



**NORTH CAROLINA
PUBLIC STAFF
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

September 21, 2020

Ms. Kimberley A. Campbell, Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4300

Re: Public Staff's Consent to Remote Hearing
Docket No. G-9, Sub 771

Dear Ms. Campbell:

On July 31, 2020, Piedmont Natural Gas Company of North Carolina, Inc. (Piedmont), filed an Application for Annual Review of Gas Costs in the above-referenced docket.

On August 4, 2020, the Commission issued an Order, which, among other things, scheduled a public and evidentiary hearing on the annual review of gas costs for PSNC, to be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. in Commission Hearing Room 2115, Dobbs Building, 430 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina, and directed PSNC to publish a Public Notice of the hearing. As is the Commission's usual procedure, the Commission planned to proceed to receive expert witness testimony following the testimony by public witnesses.

On August 24, 2020, the Commission issued its *Order Scheduling Remote Expert Witness Hearing, Requiring Filing of Cross-Exam and Redirect Exhibits, and Addressing Other Matters* (Scheduling Order) in the above-referenced docket. The Order states that because of the number of persons who will be involved in the expert witness portion of the hearing, the expert witness portion of the hearing will be held by remote means on WebEx. Additionally, the Commission's Order provides that on or before Monday, September 21, 2020, all parties shall file a statement consenting to holding the expert witness hearings by remote means, or a statement objecting to same.

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|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
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Pursuant to paragraph (1) of the Scheduling Order, the Public Staff hereby states its consent to holding the expert witness hearing by remote means in this proceeding. The Public Staff will send directly to the Chief Clerk via email the email addresses of the attorney, witnesses, and other persons that will participate in the hearing on the Public Staff's behalf on or before Monday, September 21, 2020, pursuant to paragraph (2) of the Scheduling Order. The Public Staff notes that it does not have potential cross-examination exhibits to be filed, as requested in paragraph (3) of the Scheduling Order.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to all parties of record.

Sincerely,

Electronically submitted
/s/ Gina C. Holt
Staff Attorney
gina.holt@psncuc.nc.gov

c: Parties of Record