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

## January 25, 2012

Mark R. Hutchinson 611 Frederica Street Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

## Re: Atmos Energy Corporation Petition for Confidential Treatment received 11/30/11 PSC Reference – Case No. 2007-00551

Dear Mr. Hutchinson:

The Public Service Commission has received the Petition for Confidential Treatment you filed on November 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 61.870. The information you seek to have treated as confidential is identified as being contained in Atmos' Interim Hedging Report for the 2011-2012 heating season. The information is described as Exhibits A-C, E and F containing pricing information and confidential information regarding Atmos' hedging strategies.

Your justification for having the Commission handle this material as confidential is that the public disclosure of the information could result in an unfair commercial advantage to competitors, and reveal 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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David L. Armstrong Chairman

James W. Gardner Vice Chairman Mr. Hutchinson January 25, 2012 Page 2

If the information becomes publicly available or no longer warrants confidential treatment, Atmos Energy Corporation is required by Section 8(9)(a) of 807 KAR 5:001 to inform the Commission so that the information may be placed in the public record.

Sincere en tive Director

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cc: Parties of Record