

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25A-0220G

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2025-2030 GAS INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN, CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR FACILITIES, AND NON-PIPELINE ALTERNATIVES ("NPA") COST RECOVERY STRUCTURE.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION
SETTING MATTER FOR HEARING *EN BANC*,
ORDERING SUPPLEMENTAL DIRECT TESTIMONY,
SCHEDULING REMOTE PREHEARING CONFERENCE,
REQUIRING PARTIES TO CONFER, AND REQUIRING
A MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Issued Date: August 11, 2025

Adopted Date: July 30, 2025

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On May 23, 2025, Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" or the "Company") filed an Application requesting that the Commission approve its 2025-2030 Gas Infrastructure Plan ("GIP").

2. Through this Decision, the Commission clarifies that it will hear this matter *en banc* and orders the filing of Supplemental Direct Testimony.

3. The Commission also schedules a pre-hearing conference for September 16, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of establishing a procedural schedule, if necessary. The Commission directs the parties to confer on a procedural schedule prior to the prehearing conference, consistent

with the discussion below. On or before August 22, 2025, Public Service shall file a motion to adopt a proposed procedural schedule.

B. Procedural Background

4. By its Application, Public Service requests that the Commission approve its GIP and grant a presumption of prudence for the “Planned Projects” in the GIP as well as the associated cost estimates. Public Service further seeks a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Louisville to Rollins Pass Project and the Speer Canal Interconnects Project. The Company seeks further approval of its proposed non-pipeline alternative project cost recovery structure, using the existing electric and gas Demand-Side Management Cost Adjustments.

5. Public Service submitted pre-filed Direct Testimony and accompanying attachments of thirteen witnesses in support of the Application.

6. The Application was deemed complete on July 18, 2025, in accordance with § 40-6-109.5, C.R.S.

7. Through Decision No. C25-0553-I, the Commission set the matter for hearing and established the parties to this Proceeding: Trial Staff of the Commission (“Staff”); the Colorado Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate (“UCA”); the Colorado Energy Office (“CEO”); the City and County of Denver (“Denver”); Colorado Communities for Climate Action (“CC4CA”); Natural Resources Defense Council, Rewiring America, Sierra Club, the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project, and Western Resource Advocates (collectively, the “Conservation Advocates”); Colorado Renewable Energy Society (“CRES”) and the Physicians for Social Responsibility Colorado (“PSR-CO”) (jointly, “CRES/PSR-CO”); and Colorado Association of Home Builders and Home Builders Association of Metro Denver (jointly, “Home Builders”).

C. Findings and Conclusions

1. Setting Matter for Hearing before the Commission *en banc*

8. In Decision No. C25-0553-I, issued July 29, 2025, we noted that the Commission would determine whether to refer this matter to a hearing Commissioner or to hear the case *en banc* at a future date. After further review, and considering the important policy considerations at issue in this Proceeding, as well as that it is the first fully-adjudicated GIP, we will hear the Application *en banc*.

2. Supplemental Direct Testimony

9. After our initial review of the Company's 2025-2030 GIP and associated Direct Testimony, we find that Supplemental Direct Testimony on certain topics is appropriate.

10. We direct Public Service to file Supplemental Direct Testimony that satisfies the following:

- a. "Historic Capital Spending:" The Company shall provide a chart in similar format to Table 5 on page 23 of Hearing Exhibit 101, Attachment JJP-1 that shows its historical capital spending for years 2022, 2023, and 2024 in the same categories as represented in Table 5.
- b. "Other Programmatic Expenditures:" In reference to the line "Other Programmatic" in Table 5 on page 23 of Hearing Exhibit 101, Attachment JJP-1, the Company shall explain what comprises this category and what causes the expansion of spending from \$62 million to \$183 million from 2025 to 2027.
- c. "Shared Corporate Services:" The Company shall report any shared corporate capital additions and operations & maintenance expenses as normally sought for recovery in a base rate proceeding the Company expects to incur related to the capital spending reported in Table 5 on page 23 of Hearing Exhibit 101, Attachment JJP-1.

