

Decision No. C23-0656

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23L-0467G

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING IT TO ADJUST ITS GAS COST RECOVERY RATES ON LESS THAN STATUTORY NOTICE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023.

**COMMISSION DECISION AUTHORIZING
REVISIONS OF GAS RATES**

Mailed Date: September 27, 2023
Adopted Date: September 27, 2023

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statements

1. On September 15, 2023, Atmos Energy Corporation (Atmos or Applicant) filed a verified application to update its Gas Cost Adjustment (GCA) rates. Atmos seeks a Commission order authorizing it, without a formal hearing and on less-than-statutory notice, to place into effect on October 1, 2023 a tariff resulting in an increase to its existing natural gas rates on file with the Commission.

2. The proposed tariff is attached to the application and affects the Applicant's customers in its three Colorado GCA zones.

3. Atmos acknowledges that it has read and agrees to abide by the provisions of Rules 4002(b)(IV) through (VI) and Rules 4002(b)(XI)(A) through (C) of the Rules Regulating Gas Utilities and Pipeline Operators, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-4.

4. This application for authority to change GCA rates is made pursuant to 4 CCR 723, Rule 4602, which covers the GCA application process.

B. Findings of Fact

5. The Applicant is an operating public utility subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission and is engaged in, *inter alia*, the purchase, distribution, transportation, and sale of natural gas for domestic, mechanical, or public uses in its North, Southeast, and Southwest rate areas in the State of Colorado.

6. Rule 4602(a) provides that Atmos and Public Service Company of Colorado “shall file with the Commission annual GCA applications with an effective date of October 1.”

7. The purpose of the revisions of the Applicant's gas rates is to effectuate increases for all three zones: North, Southeast and Southwest, in the level of natural gas costs charged to Applicant's customers as of October 1, 2023.

8. The effect of the above revisions is an overall increase of \$19,685,789 to the Applicant's customers in its three Colorado GCA zones. Specifically, the effect of the revisions is an increase of \$13,310,894 to customers in the North zone; an increase of \$1,765,133 to customers in the Southeast Colorado Division; and an increase of \$4,609,762 to Applicant's customers in the Southwest Colorado Division, on an annualized basis.

9. The proposed tariff is attached as Appendix A.

10. Pursuant to Rule 1206(f)(I), Rules of Practice and Procedure 4 CCR 723-1, Atmos acknowledges its obligation to publish notice of the subject filing within three days after the filing of this application.

11. The Commission finds good cause to allow the proposed increase on less-than-statutory notice.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The verified application filed by Atmos Energy Corporation (Atmos) on September 15, 2023, is deemed complete.

2. Atmos is authorized to file, on not less than two days' notice; the tariff attached as Appendix A and made a part of this Decision. The tariff shall be effective for actual gas sales on or after their effective date of October 1, 2023.

3. The 20-day time period provided by § 40-6-114, C.R.S., to file an application for rehearing, reargument, or reconsideration shall begin on the first day after the effective date of this Decision.

4. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
September 27, 2023.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

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

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners