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#### WILSON, HUTCHINSON & POTEAT

611 Frederica Street Owensboro, Kentucky 42301 Telephone (270) 926-5011 Facsimile (270) 926-9394 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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#### **OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

August 7, 2014

Jeff R. DeRouen
Executive Director
Kentucky Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
PO Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602

Case No. 2014-00286

RE: Atmos Energy Corporation-Application for Authority to Issue Up to 2,000,000 Additional Shares of Common Stock Through its Direct Stock Purchase Plan

Dear Mr. DeRouen:

Enclosed herewith please find an original, plus eleven (11) copies of Atmos' Application for Authority to Issue Up to 2,000,000 Additional Shares of Common Stock Through its Direct Stock Purchases Plan for filing in your office. Thanks.

Very truly yours,

Mark R. Hutchinson

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#### BEFORE THE

PUBLIC SERVICE

## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF KENTUCKY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION	)
OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION	)
FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE	) CASE NO. 2014- <u>00286</u>
ISSUANCE OF UP TO 2,000,000	)
SHARES OF COMMON STOCK	)
THROUGH ITS DIRECT STOCK	j
PURCHASE PLAN	)
	)
	)
	,

#### **APPLICATION**

- 1. Pursuant to KRS 278.300, and all other applicable law, Atmos Energy Corporation ("Applicant" or "Atmos"), files its Application herein for an Order authorizing the issuance of up to 2,000,000 additional shares of Common Stock, no par value common stock through and pursuant to the Atmos Energy Corporation Direct Stock Purchase Plan ("DSPP").
- 2. Atmos seeks an Order of the Commission granting it the authority to issue up to 2, 000,000 shares of no par value Common Stock of the Company pursuant to the DSPP. The DSPP is designed to provide investors with a convenient and economical way to purchase shares of Atmos' common stock and to reinvest all or a portion of their cash dividends in additional shares of Applicant's common stock. The DSPP allows common shareholders to elect to reinvest dividends into additional common stock at a 3% discount from market price. The Commission previously authorized the issuance of shares pursuant to the DSPP in Case No. 2008-00382.
- 3. The issuance of the shares is necessary for the routine operation of the DSPP and will provide Applicant with additional sources of capital. Applicant will use the same to fund its capital expenditures, reduce debt, improve its capitalization ratios and preserve its credit ratings.

- 4. The issuance of the Shares will increase Applicant's equity to debt ratio and further strengthen Applicant's strong position as a financially sound public utility and lower its cost of capital. Therefore, approval of this Application is in the public interest because it will allow Applicant to obtain more favorable financing of its operations and allow it to continue to provide safe and adequate service to its customers.
- 5. The issuance of the Shares will be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").
- 6. Applicant, a Virginia and Texas Corporation, is duly qualified under the laws of Kentucky to carry on its business in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Applicant operates a public utility in the business of purchasing, transmitting and distributing natural gas to residential, commercial and industrial users in western and south central Kentucky.
- 7. Company's principal operating office and place of business in the state of Kentucky is located at 3275 Highland Pointe Drive, Owensboro, Kentucky 42303. The post office address of Applicant is P.O. Box 650205, Dallas, Texas 75265-0205.
- 8. A certified copy of Applicant's Restated Articles of Incorporation as Amended, together with all amendments thereto, is on file in the records of the Commission and the same are incorporated herein by reference. See Case No. 2012-00533.
- 9. Correspondence and communications with respect to this Application should be directed to:

Mark Martin
Vice President, Rates and Regulatory Affairs
Atmos Energy Corporation
3275 Highland Pointe Drive
Owensboro, Kentucky 42303
Mark.Martin@atmosenergy.com

Erikka L. Hise Attorney Atmos Energy Corporation P.O. Box 650205 Dallas, Texas 75265-0205 Erikka.Hise@atmosenergy.com

Mark R. Hutchinson Attorney at Law 611 Frederica Street Owensboro, Kentucky 42301 randy@whplawfirm.com

- 10. Pursuant to KRS 278.300, the Applicant respectfully requests expedited consideration of this Application so that the Shares may be issued at an early date.
- 11. To comply with the requirements of 807 KAR 5:001, Sections 12 and 16 of the Commission's Administrative Regulations, there is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, <u>Exhibit A</u>, which contains all of the financial information therein required. A copy of the Board of Directors Resolutions authorizing the issuance is attached as <u>Exhibit B</u>.
- 12. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 12(2)(d)11(2)(b), Applicant has no outstanding deeds of trust or mortgages.

WHEREFORE, Atmos respectfully requests that the Commission authorize by appropriate order or certificate the issuance by Applicant of up to 2,000,000 shares of Common Stock through and pursuant to the DSPP as herein requested.

