

Decision No. R24-0565-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24M-0261G

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S EXAMINATION OF GAS SYSTEM FORECASTING, MAPPING, AND COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISION NO. C24-0092 ADDRESSING THE INAUGURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO.

**INTERIM DECISION OF HEARING COMMISSIONER
MEGAN M. GILMAN
ISSUING QUESTIONS RELATED TO JULY 18 GAS LOAD
FORECASTING WORKSHOP**

Issued Date: August 6, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. By Decision No. C24-0376 issued on June 4, 2024, the Commission opened this Proceeding to examine Public Service Company of Colorado's ("Public Service" or the "Company") gas system load forecasting, mapping, and non-pipeline alternative cost benefit analysis. The three topics were identified in Decision C24-0092 issued on February 23, 2024, in Proceeding No. 23M-0234G (the "GIP Decision") as areas in which the Commission wanted to see progress prior to the filing of the Company's next Gas Infrastructure Plan ("GIP"). The Commission designated Commissioner Megan M. Gilman as Hearing Commissioner pursuant to § 40-6-101(2), C.R.S.

2. This Decision sets forth follow-up questions and data requests following the first workshop to aid in the understanding of available data and processes to improve gas load forecasting. The questions and data requests are directed to Public Service, the Colorado Energy

Office, the City and County of Denver, and the City of Boulder (collectively referred to as the “Workshop Participants”), as well as any other stakeholders with information or insights that could be helpful to the Commission in this effort. The questions and data requests presented here are intended to build on the discussions that were had in the workshop held on July 18, 2024, in which the Workshop Participants, together with Hearing Commissioner Megan M. Gilman, discussed factors affecting Public Service’s gas load forecasting in advance of its 2025 Gas Infrastructure Plan filing. The Workshop Participants and any other stakeholders able to participate are requested to file responses to the questions presented in Attachment A to this decision by August 31, 2024. While comments are welcome at any time in this miscellaneous proceeding, timely submission of comments will ensure they are able to be considered in subsequent activities within the proceeding.

B. Discussion, Findings, and Conclusions

3. Recommended Decision No. R24-0480-I explains the purpose of this Proceeding is to identify, develop, and express the Commission’s expectations regarding certain substantive areas which the Commission identified as needing further development in the Public Service’s most recent GIP proceeding. As outlined in the GIP Decision, the Commission plans to use workshops involving invited stakeholder participants to assist in achieving this stated purpose.

4. On July 18, 2024, Hearing Commissioner Gilman held a workshop in which the Workshop Participants presented and discussed, among other related topics, the magnitude and local aspects of the criteria listed in Rule 4553(b) of the Commission’s Rules Regulating Gas Utilities, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (“CCR”) 723-1, in the Company’s future gas load forecasts. Based on these discussions, Hearing Commissioner Gilman has developed a series of questions and data requests intended to further facilitate, develop, and refine the Commission’s understanding of the available information related to the Company’s gas load forecasting.

5. The questions are provided as Attachment A to this Decision. These questions arise from the discussions and presentations in the July 18 gas load forecasting workshop and are intended to solicit comments from the Workshop Participants who participated in that workshop as well as any other stakeholders and interested persons.

6. Workshop Participants and other interested persons may also file general comments at any time related to the main objectives of this Proceeding as stated in Decision No. C24-0376: (1) gas load forecasting; (2) system mapping; and (3) non-pipeline alternative cost benefit analysis.

7. The Workshop Participants as identified in Attachment A to this Decision, are requested to file responses to the questions therein in this Proceeding no later than August 31, 2024.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. Consistent with the discussion above, Workshop Participants are requested to file responses to the questions included in Attachment A to this Decision no later than August 31, 2024.

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

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

MEGAN M. GILMAN

Hearing Commissioner

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

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

Rebecca E. White,
Director