

**THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE
STATE OF COLORADO**

**GAS COST ADJUSTMENT (GCA) RULES
4 CODE OF COLORADO REGULATIONS (CCR) 723-8**

BASIS, PURPOSE, AND STATUTORY AUTHORITY.

The purpose of these Rules is to: 1) establish a standardized process that enables gas utilities to reflect changes in the cost of gas commodity and Upstream Services in the rates charged for sales gas and gas transportation service; and 2) establish a standardized process for the review of such costs by the Commission and other interested parties. These Rules are promulgated pursuant to the power to regulate public utilities delegated to the Commission by Article XXV of the Colorado Constitution and by §§ 40-2-108, 40-3-102, 40-3-111, and 40-5-103, C.R.S. These Rules are not intended to restrict management's exercise of reasonable judgment in procuring gas commodity or Upstream Services.

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RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-1. APPLICABILITY.

These Rules shall apply to all gas utilities in the State of Colorado engaged in the provision of sales gas and/or gas transportation services subject to the Commission's jurisdiction under the Public Utilities Law, C.R.S. §40-1-101, *et seq.*

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-2. OVERVIEW.

These Rules provide instructions for the filing of: 1) Gas Cost Adjustment ("GCA") applications pursuant to Rules 4.1 through 4.8; 2) annual Gas Purchase Plan ("GPP") submittals pursuant to Rules 5.1 through 5.3; and 3) annual Gas Purchase Reports ("GPR") pursuant to Rules 6.1 through 6.3. Utilities subject to these Rules shall make the required filings pursuant to the following schedule:

723-8-2.1 October 1 Filing Schedule. Public Service Company of Colorado, K N Energy, Inc., Peoples Natural Gas Company, and Citizens Utilities Company shall file annual GCA applications with an effective date of October 1 with the Commission. Additional GCA applications may also be filed as necessary. The GPR, for the preceding Gas Purchase Year in which a GPP was filed, shall be filed as a separate filing at the same time as the annual GCA application to be effective October 1. The GPP submittal shall be filed annually on or before June 1 for the next Gas Purchase Year beginning July 1.

723-8-2.2 **November 1 Filing Schedule.** Greeley Natural Gas Company, Rocky Mountain Natural Gas Company, Rocky Mountain Natural Gas Division of K N Energy, Inc., Eastern Colorado Utility Company, ComFurT Gas Company, Colorado Natural Gas Company, and any other gas utility shall file annual GCA applications with an effective date of November 1 with the Commission. Additional GCA applications may also be filed as necessary. The GPR, for the preceding Gas Purchase Year in which a GPP was filed, shall be filed as a separate filing at the same time as the annual GCA application to be effective November 1. The GPP submittal shall be filed annually on or before June 1 for the next Gas Purchase Year beginning July 1.

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-3. DEFINITIONS.

723-8-3.1 Account No. 191. An account under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission System of Accounts, as required by Rule 25 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, used to accumulate actual gas supply costs, and corresponding actual revenues in a given period, such as a Gas Purchase Year, resulting in a net under- or over-recovery to be amortized in the next GCA Effective Period.

723-8-3.2 Base Gas Cost. A rate component, expressed in at least the accuracy of one mil (\$0.001) per Mcf or Dth, used in the calculation of the GCA which reflects the cost of gas commodity and Upstream Services included in the utility's Base Rates for sales gas and gas transportation service.

723-8-3.3 Base Rates. The utility's currently effective rates for sales gas and gas transportation service as authorized by the Commission in the utility's last general rate case.

723-8-3.4 Commission. The Colorado Public Utilities Commission.

723-8-3.5 Current Gas Cost. A rate component of the GCA, expressed in at least the accuracy of one mil (\$0.001) per Mcf or Dth, which reflects the cost of gas commodity and Upstream Service projected to be incurred by the utility during the GCA Effective Period. See Rule 4.7.2

723-8-3.6 Deferred Gas Cost. A rate component of the GCA, expressed in at least the accuracy of one mil (\$0.001) per Mcf or Dth, designed to amortize over the GCA Effective Period the under- or over-recovered gas costs reflected in the utility's Account No. 191 or other appropriate costs for a defined period such as a Gas Purchase Year. See Rule 4.7.3.

