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November 24, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Antonia Dunston
Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
430 N. Salisbury Street, Dobbs Building
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603

**Re: Docket No. G-9, Sub 781
Docket No. G-9, Sub 786
Docket No. G-9, Sub 722**

Dear Ms. Dunston:

Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (“Piedmont”), on behalf of itself and the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (“Public Staff”), respectfully submits for filing with the Commission the enclosed Public Notice as Attachment A to the previously-filed Joint Proposed Order in the above-referenced dockets. Piedmont has also shared a copy of this document with the Carolina Utility Customers Association, Inc. (“CUCA”) and the Carolina Industrial Group for Fair Rates IV (“CIGFUR IV”).

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/ James H. Jeffries IV
James H. Jeffries IV

JHJ/rkg

Enclosure

cc: Elizabeth Culpepper
Bruce Barkley
Pia Powers
Parties of Record

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 24th day of November, 2021.

/s/ Richard K. Goley
Richard K. Goley

ATTACHMENT A

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
UTILITIES COMMISSION
RALEIGH**

DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 722
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 781
DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 786

BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
Docket No. G-9, Sub 722)	
)	
Consolidated Natural Gas)	
Construction and Redelivery Services)	
Agreement Between Piedmont)	
Natural Gas Company, Inc., and)	
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC)	
)	
Docket No. G-9, Sub 781)	
)	
Application of Piedmont Natural Gas)	PUBLIC NOTICE
Company, Inc., for an Adjustment of)	
Rates, Charges, and Tariffs)	
Applicable to Service in North)	
Carolina)	
)	
Docket No. G-9, Sub 786)	
)	
Application of Piedmont Natural Gas)	
Company, Inc. for Modifications to)	
Existing Energy Efficiency Programs)	
and Approval of New Energy)	
Efficiency Programs)	

On [INSERT DATE], The North Carolina Utilities Commission (Commission) issued an Order allowing Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont or the Company), to increase its rates and charges by approximately \$74.2 million annually, or 6.7% overall, effective November 1, 2021.

On March 22, 2021, Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. (Piedmont or the Company), filed an application with the Commission in Docket No. G-9, Sub 781 requesting authority to adjust and increase its rates and charges for natural gas service in North Carolina. On April 13, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Establishing General Rate Case and Suspending Rates.

Also on April 13, 2021, the Public Staff – North Carolina Utilities Commission (Public Staff) filed a Motion to Consolidate Dockets requesting that the Commission issue an order consolidating the previously consolidated Docket Nos. G-9, Sub 722, Piedmont's redelivery services agreement for Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's Lincoln Plant, and G-9, Sub 781 with Docket No. G-9, Sub 786, in which Piedmont filed a request for approval of modifications to its existing Equipment Rebate Program and of three new energy efficiency programs: Residential New Construction Program, Commercial Food Services Program, and Commercial HVAC & Water Heating Program. On April 19, 2021, the Commission issued an order granting the Public Staff's motion and consolidating the above-referenced dockets (collectively, the Application).

In the Application, Piedmont requested authority to increase its rates and charges to produce additional overall annual North Carolina retail revenues of approximately \$109 million, an increase of approximately 10.4% over current revenues. Further, Piedmont sought approval of a rate of return on common equity of 10.25%.

Piedmont also sought (i) a general increase in and revisions to the rates and charges for customers served by the Company; (ii) continuation of Piedmont's Integrity Management Rider (IMR) mechanism contained in Appendix E to its approved service regulations; (iii) continued regulatory asset treatment for certain incremental Transmission Integrity Management Program (TIMP) and Distribution Integrity Management Program (DIMP) Operations and Maintenance (O&M) expenses, and certain incremental environmental cleanup and remediation O&M expenses; (iv) continued utilization of the depreciation rates for the Company's North Carolina and joint property assets approved in Docket No. G-9, Sub 743 (Sub 743), the Company's most recent general rate case; (v) revised and updated amortizations and recovery of certain regulatory assets accrued since the Sub 743 proceeding; (vi) utilization of the lead-lag study filed by Piedmont in its Sub 743 filing; (vii) adoption of a Rider mechanism to allow Piedmont to recover the costs of its approved energy efficiency programs from customers or, in the alternative, authorization to defer costs associated with Piedmont's approved energy efficiency programs pending amortization at the Commission's discretion at some later date; and (viii) other updates and revisions to Piedmont's rate schedules and service regulations.

On April 13, 2021, the Commission issued an order suspending the Company's proposed rate changes for a period of up to 270 days from the proposed effective date of April 21, 2021, and setting the Application for a general rate increase for hearing.

The increase approved by the Commission was the result of a stipulation entered into between the Company and other parties to the

proceeding, including the Public Staff (Stipulation). The Commission notes that the increases to specific classes of customers will vary in order that each customer class pays its fair share of the cost of providing natural gas service. For the typical residential customer, the approved rate increase effective November 1, 2021, will result in an annual increase to the customer's bill of approximately \$65, or \$5.50 per month. These approved increases are associated with allowed expenses and return on investment and do not contemplate increases or decreases that may occur in association with gas cost adjustments to rates or other Commission approved riders as allowed by North Carolina law.

A list of approved rates can be obtained from the Company's website, www.piedmontng.com, or on the Commission's website at <https://www.ncuc.net/> where the Commission's Order, the Stipulation, and other filings in this docket back be viewed/printed from using the Dockets drop down list and entering "G-9 Sub 781" in the Docket Search function.

ISSUED BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

This the ____ day of _____, 2021.

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION

A. Shonta Dunston, Chief Clerk