

**Before the  
North Carolina Utilities Commission**

**Docket No. G-9, Sub 781**

**General Rate Case**

**Settlement Testimony and Exhibits  
of  
Pia K. Powers**

**On Behalf Of  
Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**

1 **Q. Ms. Powers, please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Pia K. Powers. My business address is 4720 Piedmont Row  
3 Drive, Charlotte, North Carolina.

4 **Q. Are you the same Pia K. Powers who prefiled direct testimony in this**  
5 **docket on March 22, 2021?**

6 A. Yes, I am.

7 **Q. What is the purpose of your Settlement Testimony in this proceeding?**

8 A. My Settlement Testimony explains the economic adjustments to  
9 Piedmont's filed case<sup>1</sup> as reflected in the Stipulation of Partial Settlement  
10 ("Stipulation") between Piedmont and the Public Staff - North Carolina  
11 Utilities Commission ("Public Staff"), the Carolina Utility Customers  
12 Association, Inc. ("CUCA"), and the Carolina Industrial Group for Fair  
13 Utility Rates IV ("CIGFUR IV") (together, the "Stipulating Parties"). My  
14 Settlement Testimony also addresses certain other components of the  
15 Stipulation.

16 **Q. Do you have any exhibits supporting your testimony?**

17 A. Yes. I have two. Settlement Exhibit\_\_(PKP-1) is a reconciliation chart  
18 identifying the settled adjustments to Piedmont's rate increase request,  
19 wholly excluding the estimated amounts for the Company's Robeson LNG  
20 and Pender-Onslow projects. Settlement Exhibit\_\_(PKP-2) is a similar  
21 reconciliation chart, although it is inclusive of the estimated impact of  
22 these projects.

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<sup>1</sup> Including Piedmont's rate case Update Filing to the NCUC on July 28, 2021.

1 **Q. Was this exhibit prepared by you or under your direction and**  
2 **supervision?**

3 A. Yes.

4 **Q. Can you explain how the Public Staff pursued its investigation in this**  
5 **matter?**

6 A. Following the filing of our Application and supporting testimony, the  
7 Public Staff engaged in substantial discovery regarding our filing. This  
8 included more than 840 individual data requests (not counting parts and  
9 subparts) in 137 sets of discovery requests. When Piedmont filed its cost-  
10 of-service update on July 28, 2021 (“Update Filing”), the Public Staff also  
11 engaged in a due diligence review of the Update Filing.

12 **Q. How did the Public Staff and Piedmont go about pursuing settlement**  
13 **discussions in this case?**

14 A. We met with the Public Staff via video conference on several occasions to  
15 explore and vet mutually agreeable terms for a settlement. Our initial  
16 discussions were aimed at making sure we had a common understanding  
17 of our respective litigation positions and filed testimony. After we  
18 completed these discussions, we moved on to substantive settlement  
19 negotiations and we were able to reach agreement on several issues in this  
20 case between Piedmont and the Public Staff. This agreement is reflected  
21 in the Stipulation filed concurrently with this testimony.

22 **Q. Has Piedmont attempted to reach a settlement with the other parties**  
23 **to this case?**

1 A. Yes. We have held discussions with CUCA and CIGFUR IV in an effort  
2 to obtain their consent to join in the settlement and we were able to do so  
3 after reaching a proposed rate design that is acceptable to all. We did not  
4 reach out to the Attorney General, NUCOR or the Fayetteville Public  
5 Works Commission as these parties did not file testimony in this  
6 proceeding.

7 **Q. Do you believe the settlement with the Public Staff is in the public**  
8 **interest and otherwise just and reasonable?**

9 A. Yes. The Stipulation results in substantial economic benefits to our  
10 customers through the cost reductions agreed to with the Public Staff. It  
11 also avoids the expenditure of assets that would otherwise be necessary to  
12 litigate each of the contested issues in this docket and provides greater  
13 certainty of outcome to the Stipulating Parties.

