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Oct 01 2020

October 1, 2020

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Ms. Kimberly A. Campbell  
Chief Clerk  
North Carolina Utilities Commission  
430 N. Salisbury Street, Dobbs Building  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

**Re: 2020 Annual Review of Gas Costs – Motion to Excuse Witnesses  
Docket No. G-9, Sub 771**

Dear Ms. Campbell:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc., please find a Motion to Excuse Witnesses in the above-captioned docket.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If you have any questions regarding this filing, you may reach me at the number shown above.

Sincerely,

/s/ Melinda L. McGrath  
Melinda L. McGrath

MLM/sko

Enclosures

cc: All Parties of Record  
Brian Heslin  
Bruce Barkley  
Pia Powers

**BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 771**

In the Matter of	)	
Application of Piedmont Natural Gas	)	
Company, Inc., for Annual Review of	)	MOTION TO EXCUSE
Gas Costs Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat.	)	WITNESSES
§ 62-133.4(c) and Commission Rule	)	
R1-17(k)(6)	)	

Now comes Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (“Piedmont” or the “Company”) and respectfully requests the North Carolina Utilities Commission (“Commission”) issue an order excusing all witnesses from testifying at the remote expert hearing scheduled in this proceeding for October 6, 2020. In support of this motion, Piedmont respectfully shows unto the Commission as follows:

1. On July 31, 2020, Piedmont witness Todd Breece filed direct testimony, and Piedmont witnesses Jeffrey Patton and MaryBeth Tomlinson filed direct testimony and exhibits. Piedmont’s witnesses attested to the prudence of the Company’s gas costs during the review period and the propriety of its accounting for such costs.

2. On August 10, 2020, Piedmont witness MaryBeth Tomlinson filed supplemental testimony and an exhibit.

3. The Public Staff’s witnesses Geoffrey M. Gilbert and Julie G. Perry filed joint testimony on September 24, 2020. On September 29, 2020, the Public Staff filed a revised page of the joint testimony.

4. On September 30, 2020, Piedmont witness Jeffrey Patton filed rebuttal testimony and Public Staff filed additional corrections to its joint testimony.

5. Counsel for Piedmont and the Public Staff have consulted. Since there are

no intervenors and no issues among the parties, and the parties have agreed to waive cross-examination of all of the witnesses, Piedmont respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order excusing the appearance of all witnesses at the remote expert witness hearing and accept Piedmont's and the Public Staff's testimony and exhibits into the record.

WHEREFORE, Piedmont respectfully requests that the Commission enter an order: (1) excusing the appearance of all witnesses at the remote expert hearing scheduled in this docket for October 6, 2020, and (2) accept the prefiled testimony and exhibits of all witnesses into the record of this proceeding without requiring their appearance.

Respectfully submitted, this the 1st day of October, 2020.

s/ Melinda L. McGrath  
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201 North Tryon Street, Suite 3000  
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*Attorney for Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the attached is being served this date upon all of the parties to this docket electronically or by depositing a copy of the same in the United States Mail, First Class Postage Prepaid, at the addresses contained in the official service list in this proceeding.

This the 1st day of October, 2020.

/s/ Sloane K. O'Hare  
Sloane K. O'Hare