforded confidential protection by the Commission.

Please feel free to contact me at 270.685.8024 if you have any questions and/or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Martin Vice President – Rates & Regulatory Affairs

Enclosures

cc: Randy Hutchinson Jack Hughes Kent Chandler

# CONFIDENTIAL

#### CASE NO. 2016-00052 ATTACHMENT 1 TO STAFF DR NO. 1-01 (SUPPLEMENT 04-29-16)

UPDATED: 11/4/2016 To Include Customers "K"

Atmos Energy Corporation Kentucky / Mid-States Division Kentucky Operations Case No. 2016-00052 Staff DR Set 2 - 1 (Clarifying Previous Response to Staff DR Set 1 - 1) CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Line No.		Docket Customer ID	Current Commodity/Mcf	Proposed Commodity/Mcf	Est. Vol (Mcf)	Current Revenue <sup>1</sup>	New Revenue <sup>1</sup>	Revenue Change <sup>1</sup>
1		А						
2 3		В						
4 5		F						
6 7 8		G						
9 10		С						
11		E				是 175 并 199 (A)		
12		D						
13		Н						
14		1						
15		J						· 大学校 · 大学校 · 大学校
16		К						

#### 17 Total

Note 1 - Excludes revenues associated with tariff monthly customer charges and transportation administration fees. These additional charges apply to each customer

# CONFIDENTIAL

UPDATE: 11/04/2016

# REDACTED

# KPSC Case No. 2016-00052

Staff Request 1-2

Unique competitive circumstances for each customer.

Docket Customer ID – A

- Customer consumes
- Located only feet from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 2)
- Pipeline route is very manageable, adjacent to a roadway.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass
- •

Docket Customer ID – B

- Customer consumes
- Located only feet from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 3)
- Pipeline route is very manageable, adjacent to a roadway.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of

Docket Customer ID – C

- Customer consumes
- Located only feet from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 4)
- Pipeline route is very manageable, adjacent to a roadway.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of

Docket Customer ID – D

- Customer consumes
- Located only feet from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 5)
- Pipeline route is very manageable, on farm land along a property line.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of

Includes Customers "K"

ATTACHMENT 1 TO STAFF DR NO. 1-02 (SUPPLEMENT 09-21-16)

# CONFIDENTIAL

# REDACTED

KPSC Case No. 2016-00052

Staff Request 1-2

Page 2

Docket Customer ID – E

- Customer consumes
- Located only feet from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 6)
- .
- Pipeline route is very manageable, on open, undeveloped land.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of . Lower simple payback if costs

Docket Customer ID – F

- Customer consumes
- Located only feet from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 7)
- Pipeline route is very manageable, adjacent to a roadway.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of

Docket Customer ID – G

- Customer consumes
- Located only miles from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 8)
- •
- Pipeline route is very manageable, on open, undeveloped land and along roadways.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of years. Lower simple payback if

Docket Customer ID – H

- Customer consumes
- Interstate pipeline tap is located . (See map attached as Attachment 9)
- Customer owns piping downstream of interstate tap on its property.

• Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges could provide a simple payback on bypass of less

Docket Customer ID – I

- Customer consumes
- Located less than miles from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 10)
- •
- Pipeline route is very manageable, on open, undeveloped land and along roadways.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of years. Lower simple payback

Docket Customer ID –J

- Customer consumes
- Located only miles from a potential interstate pipeline tap. (See map attached as Attachment 11)
- .
- Pipeline route is very manageable, on open, undeveloped land and along roadways.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of years. Lower simple payback if

Docket Customer ID – K

- Customer consumes approximately Mcf/year
- Located only miles from a potential interstate pipeline tap (See map attached as Attachment 12)
- Pipeline route is very manageable, on open undeveloped land and along roadways.
- Depending on construction and tap costs, avoided tariff transportation charges would provide a simple payback on bypass of years.

