



Heather Shirley Smith  
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January 4, 2016

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire  
Chief Clerk/Administrator  
The Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia SC 29210

Re: Duke Energy Corporation's Acquisition of Piedmont Natural Gas

Dear Mrs. Boyd:

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-260(C)(6)(a)(v), Duke Energy Corporation respectfully requests that the Public Service Commission of South Carolina post the attached "Notice of Request for Allowable Ex Parte Communication Briefing" on its website. We have confirmed that the Commissioners and Commission employees identified in the attached Notice, as well as the Executive Director of the Office of Regulatory Staff are generally available and willing to attend the Briefing as described in the attached Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Heather Shirley Smith".

Heather Shirley Smith

Enclosures

cc: C. Dukes Scott, Executive Director, Office of Regulatory Staff  
Ms. Nanette Edwards, Esq., Office of Regulatory Staff  
Mr. John Flitter, Office of Regulatory Staff  
Mr. Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esq., Office of Regulatory Staff  
Ms. Shannon Bowyer Hudson, Esq., Office of Regulatory Staff

**NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR  
ALLOWABLE EX PARTE COMMUNICATION BRIEFING**

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-3-260(C)(6)(a)(v) (Cum. Supp. 2015), the Public Service Commission of South Carolina hereby provides the following notice of allowable ex parte communication briefing:

Person or Party Requesting the Briefing:

**Duke Energy Corporation  
Piedmont Natural Gas, Inc.**

Date and Time of Briefing:

**January 13, 2016 10:30 a.m.**

Commissioners and Commission Employees  
Requested to Attend the Briefing:

**Chairman, Nikiya “Nikki” Hall  
Vice Chairman, Swain E. Whitfield  
Commissioner John E. “Butch” Howard  
Commissioner Elizabeth B. “Lib” Fleming  
Commissioner Comer H. “Randy” Randall  
Commissioner Elliott F. Elam, Jr.  
Commissioner G. O’Neal Hamilton  
Jocelyn G. Boyd, Chief Clerk/Administrator  
Dr. James Spearman, Executive Assistant  
Joseph Melchers, General Counsel  
David Butler, Senior Counsel  
Randall Dong, Staff Attorney  
Josh Minges, Staff Attorney  
David Stark, Staff Attorney**

Subject Matter to be Discussed at Briefing:

**Duke Energy’s Acquisition of Piedmont Natural  
Gas, Inc.**

Commission Docket No.

**N/A**

The Public Service Commission of South Carolina will post on its website further information from this allowable ex parte communication briefing within 96 hours of its conclusion.