723-8-3.7 Dekatherm ("Dth"). A measurement of gas commodity heat content. One Dekatherm is the energy equivalent of 1,000,000 British Thermal Units.

723-8-3.8 Forecasted Design Peak Day Quantity. The total quantity of gas commodity anticipated to be required to meet maximum sales gas and gas transportation service demand on the utility's system on a Peak Day.

723-8-3.9 Forecasted Gas Commodity Cost. The cost of gas commodity, including appropriate adjustments for storage gas injections and withdrawals and exchange gas imbalances, projected to be incurred by the utility during the GCA Effective Period, determined by using Forecasted Gas Purchase Quantity and Forecasted Market Prices.

723-8-3.10 Forecasted Gas Purchase Quantity. The quantity of gas commodity the utility anticipates it will purchase during the GCA Effective Period, based upon the Forecasted Sales Gas Quantity, adjusted for system gas loss, use, or other anticipated variances.

723-8-3.11 Forecasted Market Prices. Index Prices, fixed prices or other gas contracting price options used in the calculation of the Forecast Gas Commodity Cost.

723-8-3.12 Forecasted Sales Gas Quantity. The quantity of gas commodity projected to be sold by the utility during the GCA Effective Period, based upon the Normalized, historic quantity of gas commodity sales, adjusted for anticipated changes.

723-8-3.13 Forecasted Upstream Service Cost. The total cost of Upstream Services projected to be incurred by the utility during the GCA Effective Period.

723-8-3.14 Gas Commodity Throughput. The amount of gas commodity flowing through the utility's jurisdictional natural gas facilities.

723-8-3.15 Gas Cost Adjustment ("GCA"). A gas rate adjustment, filed on an expedited basis, to reflect increases or decreases in gas costs, such as the cost of gas commodity or Upstream Services. See Rules 4.1 through 4.7.

723-8-3.16 GCA Effective Period. The period of time that the GCA rate change is intended to be in effect. See Rule 4.4.

723-8-3.17 Gas Purchase Plan ("GPP"). A submittal with supporting exhibits as prescribed by these Rules which describes the utility's planned purchases of gas commodity and Upstream Services to be used to meet sales gas and gas transportation demand. See Rules 5.1 through 5.3.

723-8-3.18 Gas Purchase Report ("GPR"). A report to be filed with the Commission that contains the exhibits prescribed by these Rules and describes the utility's actual purchases of gas commodity and Upstream Services in order to meet sales gas and gas transportation demand. See Rules 6.1 through 6.3.

723-8-3.19 Gas Purchase Year. A twelve-month period from July 1 through June 30.

723-8-3.20 Gas Transportation Service. The delivery of gas commodity on the utility's pipeline system pursuant to

any of the utility's gas transportation rate schedules on file with the Commission.

723-8-3.21 Index Price. A published figure identifying a representative price of gas commodity available in a geographic area during a specified time interval (i.e., daily, weekly, or monthly).

723-8-3.22 Mcf. One thousand cubic feet of gas. One cubic foot of gas is the amount of gas which occupies a volume of one cubic foot at standard conditions of 14.73 pounds per square inch absolute and 60 degrees Fahrenheit, or as specified in the utility's currently effective tariff.

723-8-3.23 Mil. One-tenth of one cent, (\$0.001).

723-8-3.24 Normalized. The process of adjusting gas quantities to reflect normal historic temperature as defined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

723-8-3.25 Peak Day. A defined period (such as a 24 hour period, or 3 consecutive day average) during which Gas Commodity Throughput is at its maximum level on the utility's system.

723-8-3.26 Receipt Point/Area. That point or group of points in a discrete geographic area, such as a supply basin, hub, or market area, where the utility acquires title to the gas commodity purchased.

723-8-3.27 Sales Gas Service. The jurisdictional, regulated, sale of gas commodity by the utility to customers on the utility's jurisdictional gas distribution system.

723-8-3.28 Service Level. The type or level of gas supply service contracted for by the utility based upon the respective obligations of the supplier to deliver and sell, and the utility to take and purchase gas commodity. For example, a "base load" Service Level would require the supplier to deliver and sell gas at a specified contract quantity for a specified period of time; whereas a "swing"

Service Level would require the supplier to deliver and sell quantities of gas within a range of minimum and maximum contract quantities for a specified period of time.