ATTACHMENT 1 TO STAFF DR NO. 1-03 (SUPPLEMENT 09-21-16)

# CONFIDENTIAL

# REDACTED

KPSC Case No. 2016-00052

Staff Request 1-3

# Changes in contract terms other than pricing

All contracts contain new language regarding confidentiality and electronic flow metering requirements. Additional changes for each contract are as follows:

Docket Customer ID – A

- All volumes on
- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ

Docket Customer ID – B

- Updated T-3 Peak Day Volume
- Updated T-3 Peak Hour Volume
- Added T-3 MDQ of
- Eliminated T-4 service.
- Changed Primary Term
- Changed term notification requirement

Docket Customer ID – C

- Service Type changed
- No longer identify volumes at varying Priority of Service levels.
- Lowered aggregate Peak Day and Peak Hour Volumes
- Adjusted monthly maximum
- Changed length of term on successive rollovers

Docket Customer ID – D

- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ

Docket Customer ID – E

- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ

UPDATE: 11/04/2016

Includes Customers "K"

ATTACHMENT 1 TO STAFF DR NO. 1-03 (SUPPLEMENT 09-21-16)

# CONFIDENTIAL

# REDACTED

KPSC Case No. 2016-00052

Staff Request 1-3

Page 2

Docket Customer ID – F

- Updated the Peak Day Volume
- Updated the Peak Hour Volume
- Added an MDQ

Docket Customer ID – G

- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ
- Adjusted monthly maximum

Docket Customer ID – H

- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ
- Eliminated supplemental

responsibilities

Docket Customer ID – I

- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ
- Changed the Primary Term

Docket Customer ID – J

- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ

Docket Customer ID – K

- Updated Peak Day Volume
- Updated Peak Hour Volume
- Added MDQ
- Eliminated T-3 Service.

11/4/2016

Analysis of Contribution to Fixed Cost									
Annual Mo	f {1}		I						
Annual Re	evenue {1}:								
Transporta Commodit Non-Comr Simple Ma	ase Charges, @ Ta ation Adm. Fee, @ ⊺ y Gas Cost, @ Tari nodity Charges, @ argin, special contra I deliveries: Firm Service -	Tariff ff Tariff	12 mo. X \$50/mo	. = 			600		
				тот	AL				
* - Excludi	ng non-commodity	charges and	l gas costs as note	ed.					
Less Varia	able/Avoidable Cost	s:							
Lost & Un	accounted For {2}								
Odorant {	3}								
KPSC Ass	sessment {3}								
Measurem	nent/Regulation Stat	tion {3}							
Meter Rea	ading, Maintenance	and Billing							
	Contr	ribution to Fi	xed Cost:						
Notes:	<ul><li>{1} - Pro-forma Te</li><li>applying rate struct</li><li>{2} - Special Contri</li></ul>	ctures and s	ervice mix in pend	ing special	contract	• •			

Atmos to compensate for the actual L&U experienced in Atmos' distribution system through which Customer receives service. Thus, the variable cost of L&U is, in effect, recovered through gas-in-kind retention. {3} - Calculations shown on Page 2 of this Exhibit.



11/4/2016 Page 2

#### Analysis of Contribution to Fixed Cost



Notes:

#### LARGE VOLUME NATURAL GAS SERVICE AGREEMENT

THIS LARGE VOLUME NATURAL GAS SERVICE AGREEMENT ("Service Agreement") is made and entered into as of the <u>31</u><sup>5</sup> day of October, 2016, by and between ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION, a Texas and Virginia corporation, ("Atmos Energy") and ("Customer").

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Atmos Energy and Customer may also be referred to herein as a Party and collectively as the "Parties."

#### WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, Atmos Energy desires to provide to Customer, and Customer desires to obtain natural gas service in accordance with the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the Parties hereto agree as follows:

 <u>Natural Gas Service Type and Volume Levels</u>. Customer agrees to purchase from Atmos Energy or deliver to Atmos Energy for transportation, such service type being specified below, all of Customer's natural gas service requirements for Customer's facility located at or near Kentucky ("Customer's Facility"). Atmos Energy agrees to provide service to Customer of the type specified below, subject to the provisions of Atmos Energy's then current tariff as approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Tariff"), referenced rate schedules thereunder and the related Rules and Regulations governing natural gas service as set forth in the Tariff and this Service Agreement, including the attached General Terms and Conditions and Exhibit "A," Receipt Point(s) and Delivery Point(s) which are made a part hereof.

Atmos Energy shall have no obligation to provide for deliveries in excess of the maximum daily and hourly volumes hereinafter specified, or to provide sales gas to Customer in the event Customer chooses a transportation service only. Atmos Energy shall not receive volumes for transportation service in excess of the daily volume hereinafter specified (MDQ):



2. <u>Price</u>. Except as provided below, the price to be paid by Customer shall be in accordance with the rate schedule under which the service is rendered. Such rates, including gas cost adjustments, shall be subject to change as permitted by law. Any federal, state or other legal taxes, other than those based upon or measured by Atmos Energy's income which apply now or may hereafter be imposed, shall be paid by the Customer, in addition to the rates as specified.

Throughout the Term (as defined in Section 3 below) of this Service Agreement, the simple margin for all volumes delivered each month shall be in accordance with the following schedule:

Beginning on the effective date of this Service Agreement (as determined in accordance with Section 3 below), the simple margin shall be

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, the simple margin will increase from Beginning on The simple margin will increase from Beginning on , and will remain a ta for the remainder

of the Term of this Service Agreement.

3. Term. This Service Agreement shall become effective on October 1, 2016, or the first day of the next month following the date on which this Service Agreement is approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission (the "Commission"), whichever is later, and shall continue in full force and effect for ten (10) years (the "Primary Term"), and shall continue for successive one year terms following the Primary Term (each a "Rollover Term") provided that either Party may terminate this Service Agreement at the end of the Primary Term or at the end of any subsequent Rollover Term upon providing one hundred twenty (120) days prior written notice to the other Party. The Primary Term and subsequent Rollover Terms may be referred to collectively as the "Term". Customer agrees that while this Service Agreement is in effect, all natural gas consumed by Customer at Customer's Facility shall be delivered by Atmos Energy. In the event that the Commission should not approve this Service Agreement the Parties agree to use their best efforts to work with each other and with the Commission to negotiate a service agreement on terms that are acceptable to the Commission. In such event, and unless prohibited by the Commission, the rates and terms of the current service agreement shall remain in effect.

In the event Customer plans to make a filing, or direct another party to make such filing on its behalf with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or any other regulatory body, seeking authority to receive direct gas service following the termination of this Service Agreement, Customer agrees to notify Atmos Energy of such plans not less than 30 days prior to the date of such filing.

During the Term, Atmos Energy and Customer may mutually agree to amend this Service. Agreement to change the type of service provided for under this Service Agreement, i.e. sales, transportation, firm or interruptible, If Customer's needs or qualifications change. Any amendment changing the type of service must be in writing and will not, unless mutually agreed by the Parties in such amendment, change the Term of this Service Agreement. Customer agrees to renegotiate the contract rate in the event that Atmos Energy becomes subject to any new or revised regulatory requirements that Atmos Energy reasonably determines would result in a material increase to Atmos Energy's operating costs on the natural gas infrastructure serving Customer. As used in this paragraph, "material increase" shall be defined as an increase in Atmos Energy's annual operating costs on such natural gas infrastructure of either (i) \$75,000 or (ii) greater than twenty-five percent (25%) of Atmos Energy's then-current annual gross margin derived from serving Customer, as determined by Atmos Energy, over the remainder of the Primary Term. In the event of any such contract rate opener, Atmos Energy shall notify Customer of the new or revised regulatory requirement and the estimated impact to Customer of such requirement. Customer and Atmos Energy agree to negotiate in good faith an amendment to the Service Agreement to account for any such material increase, which amendment shall be subject to Commission approval. Should the Commission, for any reason, not approve the amendment, the terms and conditions of the Service Agreement, and any other previously approved amendments, shall remain in place. In the event the Parties are unable to negotiate an amendment to this Service Agreement in the event of a contract rate opener after good faith efforts to do so, then either Party may terminate this Service Agreement upon providing one hundred eighty (180) days prior written notice to the other Party.

