Decision No. C25-0396

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24AL-0094G

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 1029 - GAS FILED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO REVISE ITS COLORADO P.U.C. NO. 6 - GAS TARIFF TO INCREASE JURISDICTIONAL BASE RATE REVENUES, IMPLEMENT NEW BASE RATES FOR ALL GAS RATE SCHEDULES, AND MAKE OTHER PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 29, 2024.

COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING MOTION FOR PARTIAL VARIANCE

Issued Date: May 29, 2025 Adopted Date: May 21, 2025

I. <u>BY THE COMMISSION</u>

A. Statement

- 1. This matter comes before the Commission for consideration of the Motion for Partial Variance from Decision No. C25-0050 ("Motion") filed by Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" or the "Company") on May 20, 2025.
- 2. By this Decision, we grant the Motion and set October 1, 2025, as the deadline for Public Service to file the Gas Quality of Service Plan ("QSP") required by previous Commission decisions in this Proceeding.

B. Procedural History

3. On January 29, 2024, Public Service filed Advice Letter No. 1029-Gas with revised tariff sheets to increase its base rate revenue collections for all natural gas sales and transportation services and to make certain other changes to the Company's Colorado PUC No. 6-Gas Tariff.

- 4. On October 25, 2024, through Decision No. C24-0778, the Commission permanently suspended the effective date of the tariff sheets filed with Advice Letter No. 1029-Gas and ordered Public Service to file compliance tariffs with new base rates for retail gas service consistent with the Commission's findings and conclusions in Decision No. C24-0778. The decision further permitted Public Service to continue its existing Gas QSP measures with the same penalty levels through December 31, 2026.1
- 5. On November 14, 2024, Public Service, Trial Staff of the Commission, and the Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate filed applications seeking rehearing, reargument, or reconsideration ("RRR") of Decision No. C24-0778.
- 6. On December 12, 2024, by Decision No. C24-0916, so that they would not be denied by operation of law, the Commission granted these applications for RRR, for the sole purpose of tolling the 30-day statutory time limit for the Commission to act upon such applications in § 40-6-114(1), C.R.S.
- 7. On January 23, 2025, through Decision No. C25-0050, the Commission granted, in part, and denied, in part, the applications for RRR of Decision No. C24-0778. As relevant to the Motion, the decision set June 1, 2025, as the deadline for Public Service to file its next Gas QSP.²

C. **Motion for Partial Variance from Decision No. C25-0050**

- 8. Through the Motion, Public Service seeks an order extending the June 1, 2025, deadline for the Company to file its next Gas QSP to on or before October 1, 2025.
- 9. Public Service explains that the extra time will allow the Company to work with stakeholders on a reformulated Gas QSP in advance of the expiration of its current Gas QSP at the

¹ Decision No. C24-0778, issued October 25, 2024, Proceeding No. 24AL-0059G, ¶ 252, p. 93.

² Decision No. C25-0050, issued January 23, 2024, Proceeding No. 24AL-0059G, ¶ 113, p. 55.

end of 2026. Public Service further explains that its gas personnel have been focused on preparing the Company's next Gas Infrastructure Plan filing, on litigating its ongoing Mountain Energy Project (Proceeding No. 25A-0044EG), and on its recent gas depreciation filing (Proceeding No. 25A-0165G).

10. Public Service also states that it conferred with the parties in this Proceeding and that the Motion is unopposed. The Company thus asks for response time to the Motion to be waived.

D. Findings and Conclusions

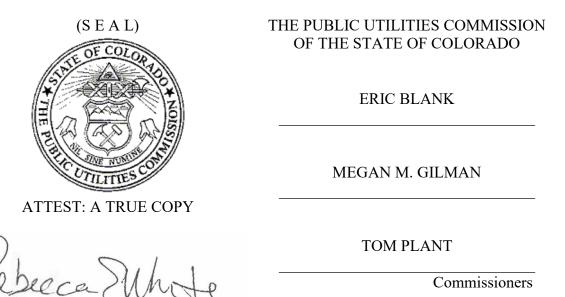
- 11. Rule 1308(b), 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* ("CCR") 723-1, permits the Commission to "shorten or waive response time to a motion upon motion of a party or on its own motion upon a finding that time is of the essence . . . The Commission can act immediately where response time is waived and after expiration of the shortened response time."
- 12. As the Motion is unopposed, we find that waiving response time will not prejudice any party and will allow this issue to be resolved expeditiously ahead of the June 1, 2025 deadline established in Decision No. C25-0050.
- 13. In accordance with Rule 1003 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 CCR 723-1, the Commission may, for good cause shown, grant a variance from the substantive requirements contained in Commission decisions.
- 14. We find the reasons put forth in the Motion by Public Service, and the fact that the Motion is unopposed, constitute good cause to grant the requested variance. Accordingly, Public Service shall file its next Gas QSP required by the decisions rendered in this Proceeding no later than October 1, 2025.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

- 1. The Motion for Partial Variance from Decision No. C25-0050, filed on May 20, 2025, by Public Service Company of Colorado, is granted, consistent with the discussion above.
- 2. The 20-day period provided for in § 40-6-114, C.R.S., within which to file an Application for Rehearing, Reargument, or Reconsideration, begins on the first day following the effective date of this Decision.
 - 3. This Decision is effective immediately upon its Issued Date.

B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING May 21, 2025.



Rebecca E. White, Director