14 **Q. Can you provide a brief overview of the revenue impact associated**  
15 **with the Stipulation?**

16 A. Yes. The main revenue impact of the Stipulation pertains to the  
17 adjustment of Piedmont's base margin revenues. The Stipulation shows  
18 that base margin revenue in two ways – excluding the Robeson LNG and  
19 Pender-Onslow projects (Settlement Exhibit A1), as well as inclusive of  
20 the estimated amounts for the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects  
21 (Settlement Exhibit A2). Settlement Exhibit\_(PKP-1) and Settlement  
22 Exhibit\_(PKP-2) are aligned with Settlement Exhibits A1 and A2,  
23 respectively. Exclusive of the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects,

1 the settled base margin revenue requirement increase is approximately  
2 \$34.1 million, which is shown on Line 46 of Settlement Exhibit\_(PKP-1).  
3 Inclusive of the estimated amount of the Robeson LNG and Pender-  
4 Onslow projects, the settled base margin revenue requirement increase  
5 would be approximately \$67.1 million, which is shown on Line 46 of  
6 Settlement Exhibit\_(PKP-2).

7 There are two other revenue impacts associated with the  
8 Stipulation. The first impact pertains to cost of gas (“COG”) revenues.  
9 The Stipulation calls for a change to the base COG revenues, which are  
10 reflected identically on Lines 47 thru 49 on each of my settlement  
11 exhibits. The effect of the settled change to the base COG revenues is an  
12 increase of \$6,931,287. The base COG revenue adjustment has no direct  
13 impact to Piedmont’s earnings. Rather, the purpose of the adjustment is to  
14 better align Piedmont’s going-level COG expense with its base COG  
15 revenues, all of which may also be further modified as needed pursuant to  
16 the procedures for rate adjustments set forth under G.S. 62-133.4 and  
17 Appendix A of Piedmont’s North Carolina Service Regulations.

18 The second impact is a flow-thru update pertaining to the riders  
19 established in Piedmont’s last general rate case<sup>2</sup> for the refund to  
20 customers of excess deferred income taxes (“EDIT”). The amortization  
21 period for two of the three EDIT riders established in Piedmont’s last  
22 general rate case has not yet concluded – specifically, the riders to refund

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<sup>2</sup> Docket No. G-9, Sub 743

1 to customers unprotected federal EDIT and state EDIT are set to conclude  
2 on October 31, 2024 and October 31, 2022, respectively. The Company's  
3 approved overall rate of return was a component used in the calculation of  
4 annual revenue requirement impact for each of these two EDIT riders in  
5 the Company's last general rate case. Since the outcome of this current  
6 general rate case will modify Piedmont's approved overall rate of return,  
7 the Stipulation updates these two EDIT riders over their remaining  
8 amortization periods for the effect of the stipulated overall rate of return.  
9 The total annual refund to customers for unprotected federal EDIT was  
10 updated to \$(25,562,970) as shown on Line 51 of each of my settlement  
11 exhibits, which is a difference of \$(2,258,701) from the approved amount  
12 in the Company's last rate case. The total annual refund to customers for  
13 state EDIT was updated to \$(22,201,275) as shown on Line 52 of each of  
14 my settlement exhibits, which is a difference of \$(1,466,121) from the  
15 approved amount in the Company's last rate case.

16 **Q. What is the expected revenue impact associated with the Stipulation**  
17 **once updated for the actual cost of the Robeson LNG and Pender-**  
18 **Onslow projects as of August 31, 2021?**

19 A. The Company's accounting books and records for the month of August  
20 2021 will be finalized within a few days. For this timing reason, it was  
21 not feasible to incorporate the effect of the August 31, 2021 "actuals" for  
22 these two projects into Settlement Exhibit\_(PKP-2) nor the exhibits  
23 supporting the Stipulation. Nevertheless, the revenue impact of

1 incorporating the actual Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow costs as of  
2 August 31, 2021 is expected to be very close to that shown in Settlement  
3 Exhibit\_\_(PKP-2). In other words, it is expected to yield a stipulated  
4 margin revenue increase between approximately \$67 million and \$68  
5 million.