If, at any point during the Term it should become necessary, in Atmos Energy's discretion, to replace a material portion of Atmos Energy's natural gas infrastructure required to provide service to Customer's current or amended natural gas requirements, Atmos Energy may terminate this Service Agreement upon providing one hundred eighty (180) days prior written notice to Customer, except for force majeure events requiring a material portion replacement in which event prior written notice of termination to Customer is not required. In any event requiring a material portion replacement the Parties will in good faith attempt to negotiate a new Service Agreement that will recognize Atmos Energy's investment in such new infrastructure component. As used in this paragraph, "material portion" shall be defined as a capital investment that is at least twice the amount of Atmos Energy's then-current annual gross margin derived from serving Customer, as determined by Atmos Energy.

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4. <u>Parking</u>. Subject to the terms of the Tariff, Customer may "park" positive monthly imbalance volumes, up to 10% of the T-4 volumes delivered by Atmos Energy into Customer's facilities. The cost to Customer of parking such imbalance volumes shall be as set forth in the Tariff. Unless otherwise provided in the Tariff, Atmos Energy shall provide the parking service on a "best efforts" basis, and the parked volumes shall be deemed "first through the meter" delivered to Customer in the month following delivery to Atmos Energy on Customer's account.

5. <u>Electronic Flow Measurement and Communications Equipment</u>. The Customer will pay the Company, in accordance with the Tariff, for all costs for additional facilities and/or equipment, including electronic flow measurement ("EFM") equipment and cellular communications equipment which will be required as a result of receiving Firm (Rate T-4) service, including all costs of installation and ongoing EFM repair, maintenance and replacement of such additional facilities and/or equipment and cellular communication support services. Customer is responsible for providing and maintaining the electric support services related to the EFM equipment. Such additional facilities and equipment shall be installed, maintained, operated, and owned by Atmos Energy.

6. <u>Notices</u>. Any notice required to be given under this Service Agreement, or any notice that either Party hereto may desire to give the other Party, shall be in writing and shall be considered duly delivered when deposited in the United States mall, postage prepaid, registered or certified, or sent by facsimile and addressed as follows:

If to Atmos Energy:

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION (Kentucky/Mid-States Division) 5430 LBJ Freeway, Suite 160 Dallas, Texas 75240-2601 Attention: Contract Administration Telephone: (214) 206-2574 Fax: (214) 206-2101

Duplicate To:

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION (Kentucky/Mid-States Division) 2850 Russellville Road Bowling Green, KY 42101 Attention: Bill Greer Telephone: (270) 901-1701

Fax:

(270) 782-6271

If to Customer:



or such other address as Atmos Energy, Customer or their respective successors or permitted assigns shall designate by written notice given in the manner described above. Routine communications, including monthly invoices, may be mailed by ordinary mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to the above-designated name and address.

7. <u>Attachments</u>. General Terms and Conditions and Exhibit "A," Receipt Point(s) and Delivery Point(s), attached hereto are expressly incorporated herein and made a part of this Service Agreement for all purposes, and all references herein and therein to "this Service Agreement" include the same and their respective terms and provisions.

8. <u>Confidentiality</u>. Both Parties agrees that the terms and conditions of this Service Agreement shall not be disclosed to any person or party not employed by the other Party or retained as counsel by the other Party, other than information required to be furnished to its independent public accountant, or in connection with the defense of any litigation, or as otherwise agreed to by the Partles in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Service Agreement as of the date first above written.



ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

By: BIII Greer

Vice President, Marketing Kentucky/Mid-States Division

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#### GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS TO LARGE VOLUME NATURAL GAS SERVICE AGREEMENT

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1. This Service Agreement is subject to all applicable and valid statutes, ordinances, and the rules, regulations and orders of the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

2. If not presently installed, the necessary regulating and metering equipment constructed to Atmos Energy's specifications shall be installed for delivery of the gas as specified herein, and the Customer shall install or cause to be installed additional regulating equipment to provide suitable operating pressure at the various points of utilization. A suitable location for the regulating and metering equipment shall be provided by the Customer without charge, and Atmos Energy shall have the right to operate, maintain and alter this equipment as is necessary or desirable. Each Party hereto agrees to maintain any equipment owned by it and used in the performance of its obligations herein in good, safe and efficient operating condition and repair.

3. Title to sales gas shall pass from Atmos Energy to Customer, upon the delivery thereof, at the Customer's service address. The title to all gas transported hereunder shall remain with the Customer while such gas is on Atmos Energy's local distribution facilities. The Receipt Point(s) at which the Customer will deliver transportation gas to Atmos Energy and the Delivery Point(s) at which Atmos Energy will redeliver transportation gas to Customer are designated on Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

As between the Parties hereto solely, for transportation services, Atmos 4. Energy shall be deemed in exclusive control and possession of the gas after the delivery thereof at the Receipt Point(s) and prior to the redelivery thereof, to or for the account of Customer at the Delivery Point(s). At all other times, as between the Parties hereto solelv. Customer shall be deemed in exclusive control and possession of the gas and responsible for any damages, losses or injuries caused by Customer's handling, delivery or receipt thereof. For sales services, Atmos Energy shall be deemed in exclusive control and possession of the gas prior to the delivery thereof, to or for the account of Customer at the Customer's service address. Upon delivery thereof, as between the Parties hereto solely, Customer shall be deemed in exclusive control and possession of the gas and responsible for any damages, losses or injuries caused by Customer's handling, delivery or receipt thereof. Each Party agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party from and against any and all claims, liabilities, damages, losses, costs and expenses incurred by such other Party arising from or relating to any damages, losses or injuries for which the Indemnifying Party is responsible pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph, except to the extent such damages, losses or expenses shall have been caused by the negligence of the indemnified Party.

5. In the event that either Atmos Energy or Customer is rendered unable, wholly or in part, by reason of an event of force majeure, to perform its obligations under this Service Agreement, other than to make payment due hereunder, and such Party has given notice and full particulars of such force majeure in writing to the other Party as soon as possible after the occurrence of the cause relied on, then the obligations of the Parties, insofar as they are affected by such force majeure, shall be suspended during the continuance of such inability, but for no longer period, and such cause shall, insofar as possible, be remedied with all reasonable dispatch except as otherwise provided in Section 3 of the Service Agreement; provided, however, that the settlement of strikes or lock-outs shall be entirely within the discretion of the Party having such difficulty, and the above requirement that any force majeure be remedied with all reasonable dispatch shall not require the settlement of strikes or lock-outs by acceding to the demands of the opposing party when such course is inadvisable in the discretion of the Party having the difficulty.

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The term "force majeure" as used herein shall mean any cause not reasonably within the control of the Party claiming suspension and includes, but is not limited to, acts of God; strikes; lock-outs; wars; acts of terrorism; riots; orders or decrees of any lawfully constituted federal, state or local body; fires; storms; floods; wash-outs; explosions; breakage or accident to machinery or lines of pipe; inability to obtain or delay in obtaining rights-of-way, materials, supplies or labor permits; temporary or permanent failure of gas supply or transportation services; capacity constraints; repair, maintenance or replacement of facilities used in the performance of the obligations contained in this Service Agreement; or any other cause of a similar nature whether of the kind herein enumerated or otherwise.

