

Decision No. C23-0391-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23M-0013EG

IN THE MATTER OF A REPOSITORY PROCEEDING FOR THE FILING OF ELECTRIC
AND GAS LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS ANNUAL REPORTS PURSUANT TO RULES 4
CCR 723-3-3412 AND 4 CCR 723-4-4412.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION SCHEDULING A
COMMISSIONERS' INFORMATION MEETING FOR
JUNE 22, 2023**

Mailed Date: June 12, 2023

Adopted Date: June 7, 2023

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. By this Decision, we schedule a Commissioners' Information Meeting (CIM) for June 22, 2023, to continue our consideration of options and resources available to income-qualified residential customers by discussing energy programs offered by utilities, nonprofits, and other state agencies.

B. Background, Findings, and Conclusions

2. Commission Rules 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-3-3412 Rules Regulating Electric Utilities and 4 CCR 723-4-4412 Rules Regulating Gas Utilities and Pipeline Operators establish requirements for Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) programs, also known as Electric or Gas Affordability Programs. Under PIPP programs, electric and gas utilities

may provide income-eligible participants with discounts that prevent their bills from exceeding an affordable percentage of their household income.

3. Proceeding No. 23M-0013EG was opened administratively on January 3, 2023, to serve as a repository for annual reports on PIPP programs as well as to receive the most recent Triennial Evaluation of utilities' PIPP programs pursuant to Electric Rule 3412(k) and Gas Rule 4412(k). The vendor for the 2023 Triennial Evaluation is in the process of being selected and will be addressed by a separate decision.

4. Decision No. C23-0095, issued February 9, 2023, set a scope for this Proceeding which recognized the intent "to initiate a broader conversation about overall efforts to support our most disadvantaged customers at a time when volatile natural gas prices have created significant affordability issues" (§ 1). We explained that we may wish to collect comments or hold CIMs on income-qualified programs to contextualize the findings from the 2023 Triennial Evaluation.

5. On February 22, 2023, we hosted a CIM to discuss utilities' PIPP programs, bill assistance offered through the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program and Energy Outreach Colorado, and to discuss the statement of work for the 2023 Triennial Evaluation.¹ At that CIM, we signaled our intent to follow up that discussion with an additional CIM on energy programs that are currently available to income-qualified residential customers, such as those covering weatherization and other demand-side management efforts, and renewable energy programs. Where those programs are offered by regulated utilities, the CIM will focus on programs that have been previously approved by the Commission. Staff is directed to develop an agenda and invite speakers which may touch on issues like program goals and targets; budgets and funding sources;

¹ Materials can be viewed in this Proceeding and at <https://puc.colorado.gov/cim>.

participation levels; eligibility and enrollment; referrals and coordination across programs and agencies; program administration; outreach and education; and workforce capacity-building, including opportunities that may be available through federal funding.

6. Accordingly, by this Decision, we schedule a virtual CIM on this topic to be held from 1:00 p.m. to no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 22, 2023.

7. Staff will post an agenda for the CIM in E-Filings in advance of the session.

8. The Commission strives to accommodate all members of the public at its hearings and meetings by providing services for foreign language users and persons with disabilities upon receipt of a reasonable accommodation request. Requests for such accommodations should be made by June 16, 2023, by completing the [Language Access Form](#). Requests can also be made directly by contacting Holly Bise at (303)894.2024 or by emailing holly.bise@state.co.us.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. A virtual Commissioners' Information Meeting (CIM) is scheduled as follows to discuss income-qualified residential energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other programs, as discussed above:

DATE: Thursday, June 22, 2023

TIME: 1:00 p.m. to no later than 5:00 p.m.

PLACE: By video conference using Zoom in Hearing Room A.

2. Individuals wishing to view the CIM may view it using the webcast for Hearing Room A, available at:

<http://www.dora.state.co.us/pacific/Webcasts/a.html>

3. This Decision is effective upon its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
June 7, 2023.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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Commissioners

COMMISSIONER MEGAN M. GILMAN
ABSENT