

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23A-0218G

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF COLORADO NATURAL GAS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A NUMBER OF STRATEGIC ISSUES RELATING TO ITS GAS DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
ALENKA HAN
AMENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Mailed Date: October 19, 2023

I. STATEMENT AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

1. Colorado Natural Gas, Inc. (CNG) initiated this matter on May 1, 2023, by filing the above-captioned Application with the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado (PUC or Commission) seeking approval of its 2024-2027 Demand-Side Management (DSM) Strategic Issues Plan (DSM SI Plan) and its 2024-2025 DSM Plan.¹

2. On May 3, 2023, the Commission sent out a Notice of Application Filed (Notice) to interested persons. The Notice stated that CNG “is seeking a Commission decision within 250 days.”²

3. After the Commission’s issuance of the Notice, the following entities filed Interventions as of right in this Proceeding:

¹ Verified Application of Colorado Natural Gas, Inc., filed May 1, 2023, p. 1.

² Notice of Application Filed by Colorado Natural Gas, Inc., May 3, 2023, p. 1.

- The Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate (UCA) filed its Notice of Intervention of Right, Request for Hearing and Entry of Appearances on May 18, 2023; and
- Trial Staff of the Commission filed its Notice of Intervention as of Right, Entry of Appearance, Notice Pursuant to Rule 1007(a) and Rule 1401, and Request for Hearing on May 25, 2023.

4. In addition, Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) filed an Unopposed Motion to Intervene and Entry of Appearance in this Proceeding on June 2, 2023.

5. On June 21, 2023, the Commission by minute order deemed the Application complete and assigned the Proceeding to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for disposition. The Proceeding was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ.

6. By Decision No. R23-0498-I, issued July 31, 2023, the undersigned ALJ granted EOC's Unopposed Motion to Intervene and acknowledged the Interventions of Right filed by Commission Staff and UCA.

7. Based on this Decision and the notices, the parties to this proceeding are CNG, Commission Trial Staff, UCA, and EOC.

8. On July 27, 2023, the parties informally advises the undersigned ALJ by email that they had agreed to a proposed procedural schedule to govern this Proceeding.

9. By Decision No. R23-0499-I, issued August 1, 2023, the undersigned ALJ adopted the parties’ proposed procedural schedule, set out below, and set the matter for an evidentiary hearing:

Answer Testimony	August 31, 2023
Rebuttal/Cross Answer Testimony	September 25, 2023
Prehearing Motions	October 6, 2023
Settlement & Supporting Testimony	October 20, 2023
Corrections, Witness Matrices, & Exhibit Lists	October 27, 2023
EVIDENTIARY HEARING	November 2-3, 2023
Statements of Position	November 20, 2023

10. On October 12, 2023, CNG’s counsel, Mark Davidson, contacted the undersigned ALJ to advise that the parties had reached a global settlement of all issues raised in this Proceeding. However, Mr. Davidson indicated that it would be difficult for the parties to complete, execute, and file the settlement documents by the current October 20, 2023, deadline. He therefore requested that the procedural schedule be amended to grant the parties until October 27, 2023, to submit their settlement documents.

11. The ALJ finds and concludes that a one-week extension for the parties to file and/or submit their settlement documents with the Commission is reasonable and appropriate. There are four parties involved in this Proceeding, and obtaining the approval and signatures of all parties takes time. The ALJ will therefore amend the procedural schedule to reflect that settlement documents are due on or before October 27, 2023.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The procedural schedule adopted by Decision No. R23-0499-I, issued August 1, 2023, is amended.
2. Settlement documents that were due by October 20, 2023, under the procedural schedule adopted by Decision No. R23-0499-I are now due on or before **October 27, 2023**.
3. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ALENKA HAN

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

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

Rebecca E. White,
Director