6. During each billing period involving transportation services, Customer agrees to maintain its deliveries of gas to Atmos Energy and its receipt of gas from Atmos Energy in continuous balance or as near thereto as practicable on an Mcf or MMBtu basis, as designated by Atmos Energy. Further, the Customer agrees to be liable to Atmos Energy for all cost, expense and liability incurred by Atmos Energy, which directly relates to the Customer's transportation activities on the interstate pipeline system. To the extent that imbalances owed to Customer by Atmos Energy occur, such "parked" volumes of the Customer shall be deemed, for billing purposes, to be the first volumes delivered to the Customer during the succeeding billing period. When the volume of gas taken by Customer during a billing period exceeds the aggregate of its T-3 and T-4 transportation nominations and its available "parked" volumes, Customer shall pay Atmos Energy for such overrun volumes at the applicable cash out rate.

7. If Atmos Energy has reasonable grounds for insecurity regarding the performance of any obligation under this Service Agreement (whether or not then due) by Customer (Including, without limitation, the occurrence of a material change in the creditworthiness of Customer), Atmos Energy may demand Adequate Assurance of Performance from Customer. "Adequate Assurance of Performance" shall mean sufficient security in the form, amount and for the term reasonably acceptable to Atmos Energy, including, but not limited to, a standby irrevocable letter of credit, a prepayment, a performance of Performance must be given to Atmos Energy within two (2) Business Days of a written request by Atmos Energy. "Business Day" shall mean any day except Saturday, Sunday or Federal Reserve Bank holidays.

8. In the event of default hereunder by either Party, in addition to all rights and remedies at law or in equity to which the non-defaulting Party may be entitled, the defaulting Party agrees to reimburse the non-defaulting Party for all court costs and other expenses incurred. Further, each Party agrees to indemnify and hold the other Party harmless with regard to any and all fees, costs and expenses incurred by the non-defaulting Party in relation to all claims, disputes and suits which arise under or are related to the defaulting Party's default under this Service Agreement, except to the extent such claims, disputes and suits shall have been caused by the negligence of the non-defaulting Party. In no event shall either Party be liable for indirect, special, consequential or punitive damages.

9. This Service Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties hereto and their

respective successors and assigns.

10. This Service Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, oral and written, between the Parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof.

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# EXHIBIT "A" RECEIPT POINT (S) AND DELIVERY POINT (S)

# Receipt Point(s)



# <u>Delivery Point(s)</u>



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# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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#### IN THE MATTER OF:

APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL AND CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF A SPECIAL CONTRACT AND COST ANALYSIS INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO. 2016-00052

# APPLICATION AND PETITION FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Atmos Energy Corporation ('Atmos Energy" or "Company"), by counsel, pursuant to KRS 278.160(3) and 807 KAR 5:001(13) petitions the Commission for approval of the attached special contract designated as Docket Customer ID-K and for confidential protection of the matters redacted therein, as well as supporting cost and related analysis and information ("Supporting Information") which includes the information the Commission required to be filed in future special contract filings by its Order of April 12, 2016. Consistent with prior filings of these special contract cases, one non-redacted and ten redacted copies of the special contract and supporting information are attached.

#### BACKGROUND

Atmos Energy has entered into a special contract with one of its industrial customers, a copy of which is attached. This contract replaces an existing contract that was previously approved by the Commission. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:011, Atmos Energy submits the new special contract for approval by the Commission. Consistent with prior orders of the Commission relating to special contracts, Atmos Energy performed a cost analysis related to this special contract to determine whether the anticipated revenue from this customer will cover all variable costs incurred in serving this customer and also contribute toward the Company's fixed costs. The results of that cost analysis are attached.