6 **Q. Please explain the adjustments to Piedmont's cost of service as agreed**  
7 **to in the Stipulation, and the associated impact to the margin revenue**  
8 **requirement.**

9 A. The individual cost of service adjustments are identified on my settlement  
10 exhibits attached hereto and represent, in aggregate, a downward  
11 adjustment from Piedmont's proposed annual margin revenues in its  
12 Update Filing. The cumulative impact to margin revenues of each of these  
13 cost of service adjustments is shown on Line 45 of each of my settlement  
14 exhibits. Excluding the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects, the  
15 Stipulation includes approximately (\$62.7 million) of cost of service  
16 adjustments impacting base margin revenues. Including the Robeson  
17 LNG and Pender-Onslow projects, the Stipulation includes approximately  
18 (\$29.7 million) of cost of service adjustments impacting base margin  
19 revenues.

20 The individual cost of service adjustments in the Stipulation can be  
21 categorized as follows:

22 1. Capital Structure and Cost of Capital. The Stipulating  
23 Parties agreed that the appropriate capital structure for use in this

1 proceeding consists of 51.60% common equity, 47.75% long-term debt,  
2 and 0.65% short-term debt. The agreed cost of long-term debt is 4.08%  
3 and the agreed cost of short-term debt is 0.20%. The agreed return on  
4 common equity appropriate for use in this proceeding is 9.60%. These  
5 modifications resulted in a downward adjustment to Piedmont's margin  
6 revenue requirement of approximately (\$22.7 million), which is  
7 represented on both of my settlement exhibits as the sum of Lines 4 thru 7.

8           2.     Other Operating Revenues. The Stipulating Parties agreed  
9 to use in the cost of service computation an increased level of pro forma  
10 other operating revenues. This settlement modification resulted in a  
11 downward adjustment to Piedmont's margin revenue requirement of  
12 approximately (\$1.9 million), which is represented on both of my  
13 settlement exhibits on Line 14.

14           3.     Employee Compensation. The Stipulating Parties agreed to  
15 remove certain employee compensation costs for ratemaking, including a  
16 portion of executive payroll, and certain incentive pay. Adjustments were  
17 also agreed upon regarding the going-level cost of the remaining payroll  
18 expense, pension, health insurance expense and other employee benefits.  
19 These modifications resulted in a downward adjustment to Piedmont's  
20 margin revenue requirement of approximately (\$2.4 million), which is  
21 represented on both of my settlement exhibits as the sum of Lines 18 thru  
22 20, 23 and 24.



1                   4.     Amortization of Certain Regulatory Assets and Rate Case  
2     Expense.   The Stipulating Parties agreed to amortize all previously  
3     authorized regulatory asset end of period balances (comprised of Pipeline  
4     Integrity Management-Transmission (“PIM-T”) deferred expenses,  
5     Pipeline Integrity Management-Distribution (“PIM-D”) deferred expenses,  
6     Eastern NCNG deferred O&M expenses, environmental compliance  
7     assessment and clean-up deferred expenses, and regulatory fee deferred  
8     expenses) over a period of four years in each case. The Stipulating Parties  
9     also agreed to the Company’s estimate of rate case expense for this  
10    proceeding, to be amortized over four years along with the removal of the  
11    unamortized deferred balance of the rate case expenses from the  
12    Company’s last general rate case. On these matters, including the level of  
13    each deferred balance included in the working capital components of rate  
14    base, the Stipulation resulted in a downward adjustment to Piedmont’s  
15    margin revenue requirement of approximately (\$0.2 million). This is  
16    represented on both of my settlement exhibits as the sum of Lines 25, and  
17    30 thru 34.

18                   5.     Non-Utility Adjustment. The Stipulating Parties agreed to  
19    include a non-utility adjustment for ratemaking, comprised of amounts of  
20    operating expense and rate base, that was greater than the Company’s  
21    proposed non-utility adjustment. Accordingly, the Stipulation resulted in  
22    a downward adjustment to Piedmont’s margin revenue requirement of

1 approximately (\$0.5 million), which is represented on both of my  
2 settlement exhibits on Line 29.