Respectfully submitted on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.

Mark R. Hutchinson Attorney at Law 611 Frederica Street Owensboro, Kentucky 42301 randy@whplawfirm.com

COUNSEL FOR ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

By:

#### **VERIFICATION**

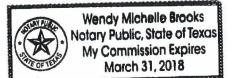
STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF DALLAS §

The undersigned, being under oath, says that he is the Vice President and Treasurer of Atmos Energy Corporation, that he has read the above and foregoing Application, he has personal knowledge and that the facts in it are true.

Daniel M. Meziere

Vice President and Treasurer Atmos Energy Corporation

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of August, 2014, by Daniel M. Meziere, as Vice President and Treasurer of Atmos Energy Corporation, on behalf of the said corporation.



Notary Public State of Texas

#### KENTUCKY EXHIBIT A

References preceding each subpart of this Exhibit pertain to subsections of Sections 6 and 11 of 807 KAR 5:001.

Atmos Energy Corporation operates in Kentucky through its Kentucky division. The following includes information for Atmos Energy Corporation (unless otherwise stated) since the Kentucky division does not have a separate capital structure or authorized stock.

6(1) Amount and kinds of stock authorized

As of June 30, 2014, Atmos Energy Corporation had 200,000,000 shares of common stock (no par value) authorized.

- Amount and kinds of stock issued and outstanding
  As of June 30, 2014, Atmos Energy Corporation had
  100,346,468 shares of common stock issued and outstanding.
- $\underline{6(3)}$  Terms of preference of preferred stock whether cumulative or participating, or on dividends or assets or otherwise.

Atmos Energy Corporation has no preferred stock.

6(4) Brief description of each mortgage on property of applicant, giving date of execution, name of mortgagor, name of mortgagee, or trustee, amount of indebtedness authorized to be secured thereby, and the amount of indebtedness actually secured, together with any sinking fund provisions.

Not applicable.

Amount of bonds authorized, and amount issued, giving the name of the public utility which issued the same, describing each class separately, and giving date of issue, face value, rate of interest, date of maturity and how secured, together with amount of interest paid thereon during the last fiscal year.

Please refer to 6(4) above.

6(6) Each note outstanding, giving date of issue, amount, date of maturity, rate of interest, in whose favor, together with amount of interest paid thereon during the last fiscal year.

#### Outstanding Notes of Applicant are as follows:

Description	Date of Issue	Amount Outstanding at 06/30/2014	Date of Maturity	Rate of Interest	In favor	for 12 months ided 06/30/2014
Sr. Notes	03/26/09	450,000,000	03/15/19	8.50%	public	40,595,000
Sr. Notes	01/11/13	500,000,000	01/15/43	4.15%	public	22,443,000
Sr. Notes	10/18/04	500,000,000	10/15/14	4.950%	public	26,065,000
Note	12/15/95	10,000,000	12/15/25	6.67%	Cede & Co.	693,000
Debentures	07/15/98	150,000,000	07/15/28	6.75%	U.S. Bank as	10,619,000
Sr. Notes	10/15/04	200,000,000	10/15/34	5.950%	Trustee public	12,426,000
Sr. Notes	6/14/07	250,000,000	6/15/17	6.35%	public	16,840,000
Sr. Notes	06/15/11	400,000,000	6/15/41	5.50%	public	23,239,000
	\$2	460,000.000				\$142,238,000

6(7) Other indebtedness, giving same by classes and describing security, if any, with a brief statement of the devolution or assumption of any portion of such indebtedness upon or by person or corporation if the original liability has been transferred, together with amount of interest paid thereon during the last fiscal year.

Other indebtedness of Atmos Energy Corporation is as follows:

Description	Lender	Outstar at 06/30/	_	Rate of Interest	Interest A for 12 Ended 06/3	Months
Committed Lines of Credit						
One-year credit facility for up to \$25,000,000	Amarillo National Bank	\$	0	Overnight negotiated rate		L,248
5-year credit facility For up to \$950,000,000	Royal Bank of Scotland	\$	0	Prime or LIBOR plus margin	\$ 2,106	5,436
TOTAL COMMITTED LINES	5	ş	0		\$ 2,13	37,684

			Amount Outstanding	Rate of		erest Accrued or 12 Months
Description Ler	nder	a	t 06/30/2014	Interest	Ende	d 06/30/2014
Uncommitted Money Market Lin	es of Credit:					
\$950,000,000 Commercial Paper Program		Ş	0	Money market raas quoted	ate	\$ 869,610
Intercompany Borrowing from Atmos Energy Holdings		\$	357,000,000	Money market r	ate s	1,716,400
TOTAL UNCOMMITTED LINES		\$	357,000,000		\$	2,586,010
TOTAL LINES OF CREDIT		2	357,000,000		\$	4,723,694

# Rate and amount of dividends paid during the five (5) previous fiscal years and the amount of capital stock on which dividends were paid each year.

