

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the matter of PGA / ACA filing of Atmos)	
Energy Corporation for the West Area (Old)	
Butler), West Area (Old Greeley),)	Case No. GR-2008-0364
Southeastern Area (Old SEMO), Southeastern)	
Area (Old Neelyville), Kirksville Area, and in)	
the Northeastern Area)	

STAFF'S PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and for its Proposed Procedural Schedule, states as follows:

1. On December 28, 2009, the Staff filed its verified Staff Recommendation Regarding Atmos Energy Corporation's Actual Cost Adjustment (Recommendation) for the 2007 – 2008 winter heating period. In preparing its verified Recommendation, the Staff reviewed Atmos' Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) filings. Staff's analysis consisted of a review and evaluation of the Company's billed revenues and its natural gas costs as explained in its twelve page Memorandum, subject: Staff's Recommendation in Atmos Energy Corporation's 2007-2008 Actual Cost Adjustment Filing. The Staff provided its workpapers to Atmos staff in attachments sent via email on January 4, 2010.

2. On December 29, 2009, the Commission issued its order directing Atmos to respond to the Staff's recommendations and proposed adjustments. Atmos timely filed its response on January 28, 2010, and the Commission issued its Order Scheduling a Prehearing Conference on February 11, 2010 for the purpose of developing a procedural schedule.

3. The parties have held discussions on February 11th and February 18th but have been unable to reach an agreement as to a proposed procedural schedule for resolving the dispute in this matter.

4. The Staff proposes the Commission order the following Proposed Procedural Schedule and conditions:

Atmos files Direct Testimony – March 12, 2010

Discovery Issues Period: Staff files Rebuttal Testimony – June 14, 2010

Settlement Conference – June 21-23, 2010

Joint List of Issues – June 25, 2010

Statements of Position – June 30, 2010

Atmos files Surrebuttal Testimony – July 16, 2010

Evidentiary Hearing – September 14-17, 2010

- a) Atmos submits Direct workpapers to include all documents and studies relied on in preparation of Direct testimony within 24 hours of filing Direct.
- b) Staff submits Rebuttal workpapers to include all documents and studies relied on in preparation of Rebuttal testimony within 24 hours of filing Rebuttal.
- c) Data Request response and objections times are shortened after the filing of Atmos Surrebuttal to 5 business days to respond and 3 business days to object. (Day of submittal is not counted).

On setting a date for hearing, the Staff understands that the weeks of September 8 and 16 are open, however, the Laclede hearing dates are in early August, followed by Atmos general rate case hearing dates from mid to end of August.

5. The Staff proposes the above procedural schedule because it allows a proper amount of time for Staff to conduct discovery upon Atmos' filing of its direct testimony. Staff has no need to file direct testimony in this matter because it has adequately supported its

challenge to Atmos' ACA in its verified Recommendation and has nothing further to add to it until the Company comes forward with additional evidence in its direct testimony. Moreover, Staff has provided the Company with its workpapers explaining the affiliate transaction disallowance that is at the heart of this dispute. By giving the Company the opportunity to file a last round of Surrebuttal testimony to rebut Staff's rebuttal testimony, the Staff believes this procedural schedule provides ample due process to all parties and permits an efficient use of administrative resources in creating a clear, uncluttered case file for the Commission's review.

WHEREFORE, for the above stated reasons, the Staff respectfully requests the Commission approve its proposed procedural schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Robert S. Berlin

Robert S. Berlin
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 51709

Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 526-7779 (Telephone)
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)
email: bob.berlin@psc.mo.gov

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 18th day of February 2010.

/s/ Robert S. Berlin