**BEFORE THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**STATE OF GEORGIA**

In Re: Joint Application of Atlanta )

 Gas Light Company, AGL )

 Resources, Inc. and )

 Southern Company ) Dockets No. 39971 and 9574

 For Finding That Merger )

 Complies With Applicable )

 Law. )

PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

 COMES NOW, Walton Energy dba Walton EMC Natural Gas (Walton), pursuant to O. C. G. A. § 46-2-59 and Section 515-2-1-.06(1) of the Rules of the Georgia Public Service Commission (the “Commission”), and hereby moves to intervene and participate as a party of record in the above-captioned Dockets. In support of this Petition Walton shows as follows:

1.

 The Commission opened Docket No. 39971 for the purpose of determining if the intended merger of Atlanta Gas Light Company and AGL Resources, Inc. with Southern Company, Inc. complies with applicable Georgia law.

2.

 On December 15, 2015 the Commission adopted a procedural and scheduling order in these Dockets. This Petition is timely filed pursuant to that procedural and scheduling order.

3.

 Petitioner is a duly certificated marketer of natural gas to the public within the State of Georgia, and as such is required to use the pipeline and storage facilities of Atlanta Gas Light Company and/or AGL Resources, Inc. to deliver its product to customers throughout the state (“AGL pipeline and storage facilities”) and depends upon extensions of these facilities to reach prospective customers. If the intended merger is achieved, these facilities will be owned and operated by Southern Company.

4.

 Consequently, any change in ownership of the AGL pipeline and storage facilities is of critical importance to Petitioner.

5.

 As such, Petitioner has substantial business, property interests and rights that may be affected by the Commission’s determination in this proceeding. Those interests and rights cannot be adequately represented by any other party to these proceedings and the participation of Petitioner will not unduly delay proceedings in these Dockets.

6.

 The names and addresses of the persons representing Petitioner in these Dockets who are authorized to accept service of filings on its behalf are:

 Jim Bottone

 Allen Powers

 Walton EMC Natural Gas

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 WHEREFORE, Walton requests that the Commission grant its Petition to Intervene and that it be allowed to participate as a part of the record in this Docket including the right to receive pleadings, correspondence and other documents served upon its persons of record.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of January, 2016.

 Walton EMC Natural Gas

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 Jim Bottone, Director

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