

Decision No. C23-0266

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23L-0174G

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.

**COMMISSION DECISION AUTHORIZING
REVISIONS OF GAS RATES**

Mailed Date: April 26, 2023

Adopted Date: April 26, 2023

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statements

1. On April 12, 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 May 1, 2023, a tariff resulting in an overall decrease 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 4603(c) provides that if the projected gas costs have changed from those used to calculate the currently effective 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.

7. The purpose of the revisions of the Applicant's gas rates is to effectuate decreases for Atmos' GCA zones, in the level of natural gas costs charged to the Applicant based on prices to be in effect as of May 1, 2023.

8. The effect of the above revisions is an overall decrease of \$31,043,321 to the Applicant's customers in its three Colorado GCA zones. Specifically, the effect of the revisions is a decrease of \$20,923,955 to customers in the North zone; a decrease of \$6,630,900 to customers in the Southeast Colorado Division; and a decrease of \$3,488,466 to Applicant's customers in the Southwest Colorado Division.

9. The proposed tariff, attached as Appendix A, will decrease total annual revenues by \$31,043,321.

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 overall decrease on less-than-statutory notice.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The verified application filed by Atmos Energy Corporation (Atmos) on April 12, 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 May 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
April 26, 2023.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Harris Adams".

G. Harris Adams,
Interim Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

Commissioners

COMMISSIONER TOM PLANT ABSENT