- d. “Rate Forecast Model:” Consistent with prior Commission practice in recent proceedings, and to help better integrate affordability concerns into Public Service’s capital spending planning process, the Company shall provide a 15 year rate forecast model, that also includes three years of historical data, showing base rates and overall average rates (including all riders) broken out by residential class and total rates and revenue requirements. The forecast shall include the capital costs set forth in Table 5 on page 23 of Hearing Exhibit 101, Attachment JJP-1. The model shall be provided in an executable spreadsheet and be in a form similar to Hearing Exhibit 123, Confidential Executable Attachment RAM-4C, Rev. 2_15 Year Rate Model filed in Proceeding No. 24AL-0049G.

11. The deadline for the filing of the Supplemental Direct Testimony shall be proposed by the parties in the consensus procedural schedule discussed below.

3. Remote Prehearing Conference and Procedural Schedule

12. It is appropriate to hold a remote prehearing conference to establish a procedural schedule, as necessary. Accordingly, a remote prehearing conference will be scheduled for September 16, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. The remote prehearing conference will be conducted over the Zoom videoconferencing platform. A member of Commission Staff will email the log-in information in advance of the prehearing conference.

13. Prior to the prehearing conference, Public Service shall confer with the intervening parties to this Proceeding to develop a consensus procedural schedule including discovery procedures. Public Service shall file a motion to approve a proposed procedural schedule no later than August 22, 2025.

14. We provide the following guidance for the parties in the development of a consensus procedural schedule:

- Include a deadline for the filing of Supplemental Direct Testimony.
- Include an evidentiary hearing that concludes no later than January 23, 2026.

- Include a deadline for filing any settlement agreement to ensure the Commission receives the terms of the settlement agreement and any supporting testimony no less than two weeks prior to the start of the evidentiary hearing.
- Include a date for a two-hour pre-hearing conference two or three days prior to the first day of the evidentiary hearing.
- Provide a date for a half-day technical conference, discussed below, in advance of the deadline for the filing of Answer Testimony.

15. At the technical conference referenced above, we expect that Public Service will be prepared to answer clarifying questions from the Commissioners and that Public Service will make its witnesses available for such discussion. Intervenors and the public will be allowed to observe, subject to appropriate confidentiality protections.¹ Further details will be provided through separate future order; however, we would like the Company to plan for such a technical conference in the procedural schedule and include one or more available dates.

16. The parties are urged to work with Commission counsel and advisory staff² assigned to this Proceeding to identify suitable dates for the hearing and technical conference. The latest date on which the hearing can conclude is January 23, 2026, which assumes that the deadline for a final Commission decision will be extended 130 days pursuant to § 40-6-109.5(1), C.R.S.

¹ While we are hopeful that most of the technical conference can be public and webcast, it appears that some of the relevant information has been listed as confidential. If a confidential session is anticipated, we anticipate the Company shall confer with any necessary parties and provide a list of participants permitted in sessions regarding particular modeling discussions. The Commission anticipates webcasting the technical conference publicly, unless there are specific discussions needing confidential session where intervenors can be included subject to any necessary non-disclosure agreements.

² Assigned to this Proceeding are: Lindsey Dundas (lindsey.dundas@coag.gov) and Ron Davis (ron.davis@state.co.us)

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

2. The Application of Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service”) for Approval of its 2025-2030 Gas Infrastructure Plan, Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for Facilities, and Non-Pipeline Alternatives Cost Recovery Structure is set for hearing before the Commission *en banc*.

3. A remote prehearing conference is scheduled as follows:

DATE: September 16, 2025

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

WEBCAST: Commission Hearing Room

METHOD: Join by video conference using Zoom at the link to be provided in an email from Commission Administrative Staff

4. Consistent with the discussion above, Public Service shall confer with the parties to develop a proposed procedural schedule, including a date for an *en banc* hearing. Public Service shall file a motion to adopt a proposed procedural schedule, including discovery procedures, on or before August 22, 2025.

5. This Decision is effective immediately upon its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
July 30, 2025.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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TOM PLANT

Commissioners