The following is Atmos Energy Corporation's history of cash dividends paid for the past five fiscal years.

Fiscal Year Ended Sept 30	Atmos Dividend <u>Rate</u>	Amount of Dividends <u>Paid</u>	Average Shares For Each Fiscal Year
Fiscal 2009	\$1.32	\$121,459,560	91,620,000
Fiscal 2010	\$1.34	\$124,287,019	92,422,000
Fiscal 2011	\$1.36	\$124,010,562	90,652,000
Fiscal 2012	\$1.38	\$125,795,986	91,172,000
Fiscal 2013	\$1.40	\$128,114,732	91,711,000

#### 6(9) Detailed income statement and balance sheet.

The following is the separate company income statement and balance sheet for the utility operations of Atmos Energy Corporation.

# ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED June 30, 2014 (Thousands of Dollars) (Unaudited)

Operating revenues Purchased gas cost Gross profit	\$	3,105,160 1,643,556 1,461,604
Operating expenses: Operation and maintenance Depreciation and amortization Income Taxes Total operating expenses		691,694 241,404 <u>151,216</u> 1,084,314
Operating income		377,290
Other income Interest charges and other expenses Equity in earnings of unconsolidated		22,632 156,436
non-regulated subsidiaries		30,154
Net income	;	\$ 273,640

# ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION BALANCE SHEET June 30, 2014 (Thousands of Dollars) (Unaudited)

#### ASSETS

Property, plant and equipment Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	\$ 8,120,063 1,717,128
Net property, plant and equipment	6,402,935
Investments in and advances to Subsidiaries Current assets	468,881
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable, net Inventories and other current assets Gas stored underground Deferred gas costs Intercompany receivables Total current assets	16,313 249,353 95,413 162,266 9,722 804,912 1,337,979
Goodwill Deferred charges and other assets	706,652 334,819 \$ 9,251,266
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	
Shareholders' equity	Ć
Common stock Additional paid-in capital	\$ 502 2,172,307
Retained earnings Accumulated other comprehensive loss	932,576 11,300
Shareholders' equity	3,116,685
Long-term debt	1,955,907 5,072,592
Total capitalization Current liabilities:	5,072,392
Current maturities of long-term debt Short-term debt	500,000
Intercompany loans	357,000
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	218,910
Customers' deposits	45,925 62,522
Deferred gas costs Other current liabilities	164,842
Intercompany payables	717,134
Total current liabilities	2,066,333
Deferred income taxes	1,326,664
Deferred credits and other liabilities	785,677 \$ 9,251,266
	7 9,231,200

- 11(a) The Applicant's property is comprised primarily of gas utility plant and related facilities of a local distribution company operating in Tennessee, Virginia, Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana and transmission plant of a regulated intrastate pipeline in Texas. At June 30, 2014, the cost to the Applicant was \$8,120,063.
- 11(b) Atmos Energy proposes to issue up to 2,000,000 in additional shares of Common Stock, no par value.
- 11(c) The shares are to be issued for Atmos Energy Corp's general corporate purposes.
- 11(d) Please refer to 11(c) above.
- 11(e) Please refer to 11(c) above.
- 11(2)(a) Please refer to 6(1) through 6(9) above.
- 11(2)(b) Not applicable
- 11(2)(c) Not applicable.

## ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, being the Assistant Corporate Secretary of Atmos Energy Corporation, a Texas and Virginia corporation (the "Company"), does hereby certify that the following resolutions were duly adopted by Board of Directors of the Company at a meeting of the Board held on August 6, 2014, and such resolutions have not been altered, amended, rescinded, or repealed and are now in full force and effect:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Company considers it desirable and in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders that the Company be, and it hereby is, authorized and empowered to issue, from time to time, up to 2,000,000 shares of common stock, no par value, of the Company (the "Shares") to the Atmos Energy Corporation Direct Stock Purchase Plan (the "Plan") in addition to the shares of common stock currently authorized and registered for use by such Plan; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper officers and directors of the Company, or any of them, be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Company, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and to execute, verify, and file, or cause to be filed, with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"), a registration statement (the "1933 Act Registration Statement") on Form S-8, pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, together with any and all exhibits and documents or supplemental information relating thereto, in connection with the proposed issuance and sale by the Company of the Shares pursuant to the Plan, and that the form of such 1933 Act Registration Statement shall be as approved by the officers and directors of the Company executing the same, the approval of such officers and directors to be conclusively evidenced by their execution thereof, and that any actions heretofore taken in connection therewith be, and they hereby are, ratified, approved, and confirmed in all respects; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper officers and directors of the Company, or any of them, be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Company, to notify the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") of the foregoing registration and to take or cause to be taken any and all such actions as may be necessary, appropriate, or desirable to comply with the requirements of such organization; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper officers of the Company be, and each hereby is, authorized and directed to take, or cause to be taken, all actions necessary or advisable to effect the listing and trading of the Shares on the NYSE, including the preparation, execution, and filing of all necessary applications, documents, forms, and agreements with the NYSE and the Commission, the payment by the Company of filing, listing, or application fees, the preparation of certificates for the Shares, and the appearance of any such officer before NYSE officials; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the transfer agent and registrar for the Shares be American Stock Transfer & Trust Company; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper officers and directors of the Company, or any of them, be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Company, to prepare and file, or cause to be prepared and filed, with the Commission such amendments (including, without limitation, post-effective amendments) and supplements to the 1933 Act Registration Statement and such other papers or documents in connection therewith as they may deem necessary, appropriate, or desirable, all in such form as may be approved by the proper officers and directors executing the same, the approval of such officers and directors to be conclusively evidenced by their execution thereof; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that each officer and director of the Company who may execute the 1933 Act Registration Statement or any amendment or supplement thereto, be and hereby is, authorized to execute a power of attorney appointing Kim R. Cocklin, as his true and lawful attorney for him and in his name and stead and in his capacity as an officer or director to sign such 1933 Act Registration Statement, any and all amendments and supplements thereto, and all instruments, papers, or documents in connection therewith, and to file the same with the Commission, with full power and authority granted to said attorney to do and perform in the name and on behalf of each of said officers or directors each and every act whatsoever necessary or appropriate in connection with the registration of the Shares to the same extent that such officer or director might or could do in person; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper officers and directors of the Company, or any of them, be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Company, to prepare and file, or cause to be prepared and filed, with all applicable state regulatory commissions, applications for approval of the issuance of the Shares, and other such documents in connection therewith, as they may deem necessary, appropriate, or desirable, all in such form as may be approved by the proper officers and directors executing the same, the approval of such officers and directors to be conclusively evidenced by their execution thereof; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Company further considers it desirable and in the best interests of the Company that the Shares be qualified or registered for sale in various states; that the President or any Vice President and the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Corporate Secretary, be and hereby are, authorized to determine the states in which appropriate action shall be taken to qualify or register for sale all or such part of the Shares as said officers may deem advisable; that said officers be, and hereby are, authorized to perform on behalf of the Company or cause to be performed any and all such acts as they may deem necessary or advisable in order to comply with the applicable laws of any such states and in connection therewith to execute and file, or cause to be filed, all requisite papers and documents, including, but not limited to, applications, reports, surety bonds, irrevocable consents, and appointments of attorney for service of process, and to take any and all further actions that they may deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain any such registration or qualification for so long as they deem necessary or as required by law; and that the execution by such officers of any such paper or document or the doing by them of any act in connection with the foregoing matters shall conclusively establish their authority therefor from the Company and the approval and ratification by the Company of the papers and documents as executed in the action so taken; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the form and substance of any resolutions required in connection with the registration or qualification of the Shares in any state, territory, or other jurisdiction be, and they hereby are, adopted, provided that the officers of the Company, or any of them, consider the adoption of such resolutions necessary or appropriate or desirable, in which case the Corporate Secretary or any Assistant Corporate Secretary of the Company is hereby directed to insert as an appendix to these Minutes a copy of such resolutions, which shall thereupon be deemed to have been adopted by the Board of Directors with the same force and effect as the other resolutions herein set forth; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Louis P. Gregory, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of the Company, be, and hereby is, designated as the Company's agent to receive any letters of comment to the 1933 Act Registration Statement; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proper officers and directors, or any of them, be, and they hereby are, authorized to do or cause to be done any and all acts and things and to execute and deliver any and all agreements, undertakings, consents, documents, instruments, and certificates as, in their opinion, may be necessary or appropriate or desirable in order to carry out the purposes and intent of the foregoing resolutions and to perform, or cause to be performed, the Plan, the 1933 Act Registration Statement, or any other agreement referred to herein and to cause the Shares to become listed and admitted to trading on the NYSE or cause to be filed, with all applicable state regulatory commissions, applications for approval of the issuance of the Shares; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all actions taken and expenses incurred by any officer or director heretofore in furtherance of any of the actions authorized by the foregoing resolutions hereby are expressly ratified, confirmed, and approved.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the seal of the Company this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.

Suzanne Johnson

Assistant Corporate Secretary