

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY)	
CORPORATION FOR AN ADJUSTMENT)	CASE NO.
OF RATES AND TARIFF MODIFICATIONS)	2015-00343

ORDER

On November 23, 2015, Atmos Energy Corporation (“Atmos”) tendered for filing an application for an adjustment of its gas rates based on a forecasted test period. The application proposed that the new rates become effective December 23, 2015. By letter dated December 4, 2015, the Commission notified Atmos of three deficiencies in its application. On December 7, 2015, Atmos filed a motion for deviation in response to the Commission’s December 4, 2015 letter. The motion for deviation was denied by the Commission’s January 8, 2016 Order, which required Atmos to provide further notice of increases in certain rates, but which stated that Atmos’s deficiencies would be considered cured on the date it filed proof of providing said notices. Atmos provided proof of the additional notices on January 15, 2016, which cured its deficiencies. Therefore, that date, January 15, 2016, shall be considered the filed date of Atmos’s application.

Pursuant to KRS 278.180(1), no change can be made by a utility in any rate except upon 30 days’ notice to the Commission. Thus, a January 15, 2016 filed date dictates that the earliest Atmos’s proposed rates could become effective is

February 14, 2016. Having reviewed Atmos's application, the Commission finds that an investigation will be necessary to determine the reasonableness of the proposed rates and that an investigation cannot be completed by February 14, 2016. Therefore, pursuant to KRS 278.190(2), the Commission will suspend the effective date of the proposed rates for six months.

The Commission expects the parties to use their best efforts to informally resolve any discovery disputes or requests for extensions of time. Absent informal resolution, an objection or motion should be filed at least four business days prior to the established due date. If this deadline is not met, the filing party should include in the written objection or motion a full and complete explanation for such failure.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Atmos's proposed rates are suspended for six months, up to and including August 13, 2016.

2. The procedural schedule set forth in the Appendix to this Order shall be followed.

3. a. Responses to requests for information in paper medium shall be appropriately bound, tabbed and indexed and shall include the name of the witness who will be responsible for responding to questions related to the information provided, with the original and three copies in paper medium and an electronic version to the Commission.

b. Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or an association or a governmental agency, be accompanied by a signed certification of the preparer or

person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the entity that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry.

c. A party shall make timely amendment to any prior response if it obtains information which indicates that the response was incorrect when made or, though correct when made, is now incorrect in any material respect.

d. For any request to which a party fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, that party shall provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

e. A party filing a paper containing personal information shall, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(10), encrypt or redact the paper so that the personal information cannot be read.

4. Any party filing testimony shall file in accordance with the electronic filing procedures set forth in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8, with an original and three copies in paper medium and an electronic version to the Commission. The original and copies in paper medium should be appropriately bound, tabbed and indexed.

5. Any person who submits a motion to intervene after February 9, 2016, and upon a showing of good cause is granted intervention, shall accept and abide by the existing procedural schedule.

6. Atmos shall give notice of the hearing in accordance with the provisions set out in 807 KAR 5:001, Section 9(2). At the time publication is requested, Atmos shall forward a duplicate of the notice and request to the Commission.

7. At any public hearing in this matter, neither opening statements nor summarization of direct testimonies shall be permitted.

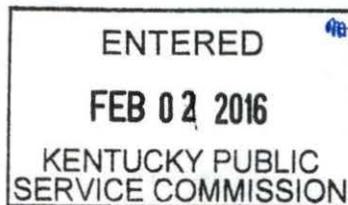
8. Pursuant to KRS 278.360 and KAR 5:001, Section 9(9), a digital video transcript shall be made of the hearing.

9. Any objections or motions relating to discovery or procedural dates shall be filed upon four business days' notice or the filing party shall explain, in writing, why such notice was not possible.

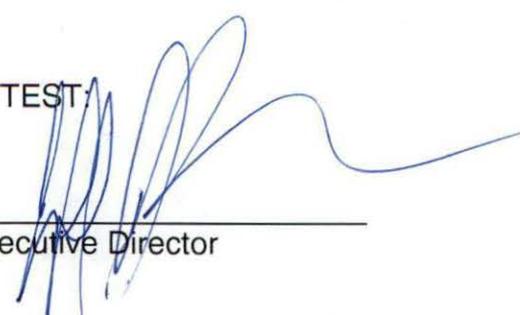
10. Motions for extensions of time with respect to the schedule herein shall be made in writing and will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

11. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the Commission from entering further Orders in this matter.

By the Commission



ATTEST:



Executive Director

APPENDIX

APPENDIX TO AN ORDER OF THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION IN CASE NO. 2015-00343 DATED **FEB 02 2016**

Last day for a party to file for intervention02/10/16

Requests for information to Atmos shall
be filed no later than02/19/16

Atmos shall file responses to requests for
information no later than03/04/16

Supplemental requests for information to Atmos
shall be filed no later than03/18/16

Atmos shall file responses to supplemental requests
for information no later than04/01/16

Intervenor testimony, if any, in verified prepared
form shall be filed no later than04/15/16

Requests for information to Intervenors shall
be filed no later than04/29/16

Intervenors shall file responses to requests for
information no later than05/13/16

Atmos shall file, in verified form, its rebuttal
testimony no later than05/27/16

Last day for Atmos to publish notice of hearing To be scheduled

Public Hearing to be held in Hearing Room 1
of the Commission's offices at 211 Sower Boulevard,
Frankfort, Kentucky, for the purpose of cross-examination
of witnesses of Atmos and Intervenors To be scheduled

Simultaneous Briefs, if any To be scheduled

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