

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 17AL-0736G

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 108 FILED BY ROCKY MOUNTAIN
NATURAL GAS LLC DBA BLACK HILLS ENERGY TO AMEND THE SYSTEM
SAFETY AND INTEGRITY RIDER TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2018.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
STEVEN H. DENMAN
SCHEDULING PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

Mailed Date: September 16, 2019

I. STATEMENT

1. On November 1, 2017, Rocky Mountain Natural Gas LLC (Rocky Mountain) filed Advice Letter No. 108 and accompanying tariff sheets with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, which was docketed as Proceeding No. 17AL-0736G. The principal purpose of the filing was to increase Rocky Mountain's System Safety and Integrity Rider (SSIR), Colo. PUC No. 4 Tariff, Sheet No. 146, Section 24, from \$2.1692 to \$2.3092 per dekatherm of Maximum Daily Transportation Quantity per monthly billing period. The proposed effective date of the increase was January 1, 2018.¹ At the Weekly Meeting on December 20, 2017, the Commission allowed the amended SSIR tariff and new rates to become effective by operation of law on January 1, 2018, as proposed.

¹ Advice Letter No. 108, dated November 1, 2017, at pages 1 and 2. The SSIR was approved by the Commission in Decision No. R14-0114 (mailed on January 30, 2014) in Proceeding No. 13A-0046G *et al.* The SSIR is designed to collect Eligible System Safety and Integrity Costs as defined in Section 24.3(b) on Rocky Mountain's Tariff Sheet No. 147.

2. The procedural history of the above-captioned proceeding is set forth in Decisions previously issued in this Proceeding and is repeated here as necessary to put this Decision into context.

3. Rocky Mountain and Staff of the Public Utilities Commission (Staff) are the only parties to this proceeding.

4. By Decision No. R19-0737-I (mailed on September 6, 2019), the undersigned Administrative Law Judge ordered counsel for Rocky Mountain and Staff to file a Joint Status Report detailing the status of their negotiations concerning the issues raised in Staff's Intervention filed on June 18, 2019 and addressing other procedural matters. The Joint Status Report was filed, as ordered, before 3:00 p.m. on September 13, 2019.

5. In the Joint Status Report, the Parties requested until September 27, 2019 in order to determine whether this proceeding will continue as an active, contested docket and that a prehearing conference be scheduled for October 4, 2019.

6. At the request of counsel for Rocky Mountain and Staff, and in accordance with Rule 1409(a) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-1, a prehearing conference will be scheduled for October 4, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

7. Rocky Mountain and Staff will have until October 2, 2019 to determine whether this proceeding will continue as an active contested docket. Counsel shall report their conclusions at the prehearing conference, including a proposed procedural schedule and hearing dates if this proceeding will continue to be a contested matter.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. A prehearing conference in this proceeding is scheduled as follows:

DATE: October 4, 2019

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Commission Hearing Room
1560 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Denver, Colorado

2. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

STEVEN H. DENMAN

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Doug Dean,
Director