

Decision No. R20-0713-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 20A-0190G

IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED APPLICATION OF BLACK HILLS COLORADO GAS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A NATURAL GAS DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2021, 2022 AND 2023.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
ROBERT I. GARVEY
GRANTING UNOPPOSED MOTION
TO EXTEND DEADLINE TO FILE A SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT AND SUPPORTING TESTIMONY**

Mailed Date: October 7, 2020

I. STATEMENT

1. On May 1, 2020, Black Hills Colorado Gas, Inc., doing business as Black Hills Energy (Black Hills) filed a Verified Application for approval of a natural gas demand side management (DSM) plan for calendar years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

2. On May 19, 2020, Colorado Public Utilities Commission Trial Staff filed a Notice of Intervention as of Right, Entry of Appearance, Notice Pursuant to Rule 1007(a), and Request for Hearing.

3. On June 2, 2020, the Colorado Office of Consumer Counsel filed an Intervention and Request for a Hearing.

4. On June 3, 2020, the Colorado Energy Office filed its Notice of Intervention by Right.

5. On June 3, 2020, Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) filed its Motion to Intervene and Entry of Appearance. EOC states that it has a tangible and pecuniary interest in ensuring that it may efficiently and effectively administer its low-income DSM services.

6. During its weekly meeting on June 17, 2020, the Commission referred this matter to an Administrative Law Judge.

7. The procedural history of this proceeding is set out in previous Decisions and is repeated here as necessary to put this Decision in context.

8. On September 25, 2020, the Parties filed their Notice of Settlement, Unopposed Joint Motion to Vacate Hearing and Request for Waiver of Response Time (Joint Motion). In the Joint Motion, the Parties agreed to file a Settlement Agreement and any supporting testimony by October 19, 2020.

9. On September 29, 2020, by Decision No. R20-0693-I, the Joint Motion was granted.

10. On October 6, 2020, Black Hills filed its Unopposed Motion to Extend Deadline to File Settlement Agreement and Supporting Testimony (Unopposed Motion). In the Unopposed Motion, Black Hills states that it has agreed to modify its DSM Plan to introduce 400 virtual and 100 in-home audits annually as one of the terms of the settlement agreement. Black Hills issued a request for proposal (RFP) to contract with a third-party to perform these audits. Black Hills states that additional time is needed to allow for the receipt of bids to the RFP and to develop the updated DSM Plan.

11. Good cause is found to grant the Unopposed Motion.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The Unopposed Motion to Extend Deadline to File Settlement Agreement and Supporting Testimony filed on October 6, 2020, is granted and response time is waived.
2. The Parties shall file their Settlement Agreement and any supporting testimony by close of business on October 30, 2020.
3. The Parties shall be held to the advisements in this Decision.
4. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ROBERT I. GARVEY

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Dean".

Doug Dean,
Director