BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

In the Matter of the Application of Atmos)	
Energy for Adjustment of its Natural Gas)	Docket No. 19-ATMG-525-RTS
Rates in the State of Kansas)	

JOINT MOTION FOR PROCEDURAL ORDER AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Atmos Energy ("Atmos Energy"), Staff of the Kansas Corporation Commission ("Staff") and the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board ("CURB") (collectively, the "Parties"), move the Kansas Corporation Commission ("Commission") for approval of the proposed procedural order. In support of this Joint Motion, the Parties state as follows:

- 1. On June 28, 2019, Atmos Energy filed an application to increase its base rates.
- 2. On July 2, 2019, CURB filed a petition to intervene. The Commission has not yet issued an order regarding CURB's petition, but the Parties have no objection to the intervention.
- 3. The Parties have discussed and have agreed, subject to obtaining Commission approval, to the proposed procedural order ("Proposed Order"), and the provisions contained therein, which is attached to this Joint Motion as Exhibit A.
- 4. The Parties have previously submitted the proposed order to Mr. Michael Duenes, the hearing officer assigned to this case, for his review and approval, and to confirm the availability of the hearing dates.

WHEREFORE, the Parties move the Commission for an order approving the proposed procedural order and notice of public hearing which is attached hereto.

James G. Flaherty, #11177

ANDERSON & BYRD, LLP

216 S. Hickory ~ P.O. Box 17

Ottawa, Kansas 66067

(785) 242-1234, telephone

(785) 242-1279, facsimile

iflaherty@andersonbyrd.com

James H. Jeffries, IV

McGUIRE WOODS LLP

201 North Tryon Street, Suite 3000 Charlotte, North Carolina 28202 2146

Tel: (704) 343-2348 Fax: (704) 444-8793

jjeffries@mcguirewoods.com

Shelly M. Bass Senior Attorney

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

5430 LBJ Freeway, 1800 Three Lincoln Centre

PO Box 650205

Dallas, Texas 75265-0205

Tel: (972) 855-3756

shelly.bass@atmosenergy.com

Attorneys for Atmos Energy

/s/ Phoenix Anshutz

Phoenix Anshutz

Robert Vincent

Cole Bailey

Litigation Counsel

Kansas Corporation Commission

1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road

Topeka, Kansas 66604 4027

(785) 271-3240, telephone

(785) 271-3167, facsimile

Attorneys for Staff

/s/ David W. Nickel

David W. Nickel Todd E. Love Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board 1500 SW Arrowhead Road Topeka, KS 66604 (785) 271-3200, telephone (785) 271-3116, facsimile

Attorneys for CURB

VERIFICATION

STATE OF KANSAS, COUNTY OF FRANKLIN, ss:

James G. Flaherty, of lawful age, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says he is attorney for Atmos Energy; that he has read the above and foregoing Joint Motion for Procedural Order, knows the contents thereof; and that the statements contained therein are true.

James G. Flaherty

Rouda Rossnau

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 17th day of July, 2019.



Notary Public

Appointment/Commission Expires:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing was served by electronic service on 18th day of July, 2019, to the following parties who have waived receipt of follow-up copies.

Shelly M. Bass Phoenix Z. Anshutz
Shelly.Bass@atmosenergy.com p.anshutz@kcc.ks.gov

Jared N. GeigerCole BaileyJared.Geiger@atmosenergy.comc.bailey@kcc.ks.gov

Joseph R. Astrab

j.astrab@curb.kansas.gov

Michael J. Duenes

m.duenes@kcc.ks.gov

Todd E. Love Robert Elliott Vincent t.love@curb.kansas.gov r.vincent@kcc.ks.gov

David W. Nickel

d.nickel@curb.kansas.gov

James H. Jeffries

jjeffries@mcguirewoods.com

Shonda Rabb s.rabb@curb.kansas.gov

Della Smith d.smith@curb.kansas.gov

James G. Flaherty

BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

Before Commissioners: Dwight D. Keen, Chair

Shari Feist Albrecht Susan K. Duffy

In the Matter of the Application of Atmos)	
Energy for Adjustment of its Natural Gas)	Docket No. 19-ATMG-525-RTS
Rates in the State of Kansas)	

PROPOSED ORDER SETTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

I.	Backg	round Information 1
II.	Proced	dural Schedule
	A.	Prehearing Conference and Evidentiary Hearing
	B.	Public Hearing, Notice and Comment Period

The above captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. Having reviewed the files and records, the Commission makes the following findings and conclusions:

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. On June 28, 2019, Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy") initiated this proceeding by filing an Application to make changes to its charges for natural gas service. Atmos Energy stated it is a natural gas public utility operating in the State of Kansas pursuant to certificates of convenience and necessity issued by the Commission. *Application, June 28, 2019, paragraph 1* (*Application,* ¶1). Atmos Energy's principal place of business within Kansas is located at 25090 West 110th Terrace, Olathe, Kansas 66061. *Application,* ¶1. Atmos Energy stated it provides natural gas service to approximately 135,000 customers in Kansas, including natural gas service to 110 communities and one unincorporated irrigation customers in 32 counties. *Application,* ¶3.