723-8-3.29 Upstream Services. Includes all transmission, gathering, compression, balancing, treating, processing, storage and like services performed by others under contract with the utility for the purpose effectuating delivery of gas commodity to the utility's jurisdictional natural gas facilities.

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-4. GAS COST ADJUSTMENTS.

723-8-4.1 **Purpose of the GCA.** The purpose of the GCA is to enable utilities, on an expedited basis, to reflect increases or decreases in gas costs, such as the cost of the gas commodity and Upstream Services, to be recovered in addition to the Base Gas Cost component of the utility's currently effective Base Rates. Costs related to gas price volatility risk management for jurisdictional gas supply may be included for recovery through the GCA, if allowed by tariffs, subject to the prudence review standard.

723-8-4.2 **GCA Filing Requirements.** GCAs shall be filed in the form of an application that complies with Rule 41(e) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Specific exhibits or other information may be filed under seal, ~~accompanied by a motion for protective order in accordance with Rule 7.~~ An original and ~~15~~ 10 copies of the GCA application, including Exhibits specified in Rule 4.7, shall be filed pursuant to the schedule provided in Rules 2.1 through 2.2. GCA applications shall be filed not less than two weeks in advance of the proposed effective dates to allow for adequate investigation by the Commission. Exhibits 2, 3, 5 and 6 shall also be provided electronically (on a DOS-formatted 3½-inch computer diskette, or other acceptable method), utilizing a spreadsheet software that is compatible

with software being used by the Commission Staff. If the projected gas costs, such as the cost of gas commodity or Upstream Services, changes from those used to calculate the currently effective Current Gas Cost, or if a utility's Deferred Gas Cost balance increases or decreases sufficiently, the utility may file an application to revise its currently effective GCA to reflect such changes, provided that the resulting change to the GCA equates to at least one cent (\$0.01) per Mcf or Dth.

723-8-4.3 Applicability of the GCA. The GCA shall be applied to all utility sales gas rate schedules. Utilities engaged in the provision of Gas Transportation Service may calculate a GCA that may be applied to gas rate schedules in order to reflect appropriate costs, such as the cost of pipeline balancing or back-up supply or other similar services acquired on behalf of gas transportation customers. Absent a Commission decision, utilities engaged in the provision of Gas Transportation Service shall not be required to calculate a transportation GCA factor.

723-8-4.4 GCA Effective Period. The period during which the Gas Cost Adjustment is proposed to be in effect before being superseded upon the effective date of the next scheduled GCA. For annual GCAs, the GCA expected Effective Period will be the 12-month period beginning October 1 or November 1, as the case may be, pursuant to the schedule prescribed in Rules 2.1 and 2.2.

723-8-4.5 Interest on Under- or Over-Recovery. The amount of net interest accrued on the average monthly balance in Account No. 191 (whether positive or negative), determined by multiplying the monthly balance by an interest rate equal to the Commission authorized customer deposit rate for gas utilities. If net interest is positive, it will be excluded from the calculation of the Deferred Gas Cost.

723-8-4.6 **Calculation of the GCA.** The GCA shall be calculated to at least the accuracy of one mil (\$0.001) per Mcf or Dth pursuant to the following formula: **GCA = (Current Gas Cost + Deferred Gas Cost) - (Base Gas Cost).**

723-8-4.7 **Contents of GCA Applications.** All GCA applications shall contain the exhibits specified in Rules 4.7.1 through 4.7.9. Exhibits specified in Rules 4.7.10 through 4.7.12 shall be filed with the annual GCA application specified in Rules 2.1 and 2.2. These exhibits shall be organized in a manner that specifically references, and responds to, the requirements contained in each of these Rules. Cross-referenced and footnoted work-papers fully explaining the amounts shown in each exhibit shall also be provided. Additionally, all GCA applications shall cross-reference the docket numbers of the associated GPP submittals.

723-8-4.7.1 **GCA Exhibit No. 1 - GCA Summary.** This exhibit shall illustrate: 1) the impact the utility's currently effective GCA has on each sales gas customer class and, when applicable, the gas transportation rate class from a total dollar and mil (\$0.001, minimum) per Mcf or Dth basis; 2) the impact the utility's proposed GCA has on each sales gas customer class and, when applicable, gas transportation rate class on a total dollar and mil (\$0.001, minimum) per Mcf or Dth basis, and 3) the percent change in total bill for a customer of average usage for each sales gas customer class. This percent change in total bill calculation shall include an itemization of the monthly service and facility charge, base rates and GCA commodity components, and all other tariffed charges on the customer bill.

723-8-4.7.2 **GCA Exhibit No. 2 - Current Gas Cost Calculation.** This exhibit shall contain the calculation of the Current Gas Cost and shall provide month-by-month information with respect to the Forecasted Gas Commodity Cost,

Forecasted Gas Purchase Quantity, Forecasted Market Prices, Forecasted Upstream Service Cost, and Forecasted Sales Gas Quantity. Current Gas Cost shall be calculated at least to the accuracy of the nearest mil (\$0.001) per Mcf or Dth according to the following formula: **Current Gas Cost = (Forecasted Gas Commodity Cost + Forecasted Upstream Service Cost) / Forecasted Sales Gas Quantity.** All such information shall correspond to, and be presented in a format comparable with, the information forecasted in the utility's GPP submittal, as required pursuant to Rules 5.3.1 through 5.3.4.

723-8-4.7.3 **GCA Exhibit No. 3 - Deferred Gas Cost Calculation.** This exhibit shall contain the calculation of Deferred Gas Cost and shall provide month-by-month information detailing the activity in Account No. 191, Interest on Under- or Over-Recovery, and all other included gas costs. Deferred Gas Cost shall be calculated as the aggregate total of the under- or over-recovered gas costs reflected in the utility's Account No. 191, or other approved gas costs, recorded at the close of business for each month of the period at issue, such as the previous Gas Purchase Year, plus Interest on Under- or Over-Recovery (if net amount is negative), divided by Forecasted Sales Gas Quantity. Deferred Gas Cost shall be calculated at least to the accuracy of the nearest mil (\$0.001) per Mcf or Dth. Each cost a utility desires to be included in the Deferred Gas Cost calculation shall be itemized and clearly identified and itemized for applicability to the period at issue. Annual GCA applications, filed pursuant to the schedule provided in Rules 2.1 through 2.2, shall reflect actual deferred costs for the most recent period ending June 30, or as otherwise approved by the Commission.

723-8-4.7.4 **GCA Exhibit No. 4 - Base Gas Cost.** This exhibit shall contain the tariff pages which illustrate the Base Gas Cost component of the utility's currently

effective Base Rates for Sales Gas Service and, where applicable, Gas Transportation Service.

723-8-4.7.5 **GCA Exhibit No. 5 - Forecasted Gas Transportation Demand.** This exhibit applies only to utilities that have a GCA component within their authorized rates for Gas Transportation Service. This exhibit shall provide the following information: 1) a forecast of Gas Commodity Throughput attributable to Gas Transportation Service for each month of the GCA Effective Period; and 2) a forecast of firm backup supply demand quantities under the utility's firm Gas Transportation Service agreements for each month of the GCA Effective Period. All demand forecast information shall be provided on an Mcf or Dth basis.

723-8-4.7.6 **GCA Exhibit No. 6 - Current Gas Cost Allocations.** This exhibit shall fully explain and justify the methodology used to: 1) allocate the costs associated with the gas commodity and Upstream Services to each specific sales gas customer class and, where applicable, gas transportation customer rate class; and 2) derive the amount of the GCA applied to each specific sales gas customer class and, where applicable, gas transportation customer rate classes.

723-8-4.7.7 **GCA Exhibit No. 7 - Customer Notice.** This exhibit shall provide the form of notice to customers and the public concerning the utility's proposed GCA change as required pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The customer notice for each sales gas customer class shall include: 1) current and proposed rates, 2) percentage changes for an average annual total bill, and 3) a projected peak winter month total bill.

723-8-4.7.8 **GCA Exhibit No. 8 - Components of Delivered Gas Cost.** This exhibit shall detail the itemized components of delivered gas cost to the customer (rate), per Rule 4 CCR 723-4-10 (e).

723-8-4.7.9 **GCA Exhibit No. 9 - Proposed Tariff.**

This exhibit shall contain the tariff sheets proposed by the utility to reflect the proposed GCA change.