3 6. Other Expenses. The Stipulating Parties agreed to a variety  
4 of adjustments to other expenses for ratemaking that encompassed the  
5 following categories of expense: sponsorships and donations, inflation,  
6 lobbying, uncollectibles, Board of Directors, interest on customer deposits,  
7 regulatory fee, non-recurring COVID-related expenses incurred during the  
8 test period, and certain aviation and advertising costs. These  
9 modifications taken together resulted in a downward adjustment to  
10 Piedmont's margin revenue requirement of approximately (\$2.7 million),  
11 which is represented on both of my settlement exhibits as the sum of Lines  
12 21, 22, 26 thru 28, and 35 thru 40.

13 7. Plant, Accumulated Depreciation, Accumulated Deferred  
14 Income Taxes, Depreciation Expense and other Related Adjustments  
15 including those associated with the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow  
16 projects. The Stipulating Parties agreed to several changes to Piedmont's  
17 rate base in the Stipulation, including ratemaking adjustments for the  
18 amortization of protected EDIT as updated for the current ARAM rate.  
19 Other rate base-related adjustments include an alignment of depreciation  
20 expense and accumulated depreciation with the stipulated plant in service  
21 balance, and an alignment of property tax with the settled changes to rate  
22 base net of non-utility adjustments, and an alignment of lead/lag to with

1 all other stipulated adjustments. Exclusive of the Robeson LNG and  
2 Pender-Onslow projects, these settlement modifications resulted in a  
3 downward adjustment to Piedmont's revenue requirement of  
4 approximately \$(32.2 million), which is represented on Settlement  
5 Exhibit\_\_(PKP-1) as the sum of Lines 8, 9, 11, 12, 16, 17 and 41 thru 44.  
6 Inclusive of the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects, these  
7 settlement modifications are estimated to result in an upward adjustment  
8 to Piedmont's revenue requirement of approximately \$0.8 million, which  
9 is represented on Settlement Exhibit\_\_(PKP-2) as the sum of Lines 8, 9, 11,  
10 12, 16, 17 and 41 thru 44.<sup>3</sup>

11 **Q. Did Piedmont expressly agree with each of the component**  
12 **adjustments in the Stipulation?**

13 A. No. In fact, Piedmont strongly disagreed with many of these adjustments  
14 on an individual basis and the Public Staff likewise opposed many of these  
15 adjustments in isolation. In order to reach settlement, however, Piedmont  
16 and the Public Staff both compromised on a large number of individual  
17 issues in order to reach an overall accommodation in this case. The  
18 settlement was arrived at as a whole and, as the Stipulation indicates, each

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3 The main cost of service effect of the exclusion of the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects is shown on Lines 8 and 16 of my settlement exhibits. Piedmont's Update Filing requested an approximate \$96.9 million annual margin revenue requirement increase, which included the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects (as estimated) in rate base and operating expense. Showing the Stipulated margin revenue requirement increase inclusive of the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects (as estimated) comports with the sum of the settlement adjustments shown on Lines 8 and 16 of Settlement Exhibit\_\_(PKP-2).

1 individual adjustment may not have been agreeable to all parties  
2 participating in this settlement. However, when considered as a whole, the  
3 totality of the adjustments was acceptable to each of the Stipulating  
4 Parties. For this reason, the Stipulating Parties agree that no precedent is  
5 intended to be established by the individual adjustments or component  
6 provisions of the Stipulation but that each would support the Stipulation as  
7 a whole before the Commission as a reasonable resolution of Piedmont's  
8 rate case filing.

9 **Q. Do you believe that the overall settlement reached by the parties and**  
10 **presented to the Commission is just and reasonable and otherwise**  
11 **compliant with the requirements of North Carolina law?**

12 A. Yes, I do.

13 **Q. Does the Stipulation address any non-economic issues and/or or**  
14 **economic issues other than the cost of service adjustments underlying**  
15 **the stipulated revenue requirement increase?**

16 A. Yes, there are several. The Stipulation calls for the continuation of the  
17 Integrity Management Rider ("IMR") mechanism. The Stipulation calls  
18 for approval of Piedmont's proposed modifications to its Tariff, namely  
19 the elimination of Rate Schedules 12 and T-12, and modifications to Rate  
20 Schedules 107, 113, 114 and 143. The Stipulation calls for termination of  
21 the Line 434 Revenue Rider, since the cancellation of the Atlantic Coast  
22 Pipeline eliminated the need for the operation/existence of this rider. The  
23 Stipulation also calls for approval of Piedmont's proposed modifications

1 to its Service Regulations, namely modifications to Appendix B  
2 (Customer Agent Agreement) and Appendix E (IMR mechanism). Note  
3 that several factors in the Appendix E of the Company's Service  
4 Regulations need to align to the stipulated revenues and throughput by rate  
5 class and will accordingly be updated and filed with the Commission after  
6 finalization of the stipulated revenue requirement and rates per the  
7 pending updates for the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects.

