

Decision No. C24-0873

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23A-0633G

IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED APPLICATION OF BLACK HILLS COLORADO GAS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2024-2028 CLEAN HEAT PLAN.

**COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING UNOPPOSED
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Issued Date: November 26, 2024

Adopted Date: November 20, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On December 29, 2023, Black Hills Colorado Gas, Inc. (“BHCG” or the “Company”) filed its Verified Application seeking approval of its 2024-2028 Clean Heat Plan.

2. Through this Decision, the Commission grants the Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time (“Motion”), filed by Colorado Energy Office (“CEO”) on November 19, 2024. As such, any responses to Exceptions filed in this Proceeding are due no later than December 5, 2024.

B. Discussion, Findings and Conclusions

3. Through Recommended Decision No. R24-0784 (“Recommended Decision”), Administrative Law Judge Alenka Han approved the Settlement Agreement filed jointly by BHCG, Trial Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (“Staff”), and CEO (“Settlement Agreement”). Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (“SWEEP”), the only other party to the Proceeding, objected to the approval of the Settlement Agreement. The Recommended Decision

approved the Settlement Agreement without modification and granted BHCG's Approval for its Clean Heat Plan, as modified by the Settlement Agreement.

4. The Recommended Decision sets a 20-day deadline for exceptions pursuant to § 40-6-109, C.R.S. Any exceptions were due on November 18, 2024, and any responses to exceptions are due on December 2, 2024.

5. On November 18, 2024, SWEEP filed exceptions to the Recommended Decision. SWEEP argues, among other things, that the Settlement is fundamentally flawed because it does not include any beneficial electrification, may lead to more emissions than BHCG's 2015 baseline, and relies on an impermissibly large amount of renewable natural gas and advanced leak detection.

6. On November 19, 2024, CEO filed its Motion. CEO argues that because state offices are closed November 28 and 29, 2024, and due to pre-scheduled travel for the CEO team, good cause exists to extend the deadline for responses to SWEEP's exceptions to December 5, 2024. The Motion is unopposed, and CEO requests a waiver of response time.

7. We find good cause to extend grant the Motion pursuant to Commission Rule 1400(b), 4 *Colorado Code of Regulations* 723-1. Any responses to SWEEP's exceptions shall be filed no later than December 5, 2024.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time, filed by Colorado Energy Office on November 19, 2024, is granted. Any responses to Exceptions filed in this Proceeding are due no later than December 5, 2024, consistent with the discussion above.

2. This Decision is effective immediately upon its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
November 20, 2024.**

(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