

Hearing December 3, 2007, 9:00 a.m.

Questions for Consideration

What is the purpose of the separate expenditure and savings targets and what is the interplay between these two targets?

Should expenditure targets and savings targets be established for all utilities in this rulemaking or should they be decided individually in each utility's gas DSM plan?

When establishing savings and expenditure targets for gas DSM, what factors should the Commission consider? The statute sets forth a minimum expenditure level and establishes the benefit-to-cost ratio as a criterion. Should other criteria, such as feasibility and rate impact, be taken into consideration? If so, how?

Once an expenditure target is established, what should be the implications, if any, of a utility exceeding its target? (For example, should this be encouraged within specific parameters, allowed only with specific Commission approval, or discouraged?)

Section 40-3.2-103(2)(d), C.R.S. sets forth the maximum values for annual bonuses. Should the maximum value correspond to the case of a utility attaining 100 percent of its target, or should the bonus serve as an incentive to exceed the targets?

If a utility includes programs for low-income customers in its DSM activities, should rules allow, pursuant to SB 07-022 and section 40-3-106, C.R.S., low-income programs(s) to have a benefit-to-cost ratio less than 1.0? If yes, should a portfolio of DSM programs that includes one or more low-income programs still be required to have a ratio of at least 1.0? In the alternative, should low-income DSM programs be separate for purposes of calculating a benefit-to-cost ratio?

The statute permits the Commission to consider "non-energy benefits" of DSM in its analysis. Should non-energy benefits be identified in a rule or should they be addressed in each gas DSM application?