8 The Stipulating Parties agreed to Piedmont's rollout of new and  
9 modified Energy Efficiency Programs ("EE Program(s)"), and that the  
10 entire EE portfolio - both the existing and new/modified EE Programs - be  
11 authorized for a three-year pilot in order to collect operational data,  
12 perform evaluation, measurement, and verification ("EM&V"), and assess  
13 cost-effectiveness. The Company also proposed, in Appendix H of its  
14 Service Regulations, a rider to enable the recovery of all approved EE  
15 Program expenses on a going-forward basis starting November 1, 2021.  
16 The Company's proposal, as explained in my prefiled Direct Testimony,  
17 requested Commission approval for regulatory asset treatment for its EE  
18 Program expenses in the absence of approval of Piedmont's proposed  
19 Appendix H.<sup>4</sup> The Stipulating Parties agreed with the Company's  
20 proposal to remove the EE Program expenses from the base revenue  
21 requirement set in this proceeding and that Piedmont should recover these

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4 Note that the Commission's approval of regulatory asset treatment on this matter, in lieu of approval of Piedmont's proposed Appendix H, would defer deliberation of EE Program cost recovery by rate class until Piedmont's next general rate case proceeding.

1 costs through a mechanism other than base rates set in this proceeding.  
2 However the Stipulating Parties have not yet reached agreement on the  
3 details of how that cost recovery should precisely work.

4 The Stipulating Parties agreed that the Commission should allow  
5 Piedmont to join and participate in the affordability stakeholder  
6 collaborative currently being conducted around electric service provided  
7 by Piedmont's affiliates, Duke Energy Progress and Duke Energy  
8 Carolinas. The Stipulating Parties also agree to certain customer-  
9 supportive revisions to Piedmont's model used to calculate the feasibility  
10 of extending natural gas service to its residential and commercial  
11 customers. The Stipulation also supports the undertaking of two studies  
12 proposed in the direct testimony of Public Staff witness Dustin Metz,  
13 which pertain to the breakdown of costs and customer usage between  
14 Piedmont's North Carolina and South Carolina jurisdictions.

15 **Q. Are the adjustments to revenues and rates proposed in the Stipulation**  
16 **fair, just and reasonable?**

17 A. Yes, I believe so. The revenues and rates agreed to as part of the  
18 Stipulation were the product of give and take negotiations between the  
19 Stipulating Parties. Each party analyzed the settlement terms, revenues  
20 and rates and concluded they were reasonable for purposes of settling this  
21 proceeding. The settlement rates are also very beneficial to customers, as  
22 they are significantly lower in comparison to Piedmont's proposed rates in  
23 this docket.

1 **Q. What will be the impact on customers of the stipulated revenue**  
2 **request?**

3 A. In my prefiled Direct Testimony explained that Piedmont's revenue  
4 request, as filed in the Company's application at a total increase of \$109.0  
5 million, would increase Piedmont's annual revenue by approximately \$95  
6 per residential customer (or an average monthly increase of just under  
7 \$8).<sup>5</sup> By comparison, the annual residential customer impact under the  
8 Stipulation excluding the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects, is  
9 approximately \$37 (or an average monthly increase of approximately \$3).<sup>6</sup>  
10 By including the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects as currently  
11 estimated, the annual revenue impact per residential customer under the  
12 Stipulation is approximately \$65 (or an average monthly increase of  
13 approximately \$5.50).<sup>7</sup>

14 **Q. Do you believe that the stipulated revenue and rate increase, including**  
15 **the stipulated ROE, is consistent with the statutory factors identified**  
16 **in G.S. 62-133 and is otherwise fair and reasonable to Piedmont and**  
17 **its customers considering changing economic conditions?**

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5 The calculation of this residential bill impact was shown in footnote 1 of my prefiled Direct Testimony.

