

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN INVESTIGATION OF AN INCREASE IN )  
R & D RIDER PROPOSED BY ATMOS ) CASE NO.  
ENERGY ) 2016-00070

COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO  
ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos"), pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, is to file with the Commission an original in paper medium and an electronic version of the following information. The information requested herein is due on or before March 4, 2016. Responses to requests for information in paper medium shall be appropriately bound, tabbed and indexed. Each response shall include the name of the witness responsible for responding to questions related to the information provided.

Each response shall be answered under oath or, for representatives of a public or private corporation or a partnership or 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.

Atmos 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. For any request to which Atmos fails or refuses to furnish all or part of the requested information, Atmos shall

provide a written explanation of the specific grounds for its failure to completely and precisely respond.

Careful attention should be given to copied material to ensure that it is legible. When the requested information has been previously provided in this proceeding in the requested format, reference may be made to the specific location of that information in responding to this request. When applicable, the requested information shall be separately provided for total company operations and jurisdictional operations. When filing a paper containing personal information, Atmos shall, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 4(10), encrypt or redact the paper so that personal information cannot be read.

1. Refer to the application, the Direct Testimony of Mark A. Martin, page 3, question at line 16. Provide the answer to the question of why Atmos never increased its Research and Development (“R&D”) unit charge, which is not answered on lines 17–18.

2. State whether Atmos-Kentucky is able to choose projects in which R&D funds will be invested. If so, explain the process by which projects are chosen to benefit Kentucky customers. If not, explain how projects are chosen by Atmos on behalf of the Atmos distribution utilities and how Kentucky customers benefit from the chosen projects.

3. Provide a list and description of projects in which Atmos is currently investing that is more current and specific than what is provided in response to

Commission Staff's Initial Request for Information ("Staff's First Request"), Item 53, in Case No. 2015-00343,<sup>1</sup> which is provided as an attachment to the application in this proceeding.

4. Refer to the response to Staff's First Request, Item 53.a., in Case No. 2015-00343, which is provided as an attachment to the application in this proceeding. Explain why 2012 expenses are so much higher than collections for that year and so much higher than expenses for 2013 and 2014.

5. Confirm that Atmos, as required by its tariff, files annual statements regarding its R&D fund remittance along with copies of Gas Technology Institute project information.



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Aaron D. Greenwell  
Deputy Executive Director  
Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 615  
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DATED     **FEB 19 2016**    

cc: Parties of Record

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<sup>1</sup> Case No. 2015-00343, *Application of Atmos Energy Corporation for an Adjustment of Rates and Tariff Modifications* (filed Jan. 15, 2016).

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