

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 20AL-0094E

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED RULES REGULATING PIPELINE OPERATORS
AND GAS PIPELINE SAFETY, 4 CODE OF COLORADO REGULATIONS 723-11.

**INTERIM DECISION CONVERTING IN-PERSON PUBLIC
COMMENT HEARING INTO REMOTE PUBLIC
COMMENT HEARING AND PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONS
FOR HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN REMOTE PUBLIC
COMMENT HEARING**

Mailed Date: July 7, 2020

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I. STATEMENT

A. Background

1. In Decision No. R20-0168-I, the Administrative Law Judge created a schedule for an informal stakeholder process in which stakeholders can provide input concerning the proposed rules to the Chief of the Gas Pipeline Safety Section of the Commission (Chief), the end-result of which is two versions of newly revised rules that shall be filed with the Commission as attachments to a Notice that summarizes the stakeholder process. Decision No. R20-0168-I established May 15, 2020 as the deadline to file the Notice with attachments, and

June 5, 2020 and June 19, 2020 as the deadlines for comments and response comments, respectively, regarding the newly revised rules.

2. On May 18, 2020, the ALJ issued Decision No. R20-0374-I that granted an informal request to continue: (a) the deadline to submit the Notice and attachments referenced in Decision No. R20-0168-I to June 1, 2020; and (b) the deadlines for comments and response comments concerning the newly proposed revised rules to June 15 and 29, 2020, respectively.

B. Conversion of Continued Public Comment Hearing into Remote Continued Public Comment Hearing Due to Impact of COVID-19

3. On March 10, 2020, Colorado Governor Jared Polis declared a state of emergency over the novel coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). Since then, Colorado State government and the Commission have been working diligently to address how to safely and effectively manage the challenges presented by COVID-19. These efforts have focused on limiting the disruption to the services delivered by the Commission (and other State agencies), while attempting to mitigate the risks to State employees and the public. For example, the Commission has been conducting its Weekly Meetings remotely, and the Commission has asked members of the public not to attend meetings in person, but to view them by webcast. Finally, public access to the building containing the Commission's offices and hearing rooms has been restricted and it is unclear when the restriction will be lifted.

4. Under these circumstances, the continued public comment hearing scheduled for July 10, 2020 shall be converted into a remote continued public comment hearing at which the participants will appear from remote locations. The ALJ finds that holding a remote continued public comment hearing is consistent with current public health advisories to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The ALJ concludes that it is in the public interest to hold the continued public comment hearing in this proceeding as a remote continued public comment hearing.

5. Attachment A to this Decision provides the requirements and information addressing how to use the GoToMeeting platform for participating in the remote continued public comment hearing.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The continued public comment hearing scheduled for July 10, 2020 is converted into a remote continued public comment hearing as follows:

DATE: July 10, 2020

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

FOR WEBCASTS: Hearing Room A

METHOD: Join by video conference at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/552756269>, **OR**

Join by telephone: Dial +1 (646) 749-3122, and when prompted, enter the 552-756-269, which is the PIN (or Meeting ID).

2. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CONOR F. FARLEY

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Doug Dean,
Director