

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24R-0078GPS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES REGULATING
PIPELINE OPERATORS AND GAS PIPELINE SAFETY, 4 CODE OF COLORADO
REGULATIONS 723-11, TO IMPLEMENT HOUSE BILL 23-1216 AND SENATE BILL 23-285.

**INTERIM DECISION ESTABLISHING DEADLINES
FOR ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS**

Issued Date: June 27, 2024

I. STATEMENT

A. Background

1. On February 21, 2024, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission initiated this proceeding by issuing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“NOPR”) to amend the Rules Regulating Pipeline Operators and Gas Pipeline Safety.¹ The NOPR proposed changes to the Rules 11001, 11008, and 11206, described those changes in detail and the justification therefor, attached the Rules in legislative (*i.e.*, strikeout/underline) format and in a clean version, established deadlines of March 22, 2024 and April 5, 2024 for initial comments and response comments concerning the proposed rules, respectively, and scheduled a remote hearing for April 15, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. for oral comments regarding the proposed rules. The NOPR also referred this proceeding to an Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”). The proceeding was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ.

¹ Decision No. C22-0099.

2. Black Hills Colorado Gas, Inc., doing business as Black Hills Energy (“Black Hills”), Colorado Natural Gas, Inc. (“CNG”), and Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service”) filed initial comments. Black Hills, Atmos Energy Corporation, Public Service, and the Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate filed response comments.

3. At 11:30 a.m. on April 15, 2024, the ALJ held the public comment hearing noticed in the NOPR. The ALJ discussed the proposed rules and the initial and response comments with the participants at the hearing. During the remote public comment hearing on April 15, 2024, the undersigned ALJ announced the continuation of the hearing.

4. On May 28, 2024, the ALJ issued Decision No. R24-0351-I that memorialized the continuance of the proceeding to June 24, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.

5. On June 24, 2024, the continued remote public comment hearing took place as scheduled. At the conclusion of the hearing, the ALJ established deadlines of July 11, 2024 and July 18, 2024 for further initial and responsive comments on the issues addressed at the June 24, 2024 continued remote public comment hearing.

B. Additional Written Comments

6. Interested persons may submit pre-filed comments regarding the issues addressed at the June 24, 2024, continued remote public comment hearing by July 11, 2024, and pre-filed comments responsive to the initial comments by July 18, 2024. The Commission will consider all submissions, whether oral or written. The Commission prefers that comments be filed using its E-Filing System at <https://www.dora.state.co.us/pls/efi/EFI.homepage>.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The deadlines to submit pre-filed comments and responsive comments regarding the issues addressed at the June 24, 2024, continued remote public comment hearing are July 11, 2024 and July 18, 2024, respectively.

2. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CONOR F. FARLEY

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca E. White".

Rebecca E. White,
Director