Steven L. Beshear Governor

Leonard K. Peters Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky

Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615

Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

Telephone: (502) 564-3940
Fax: (502) 564-3460

psc.ky.gov

David L. Armstrong Chairman

James W. Gardner Vice Chairman

Charles R. Borders Commissioner

October 12, 2011

Wilson, Hutchinson & Poteat Attention: Mark R. Hutchinson 611 Frederica Street Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Re:

Atmos Energy Corporation

Petition Requesting Confidential Protection received 9/30/11

PSC Reference #: 2010-00353

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

The Public Service Commission has received your Petition requesting Confidential Protection you filed on September 30, 2011 on behalf of Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos") to protect certain information filed with the Commission as confidential pursuant to Section 7 of 807 KAR 5:001 and KRS 61.878. The information you seek to have treated as confidential is identified as being contained in Atmos' PBR report encompassing the time period of June 2010 through May 2011. Your Petition states that the information is a mirror of Exhibit A previously filed with your renewal application.

Your justification for having the Commission handle this material as confidential is that the public disclosure of the information would compromise Atmos' competitive position in the industry by revealing trade secrets.

Based on a review of the information and pursuant to KRS 61.878 and 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, the Commission has determined that the information requested to be held confidential is of a proprietary nature, which if publicly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to Atmos' competitors. Therefore, the information requested to be treated as confidential **meets the criteria for confidential protection** and will be maintained as a nonpublic part of the Commission's file in this case. The procedure for usage of confidential materials during formal proceedings may be found at Section 7(8) of 807 KAR 5:001.



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If the information becomes publicly available or no longer warrants confidential treatment, Atmos Energy Corporation is required by Section 8(9)(a) of KAR 5:001 to inform the Commission so that the information may be placed in the public record.

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cc: Parties of Record