6 Line 50 of Settlement Exhibit\_(PKP-1) shows the total revenue requirement increase of approximately \$41.1 million. The Stipulation calls for approximately \$25.7 million of this increase to be borne by the residential class of customers, which now represents approximately 702,600 customers. Therefore, the stipulated revenue increase per residential customer is \$37 (= \$25.7 million ÷ 702,600 customers).

7 Line 50 of Settlement Exhibit\_(PKP-2) shows the total revenue requirement increase of approximately \$74.1 million. The Stipulation calls for approximately \$46.0 million of this increase to be borne by the residential class of customers, which now represents approximately 702,600 customers. Therefore, the stipulated revenue increase per residential customer is \$65 (= \$46.0 million ÷ 702,600 customers).

1 A. Yes, I do, for all of the reasons I mentioned above.

2 **Q. What are you requesting the Commission do in this case?**

3 A. I am requesting that the Commission, on the basis the agreement reached  
4 by the Stipulating Parties and its own independent evaluation of all the  
5 evidence presented in this case, approve the terms of the Stipulation  
6 reached with the Public Staff as just and reasonable and the appropriate  
7 resolution of this case.

8 **Q. Does this conclude your Settlement Testimony?**

9 A. Yes, thank you.



# Settlement Exhibit \_\_ (PKP-1)

**Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**  
Docket No. G-9, Sub 781  
**SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENT ADJUSTMENTS**  
*Excluding Robeson LNG & Pender-Onslow*  
For The Test Year Ended December 31, 2020

