

Decision No. C23-0623-I

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

PROCEEDING NO. 23AL-0443G

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IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 35 FILED BY BLACK HILLS COLORADO GAS, INC. DOING BUSINESS AS BLACK HILLS ENERGY TO DECREASE THE GAS COST ADJUSTMENT RATE, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2023.

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**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING  
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF NOTICE**

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Mailed Date: September 15, 2023

Adopted Date: September 13, 2023

**I. BY THE COMMISSION**

**A. Statement, Findings, and Conclusions**

1. On August 31, 2023, Black Hills Colorado Gas, Inc. (Black Hills or Company) filed a Motion for Approval of Alternative Forms of Notice (Motion) to apply to the tariff changes in the Gas Cost Adjustment (GCA) that Black Hills seeks to implement pursuant to Advice Letter No. 35 including approval of its quarterly GCA to take effect on October 1, 2023. Through Advice Letter No. 35, Black Hills seeks to amend its GCA calculation inputs and tariff language on Tariff Sheet Nos. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, 65, 67 and R6 of its Colorado P.U.C. No. 1 Tariff. The proposed tariff amendments will modify the GCA rate, GT-1 rate, and FL&U rate effective October 1, 2023

2. Black Hills moves pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., and Rule 1207(b), 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-1 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and

Procedure, to provide alternative forms of notice for the Company's filing to its customers. Black Hills requests Commission approval to use the following forms of notice:

- Filing with the Commission and keeping open for public inspection new schedules stating plainly the changes to be made in the schedules then in force and the time when the changes will go into effect in Advice Letter No. 35.
- Posting on Black Hills' website: (1) a Customer Notice attached to Advice Letter No. 35 as Attachment No. 7 and (2) Advice Letter No. 35 and its accompanying schedules, for thirty (30) days beginning within one week after the filing of Advice Letter No. 35.
- Printing a message on each applicable customer's bill providing the website URL for the Customer Notice and Advice Letter No. 35 and its accompanying schedules, as well as a toll-free phone number for assistance, beginning within one week after the filing of Advice Letter No. 35.
- Publishing the Customer Notice, with size dimensions of four columns width and 11 inches height, in *The Denver Post*, a newspaper of general circulation for the service territory. The Customer Notice will be published on one occasion, within ten (10) days of the date of the Motion.

3. Black Hills maintains that good cause exists for the Commission to approve the proposed alternative forms of notice and that it will avoid incurring the expenses that is entailed in other forms of statutory notice. The Company concludes the proposed alternative forms of notice will be sufficient to alert affected and interested parties to the tariff changes the Company is proposing, including by providing notice of the estimated impact on average customers.

4. Pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., and 4 CCR 723-1-1207(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a utility may request to provide alternative forms of notice of a tariff change. We find the alternative forms of notice the Company proposes in the Motion will provide sufficient notice to its customers and will do so efficiently. We therefore find good cause to approve the alternative forms of notice that the Company requests.

**II. ORDER**

**A. It Is Ordered That:**

- 1. The Motion for Approval of Alternative Forms of Notice, filed by Black Hills Colorado Gas, Inc., on August 31, 2023, is granted.
- 2. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING  
September 13, 2023.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

Commissioners

Rebecca E. White,  
Director

COMMISSIONER TOM PLANT  
ABSENT