723-8-4.7.10 **GCA Exhibit No. 10 - Rate Base.** This exhibit shall calculate the used and useful rate base assets employed by the utility for Commission-regulated gas operations for the most recently completed twelve-month period ending June 30. The rate base shall reflect the regulatory principles authorized by the Commission in the utility's most recent general rate case, including all required pro forma adjustments. An explanation of all pro forma adjustments shall be provided.

723-8-4.7.11 **GCA Exhibit No. 11 - Net Operating Earnings.** This exhibit shall calculate the utility's net operating earnings for Commission-regulated gas operations during the most recently completed twelve-month period ending June 30. The calculation of net operating earnings shall reflect the regulatory principles authorized by the Commission in the utility's most recent general rate case, including all required pro forma adjustments. An explanation of all pro forma adjustments shall be provided.

723-8-4.7.12 **GCA Exhibit No. 12 - Capital Structure and Cost of Capital.** This exhibit shall calculate the following information for the most recently completed twelve-month period ending June 30: 1) the utility's capital structure for Commission-regulated gas operations; 2) the utility's cost of long-term debt and preferred equity; 3) the utility's cost of common equity; and 4) the utility's weighted average cost of capital. The calculation of capital structure and the cost of various components of weighted average cost of capital shall reflect the regulatory principles authorized by the Commission in the utility's most recent general rate case, including all required pro forma

adjustments. An explanation of all pro forma adjustments shall be provided.

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-5. GAS PURCHASE PLANS.

723-8-5.1 **Purpose of the GPP.** The purpose of the GPP is to describe the utility's plan for purchases of gas commodity and Upstream Services in order to meet the forecasted demand for Sales Gas Service and Gas Transportation Service during each month of the Gas Purchase Year. In the GPP, the utility shall submit to the Commission the utility's: 1) forecasted quantity of gas to be purchased over the ensuing Gas Purchase Year for each Service Level; 2) forecasted pricing for each Receipt Point/Area; and 3) portfolio management plan.

723-8-5.2 **GPP Filing Requirements.** The GPP shall be filed as a "submittal for determination of completeness of GPP". This filing shall include the docket caption: "In the matter of Gas Purchase Plans and Gas Purchase Reports for [utility] for the gas purchase year from July 1, [year] through June 30, [year]."

723-8-5.2.1 **Number of Copies and Other Filing Procedures.** An original and 10~~15~~ copies shall be filed. Specific exhibits or other information may be filed under seal, ~~accompanied by a motion for protective order in accordance with Rule 7.~~ Under this filing provision: 1) a docket number shall be assigned, 2) a hearing on the substance or approval of the GPP shall not be held, 3) interventions by interested parties shall not be entertained, 4) the filing of testimony and other exhibits shall not be required, and discovery shall not be permitted.

723-8-5.2.2 **Review Timelines.** Staff of the Commission shall review the pleading and provide written notification of any deficiencies to the utility within 15 calendar days. The utility shall file the requested

information, or a written statement indicating that the utility believes the additional information is not required, within 15 calendar days after the date of the Staff notification. Upon receipt of final information, or written statement, Staff will place the submittal on the agenda for consideration at the next available Commissioners' weekly meeting. If the Commission fails to mail its determination on completeness on the status of the submittal within 15 calendar days of receipt of final information or written statement, the submittal shall automatically be deemed complete. This submittal shall be reviewed solely for completeness, *i.e.*, compliance with the information requirements of these Rules. The Commission shall not render a decision approving or disapproving the substantive information contained in this filing.

723-8-5.2.3 Utilities with Multiple GCA Rate Areas. A utility with more than one GCA rate area in Colorado must provide a separate GPP for each GCA rate area. These GPPs may be filed in a single submittal.

723-8-5.2.4 GPP No Longer Reflects Market Conditions. To the extent that the currently effective GPP no longer reflects market conditions or the utility's planned purchasing practices, the utility shall file a new GPP no later than 30 days after filing the GPR.

723-8-5.3 Contents of the GPP. A GPP submittal shall contain the exhibits specified in Rules 5.3.1 through 5.3.4. These exhibits shall be organized in a manner that specifically references, and responds to, the requirements contained in each of these Rules. Cross-referenced and footnoted work-papers fully explaining the amounts shown in each exhibit shall also be provided.

723-8-5.3.1 GPP Exhibit No. 1 - Gas Purchase Schedule. This exhibit shall provide a forecast of the

specific gas commodity supplies, segregated by Receipt Point/Area, that the utility plans to purchase in order to meet forecasted sales gas demand during each month of the applicable Gas Purchase Year.

