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September 27, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

Re: Docket No. G-9, Sub 752

Dear Ms. Campbell:

Piedmont hereby respectfully submits its Motion to Excuse Witnesses in the above-captioned docket.

Piedmont is also providing, by overnight delivery, fifteen (15) paper copies of this testimony in accordance with Commission Rule R 1-28(e)(1).

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/bms

All Parties of Record CC:

> Brian Heslin Bruce Barkley Pia Powers

DOCKET NO. G-9, SUB 752

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

Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Piedmont" or the "Company"), through counsel, respectfully moves the Commission for an order (1) excusing the appearance of Piedmont witnesses Sarah E. Stabley and MaryBeth Tomlinson at the hearing scheduled in this proceeding for October 1, 2019, and (2) allowing the introduction of all prefiled testimony and exhibits of these witnesses into the record at such hearing. In support of this request, Piedmont respectfully shows unto the Commission as follows:

- 1. This proceeding is Piedmont's annual gas cost review proceeding in which the Commission receives testimony and rules on the prudence of Piedmont's incurrence of gas costs for the 12 months ended May 31, 2019, and the propriety of its accounting for such costs during such period.
- 2. On August 1, 2019, Piedmont prefiled the testimony and exhibits of Sarah E. Stabley, Gennifer J. Raney, and MaryBeth Tomlinson in this proceeding in which these witnesses attested to the prudence of Piedmont's gas costs during the review period and the propriety of its accounting for such costs. On August 16, 2019, Piedmont filed the Supplemental Testimony of MaryBeth Tomlinson.
- 3. On September 26, 2019, Piedmont filed the Rebuttal Testimony and Revised Schedule 9 of witness Tomlinson.

- 4. Based upon a review of the filed testimony, there does not appear to be any matter in dispute between the parties who have filed testimony in this proceeding. Piedmont witness Raney will appear at the hearing and will be prepared to respond to the Commission's questions in this proceeding.
- 5. Counsel for Piedmont has conferred with counsel for the Public Staff and CUCA and is authorized to represent that they agree (a) to waive cross-examination of Piedmont witnesses Stabley and Tomlinson, (b) to consent to the introduction of the prefiled testimony and exhibits of these witnesses into the record without the necessity for the appearance of such witnesses, and (c) to the excusal of Piedmont witnesses Stabley and Tomlinson from appearance at the hearing of this matter.

WHEREFORE, Piedmont respectfully requests that the Commission enter an order (1) excusing the appearance of Piedmont witnesses Stabley and Tomlinson at the hearing scheduled in this docket for October 1, 2019, and (2) accepting the prefiled testimony and exhibits of these witness into the record of this proceeding without requiring their appearance.

Respectfully submitted, this the 27th day of September, 2019.

Piedmont Natural Gas Company, Inc.

<u>s/ James H. Jeffries IV</u> James H. Jeffries IV

OF COUNSEL:

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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 27th day of September, 2019.

<u>/s/ Brooke M. Szymanski</u> Brooke M. Szymanski