Line No.	Item	Settlement
1	<b>Increase in Revenue Requirement as Requested by the Company in its 3/22/2021 Filed Application</b>	<b>\$109,025,725</b>
2	Adjustment to the Company's Request per its 7/28/2021 Update Filing	(12,153,620)
3	<b>Increase in Revenue Requirement as Requested per the Company's Update Filing (Line 1 - Line 2)</b>	<b>\$96,872,105</b>
	<u>Settlement Adjustments to Margin Revenue:</u>	
4	Change in Equity ratio from 52% to 51.60%	(1,935,965)
5	Change in cost of long-term debt from 4.08% to 4.08%	0
6	Change in cost of short-term debt from 0.35% to 0.20%	(46,446)
7	Change in return on equity from 10.25% to 9.60%	(20,743,428)
8	Plant in Service Updates and Related Items	(27,888,796) [1]
9	ADIT - updated balance to June 30, 2021	0
10	Design Day Allocation Change - removed Public Staff adjustment	0
11	Cash working capital - Lead Lag based on pro forma revenues and expenses	(1,046,450)
12	Other working capital - June 30, 2021 updates	0
13	EOP Revenues & Commodity COG - moved to line 47	0
14	Adjustment to other operating revenues	(1,905,124)
15	Adjustment to the Demand Cost of Gas - moved to line 48	0
16	Robeson LNG Adjustment - Lines 456 and 457, land, and operating expenses	(5,189,068) [1]
17	Special Contract (Original Lincoln CT) - remove plant previously recovered through lump sum payment	(111,287)
18	Payroll and Related Expenses	(15,965)
19	Other Benefits	(1,313,594)
20	Pension OPEB LTD Expense	(436,672)
21	Customer Payment Fees	0
22	Board Expenses	(362,829)
23	Executive Compensation	(270,949)
24	Incentive Plans	(367,973)
25	Rate Case Expenses - 4 year amortization, no unamortized balance from G-9 Sub 743	(175,794)
26	Sponsorships & Donations	(63,771)
27	Uncollectibles	(1,015,778)
28	Inflation Adjustment	(160,589)
29	Nonutility Adjustment - operating expenses and rate base	(547,483)
30	Deferral: PIM-T Costs - update actual expenses @ June 30, 2021, 4 year amort, adjusted reg asset EOP bal	(272,957)
31	Deferral: Environmental Costs - update actual expenses @ June 30, 2021, 4 year amort, adjusted reg asset EOP bal	26,407
32	Deferral: PIM-D Costs - update actual expenses @ June 30, 2021, 4 year amort, adjusted reg asset EOP bal	389,477
33	Deferral: Eastern NCNG, 4 year amortization	(138,435)
34	Deferral: Undercollection of Regulatory Fee, 4 year amortization	(54,416)
35	COVID Expense Adjustment	(438,384)
36	Regulatory Fee Expense	3,797
37	Advertising - remove promotional, image, competitive, & non-recurring	(384,905)
38	Aviation Expense	(192,202)
39	Interest on customer deposits	(490)
40	Lobbying Expenses	(76,564)
41	Amortization of Federal protected EDIT, net of tax	1,652,340
42	Change in retention factor - Uncollectibles and Regulatory Fee changes	(88,311)
43	Adjust cash working capital for recommended revenue increase	433,855
44	Rounding	305
45	Total Settlement Adjustments to Margin Revenue (Sum of Lines 4 thru 44)	<u>(62,738,445)</u>
46	<b>Settlement Increase in Margin Revenue (Line 3 + Line 45)</b>	<b>\$34,133,660</b>
47	Decrease in Commodity Cost of Gas - update CU & LAUF factor	(2,035,207)
48	Increase in Demand Cost of Gas - update of fixed gas costs	8,966,494
49	<b>Settlement Increase in COG of Gas Revenues (Line 47 + Line 48)</b>	<b>6,931,287</b>
50	<b>Total Settlement Revenue Requirement Increase (Line 46 + Line 49)</b>	<b>\$41,064,947</b>
	<u>EDIT Rider impacts on Revenue Requirement:</u>	
51	Annual Amount of Federal Unprotected EDIT Rider, 3 year remaining flow back	(\$25,562,970)
52	Annual Amount of State EDIT Rider, 1 year remaining flow back	(22,201,275)
53	Annual EDIT Rider Impact (Line 51 + Line 52)	<u>(\$47,764,245)</u>
54	Change in Revenue Requirement for Year 1, including EDIT Rider Impact (Line 50 + Line 53)	(\$6,699,298) [2]
55	Change in Revenue Requirement for Years 2 & 3, including EDIT Rider Impact (Line 50 + Line 51)	\$15,501,977 [2]
56	Change in Revenue Requirement for Years 4 & thereafter, including EDIT Rider Impact (Line 50)	\$41,064,947 [2]

[1] Excludes the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects

[2] Year 1 = Nov 1, 2021 thru Oct 31, 2022  
Year 2 = Nov 1, 2022 thru Oct 31, 2023  
Year 3 = Nov 1, 2023 thru Oct 31, 2024  
Year 4 = Nov 1, 2024 thru Oct 31, 2025

# Settlement Exhibit \_\_ (PKP-2)

**Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.**  
Docket No. G-9, Sub 781  
**SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENT ADJUSTMENTS**  
Including Robeson LNG & Pender-Onslow  
For The Test Year Ended December 31, 2020