Also attached is the supplemental information previously requested by Staff in prior requests for information in this proceeding in accordance with the Commission's Order of April 12, 2016.

The Company respectfully requests the Commission to accept and approve the attached special contract and grant confidential protection to the matters redacted therein, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001(13), as well as the attached supporting information.

#### **CONFIDENTIAL PROTECTION**

The Commission has consistently granted confidential protection to the terms of special contracts filed by the Company under the provisions of 807 KAR 5:001, Section 13 and KRS 61.878. The Commission did so most recently in the Company's last rate case: In Re: Application of Atmos Energy Corporation For Adjustment of Rates, 2013-00148, Orders dated November 25, 2013, and March 24, 2014.

The information contained in the special contract and the supporting information is commercial information that if disclosed could cause substantial competitive harm to Atmos Energy. This information is not publicly available. The contract contains a specific covenant that the customer will keep the provisions of the contract confidential. It would be difficult or impossible for someone to discover this information from other sources. If this information were available to competitors in this form, they could use it to the competitive detriment of

Atmos Energy. This information is not generally disclosed to non-management employees of Atmos Energy and is protected internally by the Company as proprietary information. The disclosure of this proprietary information would result in significant or irreparable competitive harm to Atmos Energy by providing its competitors with non-reciprocal competitive advantage. No public purpose is served by the disclosure of such information.

KRS 61.878 (1)(c) provides that "records confidentially disclosed to an agency or required by any agency to be disclosed to it, generally recognized as confidential or proprietary, which is openly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the entity that disclosed the records "shall remain confidential unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction." The natural gas industry is very competitive. Atmos Energy has active competitors, who could use this information to their advantage and to the direct disadvantage of Atmos. Atmos would be at a competitive threat of loss of business due to the ability of its competitors to leverage the information to their advantage. The public disclosure of the customer name, customer identifiable information, monetary terms negotiated with each customer and critical monetary terms would permit an unfair advantage to those competitors. With the identity of the customer and the knowledge of the contract terms, competitors would have inside information to target these customers. For these reasons, the customer name, customer identifiable information, and monetary terms in the contracts are exempt from public disclosure pursuant to KRS 61.878(c)(1). The Commission has also previously ruled that the cost analysis submitted with a special contract filing is believed entitled to confidential protection. See, e.g. In Re: Application of Atmos Energy Corporation for Adjustment of Rate 2013-00148.

Atmos Energy requests that the attached non-redacted special contract and supporting information be held confidentially indefinitely. The statutes cited above do not allow for disclosure at any time. Given the competitive nature of the natural gas business and the efforts of non-regulated competitors to encroach upon traditional markets, it is imperative that regulated information remain protected and that the integrity of the information remain secure.

For those reasons, Atmos Energy requests that the attached non-redacted copy of the special contract and cost analysis be treated as confidential.

Submitted by:

Mark R. Hutchinson Wilson, Hutchinson & Littlepage 611 Frederica Street Owensboro KY 42303 (270) 926-5011 Fax: (270) 926-9394 Randy@whplawfirm.com

John N. Hughes 124 West Todd Street Frankfort, KY 40601 (502) 227-7270 Fax: None jnhughes@johnnhughespsc.com

Attorneys for Atmos Energy Corporation

### VERIFICATION

I, Mark A. Martin, being duly sworn under oath state that I am Vice President of Rates and Regulatory Affairs for Atmos Energy Corporation, Kentucky/Midstates Division, and that the statements contained in the foregoing Petition are true as I verily believe.

Mark A. Martin

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 112 day of November, 2016, the original of this Petition, with the Confidential Information for which confidential treatment is sought, together with ten (10) copies of the Petition without the confidential information, were filed with the Kentucky Public Service Commission, 211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602, and a true copy thereof hand delivered to the following named persons:

Kent Chandler 1024 Capitol Center Drive Suite 200 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 www.ag.ky.gov

Mark R. Hutchinson