

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. M-100, SUB 148
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 731
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 737

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. M-100, SUB 148)	
)	
In the Matter of)	
The Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act)	
)	
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 731)	
)	
In the Matter of)	ORDER APPROVING TARIFFS
Piedmont Natural Gas Filings to Reflect)	
The Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act)	
)	
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 737)	
)	
In the Matter of)	
Application of Piedmont Natural Gas)	
Company, Inc. for an Adjustment to its)	
Base Rates to Track a Reduction in State)	
Corporate Income Tax Rates)	

BY THE COMMISSION: On October 5, 2018, in Docket No. M-100, Sub 148, the Commission issued an Order Addressing the Impacts of The Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on Public Utilities. The Order directed certain utilities, including Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont), to “adjust their base rates to reflect the reduction in the federal corporate income tax rate to 21% for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, as outlined in the Tax Act.” The Commission further requested that certain utilities, including Piedmont, “file proposals . . . to adjust their rates to reflect the reduction in the federal corporate income tax rate to 21%” by no later than October 25, 2018 and that the Public Staff and other parties “file comments on the proposals by no later than Wednesday, November 14, 2018.”

On October 25, 2018, Piedmont filed its proposal in response to the Commission’s October 5, 2018 Order.

On November 14, 2018, the Public Staff filed its comments pursuant to the Commission’s October 5, 2018 Order. No other party filed comments. The Public Staff

stated that it had reviewed Piedmont's proposal and had specific objections to the proposal.

On November 20, 2018, Piedmont filed reply comments in response to the Public Staff's comments concerning Piedmont's proposal.

On December 17, 2018, Piedmont filed an Application in Docket No. G-9, Sub 737 for an adjustment of its base rates to track a reduction in the state corporate income tax rate. Piedmont noted that in its Application, it was seeking Commission authorization to flow-through the benefits of a reduction in the state corporate income tax rate effective January 1, 2019 to its base rate customers.

On December 18, 2018, in Docket No. G-9, Sub 737, the Public Staff filed a letter regarding Piedmont's December 17, 2018 Application. The Public Staff stated that it objected to Piedmont's calculation of the rates to refund the state corporate income tax rate revenue requirement reduction to base rate customers (those not receiving service pursuant to special contracts), and recommended that Piedmont recalculate its base rates in the same manner that Piedmont used in its state corporate income tax compliance filings in Docket No. M-100, Sub 138 (the generic docket to address the recent decreases in the state corporate income tax rate) which were approved by the Commission, in order to reduce base rates for the total calculated revenue requirement for system customers filed in this docket.

On December 19, 2018, Piedmont filed a letter in response to the Public Staff's December 18, 2018 filing. Piedmont noted that it disagreed with the Public Staff's proposals for the reasons set forth in its November 20, 2018 reply comments in Docket No. G-9, Sub 731 addressing reductions in the federal corporate income tax rate.

On March 25, 2019, the Commission issued its Order Approving Proposal and Application and Requiring Filing of Revised Tariffs. The Commission concluded that, based upon the record, good cause existed to approve Piedmont's October 25, 2018 proposal to implement the change in the federal corporate income tax rate and Piedmont's December 17, 2018 Application for an adjustment of its base rates to track a reduction in the state corporate income tax rate. The Commission requested Piedmont to file its revised tariffs within 10 days of the issuance of the March 25, 2019 Order, and requested that the Public Staff file a letter as soon as reasonably possible thereafter verifying that the revised tariffs are correct and, if appropriate, recommending Commission approval.

On April 4, 2019, Piedmont filed its revised tariffs as required in the March 25, 2019 Order.

On April 5, 2019, the Public Staff filed a letter stating that it has reviewed Piedmont's April 4, 2019 tariff filing and finds that it is consistent with the proposals filed by Piedmont. The Public Staff recommended that the Commission approve the filed tariffs.

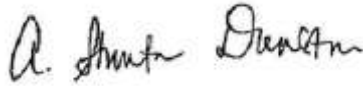
Based on the record of evidence, the Commission finds good cause to approve the revised tariffs filed by Piedmont on April 4, 2019. In addition, Piedmont shall give notice to its customers of the rate changes authorized by this Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, SO ORDERED.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION.

This the 15th day of April, 2019.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. Shonta Dunston". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

A. Shonta Dunston, Deputy Clerk