

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 772

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of		
Natural Gas Firm Transportation Service and)	ORDER ALLOWING
Minimum Margin Commitment Agreement)	AGREEMENT TO
Between Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.,)	BECOME EFFECTIVE
and Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On August 11, 2020, Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont), filed a Natural Gas Firm Transportation Service and Minimum Margin Commitment Agreement (Agreement) between Piedmont and Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company (Customer). Piedmont submitted the Agreement under seal on the grounds that it is confidential and proprietary and has been designated as such pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 132-1.2.

Piedmont stated that the Agreement relates to the construction of Piedmont facilities necessary to provide natural gas service to Customer's new location and Customer's agreement to pay special contract rates and to guarantee certain margin recoveries by Piedmont to cover the costs of such service. Piedmont further stated that the proposed Agreement is in the public interest and should be approved.

The Public Staff presented this matter to the Commission at its Regular Staff Conference on October 3, 2022. The Public Staff stated that it had reviewed the Agreement and other information provided by Piedmont in response to Public Staff data requests. Based on its investigation, the Public Staff determined that the terms of the Agreement are within the parameters set forth in N.C.G.S. § 62-140. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission issue an order: (1) concluding that the Agreement is not unlawful and does not violate the rules and regulations of the Commission; (2) allowing the Agreement to become effective as filed; and (3) authorizing Piedmont to provide service to the Customer pursuant to the Agreement. The Public Staff also recommended that the Commission's order state that acceptance of the Agreement neither constitutes approval of the amount of any compensation paid thereunder nor prejudices the right of any party to take issue with any provision of the Agreement in a future proceeding.

The Commission, having carefully reviewed the Agreement between Piedmont and the Customer, concludes that the Agreement is not unlawful and does not violate the rules and regulations of the Commission. Accordingly, the Commission finds good cause to allow the Agreement to become effective as filed and authorize Piedmont to

provide service to the Customer under the Agreement as recommended by the Public Staff.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED as follows:

1. That the Agreement between Piedmont and the Customer is hereby allowed to become effective as filed;
2. That Piedmont is hereby authorized to provide natural gas service to the Customer pursuant to the Agreement; and
3. That authorizing Piedmont to provide natural gas service to the Customer pursuant to the Agreement neither constitutes approval of the amount of any compensation paid thereunder nor prejudices the right of any party to take issue with any provision of the Agreement in a future proceeding.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 4th day of October 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tamika D. Conyers", is written over a light gray circular stamp.

Tamika D. Conyers, Acting Deputy Clerk

Commissioner Daniel G. Clodfelter did not participate in this decision.