723-8-5.3.2 **GPP Exhibit No. 2 - Market Pricing**

Description. For each specific Receipt Point/Area, this exhibit shall provide an estimate of applicable ranges of forecast Index Prices, short-term fixed prices (one-year, or other appropriate term), and other relevant pricing options, as applicable to the portfolio management plan described in Rule 5.3.3.

723-8-5.3.3 **GPP Exhibit No. 3 - Portfolio**

Management Plan. This exhibit shall provide a plan stating how the utility plans to manage its gas supply portfolio for the Gas Purchase Year. This exhibit shall also include a description and analysis of the options the utility considered or will consider, and the steps the utility has taken or will take to reduce customers' risk of gas price volatility for the Gas Purchase Year. To the extent a utility proposes to use gas price volatility risk management tools, this exhibit shall include a description of the utility's policy for implementing such risk management tools.

723-8-5.3.4 **GPP Exhibit No. 4 - Forecasted**

Upstream Service Costs. This exhibit shall provide the following information for each month of the applicable Gas Purchase Year: 1) an itemized list of all Upstream Services, by provider and service level or rate schedule, and associated costs the utility expects to purchase in order to meet sales gas and gas transportation demand; 2) a comparison of Forecasted Design Peak Day Quantity with all sources of delivery capacity available to the utility, including forecasted Upstream Services, forecasted gas commodity to be

purchased directly into the utility's pipeline system (i.e., city gate purchases) on a firm basis, and the utility's own gas storage facilities; 3) a comprehensive explanation of the utility's forecasted level of planned Upstream Service purchases; and 4) forecasted capacity release volumes and revenues for Upstream Services.

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-6. GAS PURCHASE REPORTS.

723-8-6.1 **Purpose of the GPR.** The purpose of the GPR is to present the utility's actual purchases of gas commodity and Upstream Services during each month of the Gas Purchase Year. The Commission shall use information provided in the GPR ~~shall be used by the Commission to~~ make an initial evaluate evaluation of the prudencey of the utility's actual costs of purchasing gas commodity and Upstream Services during the Gas Purchase Year. If the Commission decides to initiate a prudence review hearing, it shall do so by written order within 120 days of the filing of the GPR. The prudence review may result in tariff or rate changes that could affect different classifications of customers.

723-8-6.2 **GPR Filing Requirements.** A GPR shall be filed under the previous year's GPP Docket number (filed approximately 15 months previously), as a separate filing, at the same time as the annual GCA application pursuant to the schedule provided in Rules 2.1 and 2.2. An original and 1015 copies shall be filed. Specific exhibits or other information may be filed under seal, ~~accompanied by a motion for protective order in accordance with Rule 7.~~ The utility shall include a statement in its GCA notice that it also filed a Gas Purchase Report for the period specified.

723-8-6.3 **Contents of the GPR.** A GPR shall contain the exhibits specified in Rules 6.3.1 through 6.3.4. These

exhibits shall be organized in a manner that specifically references, and responds to, the requirements contained in each of the these Rules. Cross-referenced and footnoted work-papers fully explaining the amounts shown in each exhibit shall also be provided. All underlying support documentation and work papers shall be made available.

723-8-6.3.1 **GPR Exhibit No. 1 - Actual Gas Commodity Purchases.** This exhibit shall provide, in a format comparable to the information provided pursuant to Rule 5.3.1, the quantities of, and actual invoice costs of, specific gas commodity supplies, segregated by Receipt Point/Area which the utility purchased in order to meet actual sales gas and gas transportation demand during the Peak Day and for each month of the Gas Purchase Year.

723-8-6.3.2 **GPR Exhibit No. 2 Description of Actual Market Prices.** This exhibit shall provide, in a format comparable to the information provided pursuant to Rule 5.3.2, actual Index Prices, short-term fixed prices (one-year, or other appropriate term), and other relevant pricing options for each specific receipt point area, as applicable to the portfolio management plan described in rules 5.3.3 and 6.3.3

723-8-6.3.3 **GPR Exhibit No. 3 - Actual Portfolio Purchases.** This exhibit shall provide, in a format comparable to the information provided pursuant to Rule 5.3.3, a comparison of the utility's portfolio management plan and the results actually achieved through the implementation of this plan or modification thereto, in order to demonstrate the prudence of actual portfolio purchases, in accordance with the standard of review specified in Rule 8. This exhibit shall include a detailed itemization of gas price volatility risk management costs, including a projection of such costs, if applicable.

