

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25A-0414G

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR APPROVAL TO EXTEND AND MODIFY THE COMPANY'S GAS QUALITY OF SERVICE PLAN TO BE EFFECTIVE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2029.

**INTERIM DECISION
GRANTING INTERVENTIONS; EXTENDING THE TIME
FOR A COMMISSION DECISION; AND ADOPTING
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Issued Date: December 17, 2025

I. STATEMENT

1. On October 1, 2025, Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service” or the “Company”) filed an application to modify and to extend its Gas Quality of Service Plan (“Gas QSP”) through 2029.

2. The Company proposes modifications to the performance benchmarks for Damages Locates and Grade 2 Leak Repair Times of the Gas QSP metrics; the continuation of the Gas Emergency Response Time metrics; new non-penalized metrics; supplemental non-penalized reporting addressing stakeholder concerns; associated Gas QSP tariff changes; and authorization for the Company to file a compliance tariff on at least two business days’ notice after receiving the final Commission decision in this proceeding.

3. On October 9, 2025, the Colorado Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate (“UCA”) filed an Intervention as of Right and Request for Hearing. The UCA lists a series of issues they wish to explore in this proceeding.

4. On November 17, 2025, Trial Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (“Staff”) filed an Intervention as of Right and Request for Hearing. Staff lists in its intervention some areas of inquiry it intends to examine.

II. PARTIES TO THE PROCEEDING

A. Interventions of Right

5. Staff and the UCA filed timely notices of intervention by. In their filings, they outline several issues they plan to address in this Proceeding and request a hearing.

6. Pursuant to Rule 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-1-1401(b) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, no decision is required in response to appropriately filed notices of intervention by right. The notices of intervention of right are acknowledged. Staff and the UCA are parties to this Proceeding.

III. TIME TO ISSUE A FINAL COMMISSION DECISION

7. Under § 40-6-109.5(1), C.R.S., when a party files testimony with an application, the Commission must issue a final decision within 120 days after the application is deemed complete, unless the Commission finds that additional time is necessary, in which case, this deadline may be extended by an additional 130-days.¹ If the Commission does not make a determination that an application is complete within 15 days of the application’s notice period’s expiration, and otherwise does not find that the application is not complete or that more information is necessary, the application is automatically deemed complete.²

¹ § 40-6-109.5(1), C.R.S.

² Rule 1303(c)(IV), 4 CCR 723-1.

8. The Commission deemed the Application complete on November 19, 2025. Because the Company filed testimony with its Application, the Commission must issue a final decision within 120 days unless the Commission finds that additional time is necessary.

9. This does not allow enough time for the parties to develop the record and to conduct discovery; to hold an evidentiary hearing; for a recommended decision to issue; for the parties to file exceptions; and for the Commission to address exceptions and issue a final decision. For these reasons, the ALJ finds that additional time is necessary, and therefore extends the statutory deadline for a final Commission decision by 130 days, as allowed by § 40-6-109.5(1), C.R.S.

IV. PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE FOR REMOTE HEARING

10. Through informal communications the Parties proposed the following procedural schedule:

Answer Testimony	February 20, 2026
Rebuttal/Cross Answer Testimony	March 23, 2026
Prehearing Motions	March 24, 2026
Stipulations/Settlement Agreement	March 26, 2026
Corrections	March 30, 2026
Matrix/Settlement Testimony/Exhibit List	April 2, 2026
Responses to Prehearing Motions	April 7, 2026
Hearing	April 9-10, 2026
Statements of Position	April 22, 2026

11. The proposed procedural schedule and discovery procedures are acceptable and shall be adopted.

12. The discovery procedures contained in Commission Rule 1405 shall govern this proceeding.

13. The hearing shall be held remotely.

14. Commission Rules 1100 and 1101 shall govern Confidential and Highly Confidential information.

V. REMOTE EVIDENTIARY HEARING

15. A hearing in the above-captioned proceeding shall be scheduled for April 9-10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. as a remote hearing. At the remote hearing, the parties may call witnesses, present evidence, and make arguments in support of their position. Evidence includes documentary exhibits, testimony, and other tangible items that a party wishes the ALJ to consider in reaching a decision as to the allegations in this case.

16. Attachment A to this Decision provides the information addressing how to use the Zoom platform for remotely participating in the remote hearing. Attachment B outlines procedures and requirements for marking and formatting exhibits to facilitate the efficient and smooth electronic evidence presentations at the remote hearing. It is extremely important that the parties carefully review and follow all requirements in this Decision and Attachments A and B.

17. To minimize the potential that the video-conference part of the hearing may be disrupted by non-participants, the link, meeting ID code, and passcode to attend the hearing will be provided to the participants by email before the hearing, and the participants will be prohibited from distributing that information to anyone not participating in the hearing.

A. Unified Numbering System for Hearing Exhibits

18. The Public Utilities Commission Administrative Hearings Section uses box.com to receive and manage exhibits that are first presented in this type of hybrid evidentiary hearing.

19. As such, it is essential that the parties ensure they are able to access and use box.com prior to the evidentiary hearing. To this end, the parties will be provided box.com links and instructions to: (a) upload exhibits for use during the hearing; and (b) download exhibits once they are presented during the hearing.

20. Each party must (a) pre-mark all hearing exhibits with a hearing exhibit number within their assigned number block before uploading the exhibits to the party's designated box.com folder; (b) sequentially page-number each page of exhibits longer than two pages, with the first page number as page 1, regardless of content, before uploading the exhibits to the party's designated box.com folder; and (c) upload all pre-marked exhibits into each party's respective designated box.com folder prior to the presenting them during the hearing.

21. Attachment B outlines procedures and requirements for marking and formatting exhibits aimed at facilitating efficient and smooth electronic evidence presentations at the remote hearing. It is very important that the parties carefully review and follow all requirements in this Decision and Attachments A and B.

22. To efficiently organize the numbering and preparation of exhibits for the hearing, the parties shall use a unified numbering system for all hearing exhibits. Blocks of hearing exhibit numbers are assigned as follows:

- Public Service is assigned hearing exhibit numbers 100 to 299;
- UCA is assigned hearing exhibit numbers 300 to 399;
- Staff is assigned hearing exhibit numbers 400 to 499.

VI. ORDER

It is Ordered That:

1. Consistent with the above discussion, the deadline for a final Commission decision to issue in this Proceeding is extended by 130 days, per § 40-6-111, C.R.S.

2. The Colorado Public Utilities Commission Trial Staff and the Colorado Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate are acknowledged as parties as of right in this Proceeding.

3. The procedural schedule contained above is adopted.

4. A remote hearing is scheduled as follows:

DATE: April 9-10, 2026

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: By video conference: using the Zoom web conferencing platform at a link to be provided to the participants by email.

5. The parties and witnesses may not distribute the Zoom link and access code to anyone not participating in the remote hearing.

6. All participants in the hearing must comply with the requirements in Attachments A and B to this Decision, which are incorporated herein and, in the discussion above.

7. All evidence must be presented electronically. Each party is responsible for ensuring that they and their respective witnesses: (a) have access to all pre-filed exhibits; and (b) can download and view documents available from box.com during the hearing.

8. The Parties shall be held to the advisements in this Decision.

9. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ROBERT I. GARVEY

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

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

Rebecca E. White,
Director