

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 791

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of
Application of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc., for Annual Review of Gas Costs Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 62-133.4(c) and Commission Rule R1-17(k)(6)) ORDER CHANGING EXPERT WITNESS HEARING TO BE REMOTELY HELD AND SETTING PROCEDURES

BY THE PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: On August 11, 2021, the Commission issued a Scheduling Order in the above-captioned docket that, among other things, scheduled the expert witness hearing in the Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont) annual cost of gas review for an in-person hearing starting at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 11, 2021.

Based on recent COVID pandemic developments and the record in this docket, the Presiding Commissioner is of the opinion that good cause exists to change the expert witness hearing from an in-person hearing to a remote hearing to be held on Webex. The date of the expert witness hearing shall remain as Monday, October 11, 2021, with the starting time being changed to 2:30 p.m. In addition, the parties shall be subject to and shall adhere to the conditions set forth in the Ordering Paragraphs below.

Finally, based on completion of the publication of the public notice of the public witness hearing in this proceeding, and the impracticality of effectively republishing such notice prior to Monday, October 11, 2021, the Presiding Commissioner finds good cause to maintain the public witness hearing as an in-person hearing on the same schedule as initially established by the Commission's Scheduling Order and the public notice published by Piedmont.

Information on the remote hearing process including how to participate, how to submit an attorney appearance sheet, and how to request a technical check, can be found on the Commission's website under "Remote Expert Witness Process."

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the expert witness hearing in this docket shall be, and is hereby, changed from an in-person hearing to a remote hearing to be held on Webex;
2. That the expert witness hearing shall be held on Webex on Monday, October 11, 2021, beginning at 2:30 p.m.;

3. That the public witness hearing scheduled in this docket shall be held in-person at the same location and on the same schedule as initially established by the Commission's Scheduling Order and the public notice published by Piedmont;

4. That the parties participating in the expert witness remote hearing will be subject to the following conditions.

(1) On or before Tuesday, October 5, 2021, all parties shall file a statement consenting to hold the hearing by remote means, or a statement objecting to the same;

(2) On or before Thursday, October 7, 2021, each party shall send the name, phone number, and email address of each attorney and witness that will participate in the hearing on the party's behalf directly to the Commission via email at ncucwebex@ncuc.net;

(3) On or before Thursday, October 7, 2021, parties shall file a list of potential cross-examination exhibits on direct testimony, and provide copies of the exhibits, labeled with the party's name and numbered sequentially, to the other parties and to the Commission via email at ncucexhibits@ncuc.net;

(4) On or before Friday, October 8, 2021, parties shall file a list of potential redirect examination exhibits on direct testimony, and provide copies of the exhibits, labeled with the party's name and numbered sequentially, to the other parties and the Commission via email at ncucexhibits@ncuc.net;

(5) On or before Friday, October 8, 2021, the parties shall provide a copy of each witness's direct testimony summary to the other parties and the Commission via email at ncucexhibits@ncuc.net;

(6) On or before 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 11, 2021, parties shall file a list of potential cross-examination exhibits on rebuttal testimony, and provide copies of the exhibits, labeled with the party's name and numbered sequentially, to the other parties and the Commission via email at ncucexhibits@ncuc.net;

(7) Within two business days after the hearing, parties shall file their cross-examination and redirect exhibits used in the hearing marked as indicated during the hearing; and

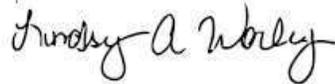
(8) Parties and witnesses are encouraged to do their best to avoid using confidential information during the hearing. If a party deems it necessary to discuss confidential information the party shall inform the Presiding Commissioner of this need, and the hearing will transfer to a secure telephone line so that the confidential information is disclosed only to the Commission, Public Staff, and the parties who have signed a confidentiality agreement.

5. That Piedmont shall arrange for a secure telephone line that can be used by the Commission and the parties during the hearing to present and receive expert witness testimony that involves information asserted to be confidential that has been filed under seal. As soon as practicable, Piedmont shall provide the phone number to other parties and to the Commission via email at ncucexhibits@ncuc.net.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 30th day of September, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lindsey A. Worley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lindsey A. Worley, Acting Deputy Clerk