- 2. On July 2, 2019, the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board ("CURB") filed a Petition to Intervene. On ______, the Commission issued an order granting CURB's intervention.
- 3. On July 16, 2019, the Parties filed a Joint Motion proposing a procedural schedule setting deadlines for filing testimony, ending discovery, and submitting briefs, and also scheduling a public hearing and comment period and evidentiary hearing before the Commission. The Parties submitted a proposed procedural order with the Joint Motion. Atmos Energy will submit a proposed notice to customers, which shall be reviewed and approved by the Commission's Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection (PACP).
- 4. With respect to the public hearing, the Commission adopts the Parties recommendation regarding one public hearing to be held in this docket. The public hearing shall be held on September 17, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the KU Edwards Campus Conference Room, 12604 Quivira Road, Overland Park, Kansas. The Commission finds that notice of Atmos Energy's application and the public hearing and comment period be included as a bill insert with the monthly billing statement for each customer in Atmos Energy's service territory, and publication in the major newspapers in the region, and provided electronically to those customers who receive their bills by electronic mail. The Commission further requires Atmos Energy to file an Affidavit confirming notice has been mailed to customers, printed in newspapers, and provided by electronic mail to customers, who receive their bills by electronic mail, no later than September 16, 2019.

II. PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

5. The Commission finds the procedural schedule recommended by the Parties to be reasonable. The Commission adopts the procedural schedule which is as follows:

DATE	TIME	ACTION
Monday, September 16, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Affidavit of Mailing, Publication and Electronic Service
Tuesday, September 17, 2019	6:00 p.m.	Public Hearing
Thursday, October 3, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for Petitions to Intervene
Thursday, October 31, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Staff/Intervenor Testimony Due
Wednesday, November 13, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Cross-Answering Testimony Due
Monday, November 18, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Rebuttal Testimony Due
Friday, November 22, 2019	9:00 a.m.	Settlement Conference
Monday, December 2, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Deadline to Submit Settlement Agreement
Tuesday, December 3, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Deadline to Submit Testimony in Support/Opposition of Settlement Agreement
Tuesday, December 3, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Discovery Motion Cut-Off
Tuesday, December 3, 2019	5:00 p.m.	All Motion Cut-Off
Tuesday, December 3, 2019	9:00 a.m.	Prehearing Conference
Tuesday-Thursday, December 10, 2019 through December 12, 2019	9:00 a.m.	Evidentiary Hearing
Friday, December 13, 2019	5:00 p.m.	Public Comment Period Ends
Wednesday, December 18, 2019	5:00 p.m.	PACP Report of Public Comments Due
Friday, January 3, 2020	5:00 p.m.	Atmos Initial Brief Due
Wednesday, January 15, 2020	5:00 p.m.	Staff/Intervenor Briefs Due
Friday, January 24, 2020	5:00 p.m.	Atmos Reply Brief Due
Monday, February 24, 2020	5:00 p.m.	Commission Order Due

A. <u>Prehearing Conference and Evidentiary Hearing</u>

6. The Commission agrees with the Prehearing Officer that a prehearing conference will be needed before an evidentiary hearing to address any pending matters, to establish procedures to use during the Evidentiary Hearing, and to consider any other prehearing issues that will promote the orderly and prompt conduct of this proceeding. K.S.A. 77-517; K.A.R. 82 1 222. To this end, the Commission sets the Prehearing Conference on December 3, 2019, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the

Commission's Third Floor Hearing Room, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas. Prehearing Officer, Michael Duenes, telephone 785-271-3181, email address m.duenes@kcc.ks.gov, will preside. Any party who fails to attend or participate in the Prehearing Conference or in any other stage of this proceeding may be held in default under the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act ("KAPA"). K.S.A. 77-516(c)(8); K.S.A. 77-520. At the Prehearing Conference, this proceeding without further notice may be converted into a conference hearing or a summary proceeding for disposition of the matter as provided by KAPA. K.S.A. 77-516(c)(7).

