

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23A-0218G

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF COLORADO NATURAL GAS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A NUMBER OF STRATEGIC ISSUES RELATING TO ITS GAS DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
ALENKA HAN
FURTHER AMENDING AND VACATING REMAINDER
OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Mailed Date: November 17, 2023

I. STATEMENT AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

1. Colorado Natural Gas, Inc. (CNG) initiated this matter on May 1, 2023, by filing the above-captioned Application with the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado (PUC or Commission) seeking approval of its 2024-2027 Demand-Side Management (DSM) Strategic Issues Plan (DSM SI Plan) and its 2024-2025 DSM Plan.¹

2. The Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate (UCA), Trial Staff of the Commission, and Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) have intervened in this Proceeding.

3. By Decision No. R23-0499-I, issued August 1, 2023, the undersigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) adopted the parties' proposed procedural schedule, set out below, and set the matter for an evidentiary hearing:

¹ Verified Application of Colorado Natural Gas, Inc., filed May 1, 2023, p. 1.

Answer Testimony	August 31, 2023
Rebuttal/Cross Answer Testimony	September 25, 2023
Prehearing Motions	October 6, 2023
Settlement & Supporting Testimony	October 20, 2023
Corrections, Witness Matrices, & Exhibit Lists	October 27, 2023
EVIDENTIARY HEARING	November 2 and 3, 2023
Statements of Position	November 20, 2023

4. On October 12, 2023, CNG's counsel, Mark Davidson, contacted the undersigned ALJ to advise that the parties had reached a global settlement of all issues raised in this Proceeding. Decision No. R23-0705-I issued October 19, 2023, granted the parties until October 27, 2023, to submit their settlement documents.

5. On October 27, 2023, the parties filed their Comprehensive Joint Settlement Agreement and moved for approval of the settlement.

6. By Decision No. R23-0738-I, issued October 31, 2023, the undersigned ALJ vacated the evidentiary hearing scheduled for November 2 and 3, 2023, and posed several questions regarding the parties' Comprehensive Settlement, which the parties jointly answered on November 15, 2023.

7. However, neither Decision No. R23-0705-I nor Decision No. R23-0738-I amend the procedural schedule to alleviate the parties' burdens to file Statements of Position (SOPs) by November 20, 2023.

8. The ALJ finds and concludes that, in light of the parties Comprehensive Settlement and responses to questions posed regarding the settlement, it is unnecessary for any party to file

an SOP. Consequently, the ALJ will vacate the remainder of the procedural schedule and eliminate the deadline for the parties to file SOPs.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The remainder of the procedural schedule adopted by Decision No. R23-0499-I, issued August 1, 2023, is vacated.
2. Statements of Position, which would have been due November 20, 2023, are no longer due in this Proceeding, and no party is required to file a Statement of Position.
3. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ALENKA HAN

Administrative Law Judge