

Decision No. C14-1290

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 14L-1021G

IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED APPLICATION OF DURANGO MOUNTAIN UTILITIES, LLC.

**COMMISSION DECISION AUTHORIZING
DOWNWARD REVISIONS OF GAS RATES**

Mailed Date: October 29, 2014
Adopted Date: October 29, 2014

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statements

1. On October 16, 2014, Durango Mountain Utilities, LLC (DMU or Applicant) filed a verified application. DMU seeks a Commission decision authorizing it, without a formal hearing and on less-than-statutory notice, to place into effect on November 1, 2014, tariffs resulting in a decrease to its existing propane gas rates on file with the Commission; and that the Commission grant certain waivers from the Rules Regulating Gas Utilities and Pipeline Operators, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-4. The application contains all of the materials required by the applicable Commission Rules and therefore is deemed complete.

2. The proposed tariff is attached to the application and affects the Applicant's customers in its service area.

3. DMU acknowledges that it has read and agrees to abide by the provisions of Rules 4002(b)(IV) through (VI) and Rules 4002(b)(XI)(A) through (C) of the Rules Regulating Gas Utilities and Pipeline Operators, 4 CCR 723-4.

4. This application for authority to add a new tariff or change an existing tariff is made pursuant to § 40-3-104, C.R.S., and Rule 4109(b)(II).

B. Findings of Fact

5. The Applicant is an operating public utility subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission and is engaged in, *inter alia*, the purchase, distribution, and sale of propane gas for domestic, mechanical, or public uses in its rate area in the State of Colorado.

6. Commission Decision No. C14-0439 issued April 29, 2014 in Proceeding No. 14AL-0127G requires that DMU revise Gas Cost Adjustment (GCA) rates to be effective on November 1 of each year. The instant filing is intended to comply with this requirement.

7. The purpose of the downward revision of Applicant's gas rates is: (1) to effectuate a decrease in the level of propane gas costs charged to the Applicant based on prices to be in effect November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2015, applied to normalized forecasted purchase and sales volumes during the same test period; and (2) to adjust for previous under- / over-recovered gas cost balances as of August 31, 2014.

8. The proposed tariffs, attached as Appendix A, will decrease total annual revenues by \$4,000 which is a decrease of 0.73 percent.

9. Pursuant to Rule 1003, Rules of Practice and Procedure 4 CCR 723-1, in the Application DMU requests waivers from: 1) Rule 4604(d) concerning the time period for calculation of deferred gas cost and interest calculation; 2) Rules 4604(f) and (g) concerning the presentation of GCA Exhibit Nos. 5 and 6, respectively; 3) Rules 4604(h)(II), (h)(IV), and 4002(d) concerning certain Notice requirements; and Rule 4604(l) concerning the presentation of net operating earnings.

10. The Commission finds good cause to allow the proposed overall decrease on less-than-statutory notice and shall grant the requested waivers.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The verified application filed by Durango Mountain Utilities, LLC (DMU) is deemed complete.

2. The application filed by DMU for authority to change tariffs on less-than-statutory notice is granted.

3. The request by DMU for waiver of Rule 4002 (d), Rule 4604(d), (f), (g), (h)(II), (h)(IV), and (l) of 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-4, is granted.

4. DMU is authorized to file, on not less than one day's notice; the tariff attached as Appendix A and made a part of this Decision. The tariff shall be effective for actual gas sales on or after their effective date of November 1, 2014.

5. The 20-day time period provided by § 40-6-114, C.R.S., to file an application for rehearing, reargument, or reconsideration shall begin on the first day after the effective date of this Decision.

6. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
October 29, 2014.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Dean".

Doug Dean,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOSHUA B. EPEL

PAMELA J. PATTON

GLENN A. VAAD

Commissioners