Line No.	Item	Settlement
1	<b>Increase in Revenue Requirement as Requested by the Company in its 3/22/2021 Filed Application</b>	<b>\$109,025,725</b>
2	Adjustment to the Company's Request per its 7/28/2021 Update Filing	(12,153,620)
3	<b>Increase in Revenue Requirement as Requested per the Company's Update Filing (Line 1 - Line 2)</b>	<b>\$96,872,105</b>
	<u>Settlement Adjustments to Margin Revenue:</u>	
4	Change in Equity ratio from 52% to 51.60%	(1,935,965)
5	Change in cost of long-term debt from 4.08% to 4.08%	0
6	Change in cost of short-term debt from 0.35% to 0.20%	(46,446)
7	Change in return on equity from 10.25% to 9.60%	(20,743,428)
8	Plant in Service Updates and Related Items	(254,099) [1]
9	ADIT - updated balance to June 30, 2021	0
10	Design Day Allocation Change - removed Public Staff adjustment	0
11	Cash working capital - Lead Lag based on pro forma revenues and expenses	(1,215,364)
12	Other working capital - June 30, 2021 updates	0
13	EOP Revenues & Commodity COG - moved to line 47	0
14	Adjustment to other operating revenues	(1,905,124)
15	Adjustment to the Demand Cost of Gas - moved to line 48	0
16	Robeson LNG Adjustment - Lines 456 and 457, land, and operating expenses	0 [1]
17	Special Contract (Original Lincoln CT) - remove plant previously recovered through lump sum payment	(111,287)
18	Payroll and Related Expenses	(15,965)
19	Other Benefits	(1,313,594)
20	Pension OPEB LTD Expense	(436,672)
21	Customer Payment Fees	0
22	Board Expenses	(362,829)
23	Executive Compensation	(270,949)
24	Incentive Plans	(367,973)
25	Rate Case Expenses - 4 year amortization, no unamortized balance from G-9 Sub 743	(175,794)
26	Sponsorships & Donations	(63,771)
27	Uncollectibles	(1,015,778)
28	Inflation Adjustment	(160,589)
29	Nonutility Adjustment - operating expenses and rate base	(547,483)
30	Deferral: PIM-T Costs - update actual expenses @ June 30, 2021, 4 year amort, adjusted reg asset EOP bal	(272,957)
31	Deferral: Environmental Costs - update actual expenses @ June 30, 2021, 4 year amort, adjusted reg asset EOP bal	26,407
32	Deferral: PIM-D Costs - update actual expenses @ June 30, 2021, 4 year amort, adjusted reg asset EOP bal	389,477
33	Deferral: Eastern NCNG, 4 year amortization	(138,435)
34	Deferral: Undercollection of Regulatory Fee, 4 year amortization	(54,416)
35	COVID Expense Adjustment	(438,384)
36	Regulatory Fee Expense	3,797
37	Advertising - remove promotional, image, competitive, & non-recurring	(384,905)
38	Aviation Expense	(192,202)
39	Interest on customer deposits	(490)
40	Lobbying Expenses	(76,564)
41	Amortization of Federal protected EDIT, net of tax	1,652,340
42	Change in retention factor - Uncollectibles and Regulatory Fee changes	(88,311)
43	Adjust cash working capital for recommended revenue increase	782,540
44	Rounding	308
45	<b>Total Settlement Adjustments to Margin Revenue (Sum of Lines 4 thru 44)</b>	<b>(29,734,906)</b>
46	<b>Settlement Increase in Margin Revenue (Line 3 + Line 45)</b>	<b>\$67,137,199</b>
47	Decrease in Commodity Cost of Gas - update CU & LAUF factor	(2,035,207)
48	Increase in Demand Cost of Gas - update of fixed gas costs	8,966,494
49	<b>Settlement Increase in COG of Gas Revenues (Line 47 + Line 48)</b>	<b>6,931,287</b>
50	<b>Total Settlement Revenue Requirement Increase (Line 46 + Line 49)</b>	<b>\$74,068,486</b>
	<u>EDIT Rider impacts on Revenue Requirement:</u>	
51	Annual Amount of Federal Unprotected EDIT Rider, 3 year remaining flow back	(\$25,562,970)
52	Annual Amount of State EDIT Rider, 1 year remaining flow back	(22,201,275)
53	<b>Annual EDIT Rider Impact (Line 51 + Line 52)</b>	<b>(\$47,764,245)</b>
54	Change in Revenue Requirement for Year 1, including EDIT Rider Impact (Line 50 + Line 53)	\$26,304,241 [2]
55	Change in Revenue Requirement for Years 2 & 3, including EDIT Rider Impact (Line 50 + Line 51)	\$48,505,516 [2]
56	Change in Revenue Requirement for Years 4 & thereafter, including EDIT Rider Impact (Line 50)	\$74,068,486 [2]

[1] Includes the Robeson LNG and Pender-Onslow projects

[2] Year 1 = Nov 1, 2021 thru Oct 31, 2022  
Year 2 = Nov 1, 2022 thru Oct 31, 2023  
Year 3 = Nov 1, 2023 thru Oct 31, 2024  
Year 4 = Nov 1, 2024 thru Oct 31, 2025