

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25M-0269G

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENTS, DATA, AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH POTENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD-SCALE ALTERNATIVES PROJECTS TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO AND GAS PLANNING PILOT COMMUNITIES PURSUANT TO HOUSE BILL 24-1370.

**COMMISSION DECISION OPENING A
MISCELLANEOUS REPOSITORY PROCEEDING**

Issued Date: June 20, 2025

Adopted Date: June 18, 2025

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. House Bill (“HB”) 24-1370 established a process by which Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service” or the “Company”) can partner with Gas Planning Pilot Communities to mutually explore opportunities for neighborhood-scale alternatives projects.

2. This Decision opens a repository proceeding to receive the list of Gas Planning Pilot Communities that establish agreements with Public Service pursuant to § 40-3.3-102(3), C.R.S., and to collect data and information related to potential neighborhood-scale alternatives projects addressed in § 40-3.3-102(5), C.R.S., both statutes enacted by HB 24-1370.

B. Discussion, Findings, and Conclusions

3. Section 40-3.3-102(3), C.R.S., requires Public Service to submit to the Commission by October 1, 2025, a list of each Gas Planning Pilot Community with which the Company has established an agreement that: (1) identifies the roles and responsibilities of the Company and the

Gas Planning Pilot Community in identifying neighborhood-scale alternatives projects; (2) identifies time frames for each party to furnish data or respond to requests for data from the other party; (3) includes any necessary waivers of Commission rules to facilitate data transfer between the parties; (4) includes a process to address conflicts between the two parties; and (5) indicates whether the Gas Planning Pilot Community has demonstrated an interest in pursuing thermal energy network or geothermal energy projects.¹

4. In accordance with § 40-3.3-102(2)(a), C.R.S., Public Service and the Colorado Energy Office jointly filed in Proceeding No. 25D-0183G a list of five proposed Gas Planning Pilot Communities and a draft agreement on April 30, 2025.

5. We find good cause to open this Proceeding to receive the list of each Gas Planning Pilot Community with which the Company establishes an agreement. We further direct Public Service to submit in this Proceeding a copy of the final agreements established with each Gas Planning Pilot Community.

6. Section 40-3.3-102(5)(a), C.R.S., further requires Public Service to provide the Commission with certain data and information to inform the evaluation of potential neighborhood-scale alternatives projects with the Gas Pilot Planning Pilot Communities. For example, no later than June 1, 2026, in accordance with § 40-3.3-103(2)(a)(I), C.R.S., Public Service and each community will jointly file for Commission approval of at least one initial neighborhood-scale alternatives project, along with a list of projects that will continue to be evaluated with the communities. Similarly, by June 1, 2027, the Company and communities will jointly file for approval of one or more projects within the Gas Planning Pilot Communities, or shall file a report explaining why certain projects are not being pursued. The data and information

¹ The elements of the agreement are set forth in § 40-3.3-102(2)(a), C.R.S.

required to be provided to the Commission pursuant to § 40-3.3-102(5)(a), C.R.S., include: (1) the location of any planned gas infrastructure projects in the Gas Planning Pilot Community within the six-year gas project planning forecast in Public Service's most recently approved Gas Infrastructure Plan² or identified by the Company for inclusion in a future Gas Infrastructure Plan³ to the extent available; and (2) the following information regarding the planned gas infrastructure projects:

- The project name;
- The project category, consistent with the planned projects categories described in applicable Commission rules;
- A description of the general scope of work and an explanation of the need for the project, including any applicable code requirements of the United States Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration;
- The projected life of the project;
- An indication of whether the project is presented as a Gas Infrastructure Plan "action period project" or a Gas Infrastructure Plan "informational period project" pursuant to applicable Commission rules;
- The anticipated: construction start date for the project; construction period for the project, including an indication of any construction phases; and in-service date for the project;
- The cost-estimate classification for the project, using the Company's cost estimate or an industry-accepted cost-estimate; classification index; support for the cost-estimate classification; and the total cost estimate for the project;
- The technical details of the project, such as the physical equipment characteristics of the proposed facilities, pipeline length, pipeline diameter, project materials, and maximum allowable operating pressure;

² Public Service filed its initial Gas Infrastructure Plan in Proceeding No. 23M-0234G in a Miscellaneous Proceeding that was not fully adjudicatory. The Commission therefore rendered no decision approving the Company's initial Gas Infrastructure Plan.

³ On May 23, 2025, Public Service filed an application for approval of its 2025-2030 Gas Infrastructure Plan in Proceeding No. 25A-0220G.

- The project location and an illustrative map of the gas distribution system facilities, subject to necessary confidentiality provisions, including: the pressure district or geographic area that requires the proposed facilities, the existing and proposed regulator stations and existing and proposed distribution piping and higher capacity pipelines served by or representing the proposed facilities, the locations of any nearby disproportionately impacted communities, and any other information necessary to allow the local government to make a thorough evaluation of the project;
- The number of customers, annual sales, and design peak demand requirements, disaggregated by customer class, potentially directly impacted or served by the project;
- Any permits required for work on the project to begin; and
- Any environmental requirements associated with completion of the project.

7. We also find good cause to open this Proceeding to receive the data and information addressed in § 40-3.3-102(5)(a), C.R.S. In accordance with these statutory provisions, the data and information shall be specific to projects located within a Gas Planning Pilot Community (and not simply a refiling of an entire Gas Infrastructure Plan) and shall be filed in this Proceeding no later than seven days after such data information is provided to a Gas Planning Pilot Community when the communities are evaluating potential neighborhood-scale alternatives projects.⁴

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. This repository Proceeding is opened to receive the list of each Gas Planning Pilot Community with which Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service”) establishes an agreement pursuant to § 40-3.3-102(3), C.R.S. Consistent with the discussion above, Public Service shall submit a copy of the final agreements established with each Gas Planning Pilot Community.

⁴ For clarity, Public Service is required to file in this Proceeding the data and information addressed in § 40-3.3-102(5)(a), C.R.S. Additional information provided to a Gas Planning Pilot Community pursuant to its agreement with the Company or otherwise in accordance with in § 40-3.3-102(5)(b), C.R.S, is not required to be filed in this Proceeding.

2. Consistent with the discussion above, this repository Proceeding is opened also to receive the data and information addressed in § 40-3.3-102(5)(a), C.R.S.

3. This Decision is effective upon its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
June 18, 2025.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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Commissioners