- 7. In addition to the Prehearing Conference discussed above, the Commission schedules an Evidentiary Hearing, with the Commission presiding, to begin on December 10, 2019, at 9:00a.m., and continue, as needed and ordered by the Commission, through December 12, 2019, in the Commission's First Floor Hearing Room, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas, telephone 785-271-3100. Any party who fails to attend or participate in the hearing or in any other stage of this proceeding may be held in default under the KAPA. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 77-518(c)(8); K.S.A. 77-520.
 - B. Public Hearing, Notice and Comment Period
- 8. The Commission adopts the recommendation of the Parties and PACP that one public hearing be conducted in this docket as follows:

Tuesday, September 17, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

KU Edwards Campus - Conference Room 12604 Quivira Road, Overland Park, Kansas 66213

Those unable to attend the public hearing in person can watch the hearing live from the KCC website: www.kcc.ks.gov. In the event of technical difficulty or for those unable to watch live, a recording of the hearing will be available on the KCC website beginning September 20, 2019.

9. Notice of Atmos Energy's application and the public hearing and public comment

period shall be included in a bill insert with the monthly billing statement for each customer in Atmos Energy's service territory and provided by electronic mail to those customers who receive their bill by electronic mail. The notice to customers shall be sent to customers at least two (2) days prior to the public hearing.

- 10. The Commission also requires Atmos Energy to provide information to the public about this proceeding by publishing notice in the major newspapers in the region. The Commission orders and directs that notice be published in newspapers approved by the Director of PACP, and that Atmos work with the Director of PACP to determine the timing of publication.
- 11. The Commission encourages the public to submit comments concerning this docket via electronic mail and in writing. The Commission directs that the public comment period begin immediately and end on December 13, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. The Commission desires that its PACP Office provide a report that summarizes public comments received and file a report on or before December 18, 2019, summarizing public comments received.
- 12. In addition, the Commission directs Atmos Energy, CURB and the PACP Office to make information concerning the proceeding more accessible to the public through use of websites. The Commission directs these parties to include on their respective websites links and contact information to assist members of the public in easily identifying how to contact the PACP Office to submit comments and to easily access filings made in the docket. To the extent practicable, parties are encouraged to include background information explaining this proceeding.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. The Commission adopts the procedural schedule recommended in the Report and

Recommendation of Prehearing Officer, as set forth above in paragraph 5.

- B. The Commission schedules the Prehearing Conference for December 3, 2019, beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the Third Floor Hearing Room of the Commission's Offices, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027, as set forth above in paragraph 6. Prehearing Officer Michael Duenes, telephone 785-271-3181, email address m.duenes@kcc.ks.gov, will preside.
- C. The Commission schedules the Evidentiary Hearing, with the Commission presiding, to begin on December 10, 2019, at 9:00 a.m., and continue, as needed and ordered by the Commission, through December 12, 2019, in the First Floor Hearing Room of the Commission's Offices, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027, telephone 785-271-3100, as set forth above in paragraph 7. Any party who fails to attend or participate in the hearing or in any other stage of this proceeding may be held in default under the Kansas Administrative Procedure Act. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 77-518(c)(8); K.S.A. 77-520.
- D. The Commission orders that one public hearing be conducted in this docket, as set forth above in paragraph 8. The public hearing shall be held on September 17, 2019, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the KU Edwards Campus Conference Room, 12604 Quivira Road, Overland Park, Kansas 66061. Those unable to attend the public hearing in person can watch the hearing live from the KCC website: www.kcc.ks.gov. In the event of technical difficulty or for those unable to watch live, a recording of the hearing will be available on the KCC website beginning September 20, 2019.
- E. The Commission orders that Atmos Energy provide the notice to its customers of the public hearings and application through a bill insert included with the monthly billing statement for each customer in its service territory, or by electronic mail to those customers who receive their bill

by electronic mail.

- F. The Commission also orders that Atmos Energy provide general information to the public about this proceeding by publishing notice in the larger newspapers throughout its region, as set forth above in paragraph 10. The Commission directs Atmos Energy to provide a list of newspapers to PACP, for publishing such notice, and work with the Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection to determine the timing of publication and newspapers in which notice will be published.
- G. The Commission encourages the public to submit comments concerning this docket via electronic mail and in writing. The Commission approves the use of websites to make information available and directs that the PACP Office and the Commission's Information Technology Staff work with the parties to further this effort, as set forth above in paragraph 12. In addition, the PACP Office shall receive public comments and provide a summary of those comments, as set forth above in paragraph 11. The public comment period shall end on December 13, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., and the Commission's PACP Office shall submit a report on or before December 18, 2019, summarizing the public comments received.
- H. The Commission orders service of this Order be made by electronic mail, with a note that no hard copy of this Order will follow. This is a procedural order and constitutes nonfinal agency action. K.S.A. 77-607(b)(2). Parties have 15 days from the date of electronic service of this Order in which to petition the Commission for reconsideration. K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 77-529(a)(l).
 - I. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties for the purpose

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.
Keen, Chair; Albrecht, Commissioner; Duffy, Commissioner.
Dated:

of entering such further order or orders as it may deem necessary.

Lynn M. Retz Executive Director