723-8-6.3.4 **GPR Exhibit No. 4 - Actual Upstream Service Costs.** This exhibit shall provide, in a format comparable to the information provided pursuant to Rule 5.3.4, the following information for each month of the Gas Purchase Year: 1) an itemized list of the Upstream Services the utility actually purchased in order to meet sales gas and gas transportation demand; 2) an itemized listing of the specific costs the utility incurred to purchase Upstream Services; 3) actual Peak Day demand experienced by the utility during the Gas Purchase Year; 4) an itemized list of capacity release volumes and revenues; and 5) an explanation of, and justification for, any material deviations from the Upstream Services forecasted to be purchased by the utility in its GPP pursuant to the requirements of Rule 5.3.4.

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-7. CONFIDENTIALITY.

723-8-7.1 **Protective Order.** ~~A Commission protective order in the same form as contained in 4 CCR 723-10, or as otherwise modified by the Commission, shall govern access to all confidential information contained in the utility's GCA application filed pursuant to Rules 4.1 through 4.7; the utility's GPP filed pursuant to Rules 5.1 through 5.3; and the utility's GPR filed pursuant to Rules 6.1 through 6.3.~~ The Commission's Rules relating to the claim of confidentiality of information, 4 CCR, 723-16 shall apply to all filings required by these Gas Cost Adjustment Rules. In addition to Rule 4 CCR, 723-16, for each exhibit filed by the utility under Rules 4 CCR-723-8 as confidential, the utility shall provide, at a minimum, a version of the exhibit with publicly available information.

~~723-8-7.2 **Number of Copies to be Filed.** An original plus six copies of the specific exhibits or other information~~

~~requested to be filed as confidential must be filed under seal, in individual envelopes, clearly marked with the applicant's name, caption of the application and Docket number. Contemporaneously therewith, applicant shall file an original plus 15 copies of a motion for protective provisions concerning the material applicant holds as confidential.~~

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-8. PRUDENCE REVIEW STANDARD.

For purposes of GCA recovery, the standard of review to be utilized by the Commission in assessing the action (or lack of action) of a utility in a specific Gas Purchase Year shall be whether the action (or lack of action) of a utility was reasonable in light of the information known, or which should have been known, at the time of the action (or lack of action).

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-9. BURDEN APPLICABILITY OF PROOF.

If the Commission elects to hold a hearing, the utility shall have the burden of proof and the burden of going forward to establish the reasonableness of actual gas commodity and Upstream Service costs incurred during the review period. The utility shall file its testimony and exhibits supporting gas cost recovery for the Gas Purchase Year at issue, to meet the Prudence Review Standard, Rule 8. The testimony shall be filed in question-and-answer format, not later than 15 days after the expiration the intervention period established by the Commission for such hearing.

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-10 MONITORING OF ACCOUNT NO. 191 BALANCE.

Each utility shall monitor the net under- or over-recovery balance in Account No. 191 on a monthly basis. On a quarterly basis, or as otherwise established individually for a utility, each utility shall provide a report to the Commission within 30 days of the end of each quarter stating

the Account No. 191 balance calculation for each rate area. Reports shall include the Account No. 191 balance information specified in Rule 4.7.3 (GCA Exhibit 3) and shall be filed under one common docket number, established by the Commission to receive Account 191 No. balance filings from all utilities. In addition, if the monthly change in the Account No. 191 balance (whether positive or negative) for any GCA rate area exceeds 50% of the monthly average of actual gas purchase costs for the twelve months prior to the month at issue for the GCA rate area, the utility shall provide a written explanation to the Commission within 30 days of the end of the month at issue. The explanation shall detail the reason for any price and volume variance from the gas purchase forecast. In addition, the explanation shall identify any corrective action that the utility is pursuing. If the utility management believes no corrective action is necessary, the explanation should explain why corrective action is not necessary.

RULE (4 CCR) 723-8-11. GENERAL WAIVER PROVISION.

Utilities may seek a waiver of any provision contained herein by filing an application pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.