

434 Fayetteville Street Suite 2800 Raleigh, NC 27601

October 17, 2017

Ms. Lynn Jarvis Chief Clerk North Carolina Utilities Commission 430 N. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC 27603

RE: Joint Motion to Excuse Appearance of Witnesses and Accept Testimony In the Matter of Toccoa Natural Gas' Annual Gas Cost Review For the Period July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 Docket G-41, Sub 50

Dear Ms. Jarvis:

Please find attached the Joint Motion of Toccoa Natural Gas and Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission to Excuse the Appearance of Witnesses and Accept Testimony at the hearing, in the above-referenced matter, scheduled for November 1, 2017.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to call me. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Kane M. Kennick

Karen M. Kemerait

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Enclosures

cc: Christopher J. Ayers, Esq. Beth Culpepper, Esq. Mr. Jan Larsen Ms. Iris Morgan Ms. Julie Perry

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STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION RALEIGH

DOCKET NO. G-41, SUB 50

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BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of Application of Toccoa Natural Gas for Annual Review of Gas Costs Pursuant to G.S. 62-133.4(c) and Commission Rule R1-17(k)(6)

JOINT MOTION TO EXCUSE APPEARANCE OF WITNESSES AND ACCEPT TESTIMONY

Toccoa Natural Gas (Toccoa) and the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff), through counsel, hereby jointly move the Commission for an order (1) excusing the appearance of witnesses at the hearing scheduled in this proceeding for November 1, 2017, and (2) allowing the introduction of all prefiled testimony and exhibits into the record at such hearing without the appearance of witnesses. In support of this request, Toccoa and the Public Staff respectfully show unto the Commission as follows:

1. This proceeding is Toccoa's annual gas cost review proceeding in which the Commission receives testimony and rules on the prudence of Toccoa's incurrence of gas costs for the 12 months ended June 30, 2017, and the propriety of its accounting for such costs during such period.

2. On September 1, 2017, Toccoa prefiled the testimony and exhibits of Harry F. Scott, Jr., and Rai Trippe in this proceeding in which these witnesses attested to the prudence of Toccoa's gas costs during the review period and the propriety of its accounting for such costs.

3. On October 12, 2017, Toccoa filed revised Schedules 1-10 and Exhibit 2 to the testimony of Toccoa witness Trippe.

4. On October 16, 2017, the Public Staff filed the joint testimony of Jan A. Larsen, Iris Morgan, and Julie G. Perry.

5. There are no other parties to this proceeding.

6. Based upon a review of the filed testimony, there does not appear to be any matter in dispute between the parties.

7. Counsel for Toccoa and the Public Staff have conferred with respect to the issues in this proceeding and have agreed (a) to waive cross-examination of each other's witnesses, (b) to consent to the introduction of the other's party's testimony and exhibits into the record without the necessity for the appearance of such witnesses, and (c) to jointly seek the excusal of witnesses from appearance at the hearing of this matter.

WHEREFORE, Toccoa and the Public Staff respectfully request that the Commission enter an order (1) excusing the appearance of all witnesses at the hearing scheduled in this docket for November 1, 2017, and (2) accepting the prefiled testimony and exhibits of all witnesses into the record of this proceeding without requiring the appearance of any such witnesses.

Respectfully submitted, this the 17th day of October, 2017.

Toccoa Natural Gas

<u>Electronically submitted</u> /s/ Karen M. Kemerait Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP 434 Fayetteville Street, Suite 2800 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 Telephone: (919) 755-8764 Karen.Kemerait@smithmoorelaw.com

Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission

Electronically submitted /s/ Elizabeth D. Culpepper Staff Attorney 4326 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-4326 Telephone: (919) 733-6110 elizabeth.culpepper@psncuc.nc.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing on each of the parties of record in this proceeding or the attorney of record of such party in accordance with Commission Rule R1-39, by United States mail, first class or better; by hand delivery; or by means of facsimile or electronic delivery upon agreement of the receiving party.

This the 17th day of October, 2017.

Electronically submitted

/s/ Karen M. Kemerait Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP 434 Fayetteville Street, Suite 2800 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601 Telephone: (919) 755-8764 Karen.Kemerait@smithmoorelaw.com