## BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION	)
BY RATON NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR	)
APPROVAL OF ITS 2024-2026 ENERGY	)
EFFICIENCY PROGRAM PLAN AND	)
FOURTH REVISED RATE RIDER NO. 6	)
IN ADVICE NOTICE NO. 56	) Case No. 23-00297-UT
PURSUANT TO THE NEW MEXICO	)
PUBLIC UTILITY ACT AND THE	)
EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY ACT	)
	)
RATON NATURAL GAS COMPANY,	)
Applicant.	)
	)

## NOTICE TO RATON NATURAL GAS COMPANY CUSTOMERS

Notice is hereby given to all Raton Natural Gas Company Customers of the following:

1. On August 29, 2023, Raton Natural Gas Company ("RNG") filed with the Commission an Application requesting approvals and authorizations necessary to implement its 2024-2026 Energy Efficiency ("EE") Program Plan. The Application requests approval to continue the Residential and Commercial EE measures approved by the Commission in Case No. 20-00177-UT.

Specifically, RNG requests to continue the current EE programs, which include the following specific programs: 1) an education program that incorporates (i) RNG supported forums on energy efficiency measures in various community settings, (ii) energy efficiency presentations in the elementary schools, and (iii) public service announcements on local radio; 2) Residential measures, which include (i) the provision of low-flow showerheads, (ii) incentives and rebates for the installation of high efficiency rated natural gas water heaters; (iii) incentives and rebates for the installation of high efficiency natural gas space heating appliances and energy conservation

devices; 3) an Income Qualified program that includes a package of energy efficiency offerings for RNG's low-income customers; and 4) Commercial measures, which (i) provide incentives and rebates for the installation of high efficiency rated commercial natural gas water heaters, (ii) free energy assessments and installation of commercial low-flow pre-rinse spray valves for restaurants, (iii) incentives and rebates for the installation of high efficiency commercial natural gas furnaces, and (iv) free commercial grade programmable thermostats. RNG is also proposing to increase its Energy Efficiency Rate Rider, Third Revised Rate Rider No. 6, from \$.0055/ccf to \$.01380/ccf for all of its commercial and residential customers. The proposed Fourth Revised Rate No. 6 is provided in Advice Notice No. 56, which is attached to the Company's Application.

- 2. The New Mexico Efficient Use of Energy Act allows RNG to recover its prudent and reasonable costs incurred as a result of implementing, funding, and administering energy efficiency programs through a tariff rider. RNG proposes to recover its program costs through the proposed Fourth Revised Rate No. 6, its Energy Efficiency Rate Rider as a per ccf rate. RNG is requesting that the proposed programs and overall portfolio annual budget of \$57,376 be approved for the 2024-2026 Program Years. RNG estimates that the proposed programs and the proposed annual budget of \$57,376 will be approved by the NMPRC in the First Quarter of 2024.
- 3. The proposed Energy Efficiency Rate Rider No. 6 will be applicable to all customer classes eligible to participate in RNG's energy efficiency programs, including all residential and commercial customers. The proposed Energy Efficiency Rate Rider rate is \$0.01308 per ccf.
- 4. The following table compares the monthly average bill for a Residential and Commercial customers including the proposed \$0.01308 per ccf Energy Efficiency Rate Rider No. 6 surcharge. This proposed rate is equal to the existing Energy Efficiency Rate Rider surcharge.

The following Monthly Average Bill Comparison includes the Cost of Gas Component and excludes applicable taxes and fees<sup>1</sup>:

**Monthly Average Bill Comparison** 

Rate Class	Proposed EE Rate Rider \$/ccf	Average Bill Usage ccf	Current Average Monthly Bill	With Proposed EE Rate	Increase \$	Increase %
Residential	\$.01308	85	\$62.46	\$63.04	\$0.58	.94%
Commercial	\$.01308	357	\$233.53	\$235.98	\$2.46	1.05%

The bill comparisons are for informational purposes only. The impact of the Energy Efficiency Rate Rider will vary according to individual customer usage. In addition, the tariff rider ultimately approved by the Commission may vary the rate rider charges to each eligible customer class approved in this case or in future applications of the tariff rider.

- 5. Any person may examine RNG's Application, together with any exhibits and related papers that may be filed, during regular business hours at RNG's office located at 1360 South Second Street, Raton, New Mexico 87740, telephone 575-445-3613; or electronically on the Commission's "edocket" portal at <a href="https://edocket.nmprc.state.nm.us">https://edocket.nmprc.state.nm.us</a>.
- 6. The Commission has assigned Case No. 23-00297-UT to this proceeding, and all correspondence, pleadings, inquiries, written comments or other communications concerning this matter should refer to that case number.
- 7. The Commission does not, at this time, plan to hold a hearing in this matter, though the Commission may hold a hearing if circumstances warrant it.
  - 8. Any person who desires to become a party to this case must file a Motion for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For illustration purposes, the Monthly Average Bill Comparison table reflects the current Cost of Gas in July,2020 bills.

Leave to Intervene, pursuant to 1.2.2.23(A) and (B) NMAC and the NMPRC's then current Electronic Filing Policy, on or before January 25, 2024. All motions for leave to intervene, pleadings or testimony shall be served on all existing parties, other proposed intervenors of record and Russell Fisk by e-mail or U.S. mail. The Commission's mailing address is Public Regulation Commission, P.O. Box 1269, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 and its website is https://www.prc.nm.gov/. Russell Fisk's email is <a href="mailto:Russell-Fisk@prc.nm.gov">Russell-Fisk@prc.nm.gov</a>.

- 9. Any pleading should be filed electronically by email to the NMPRC Records Department at: <a href="mailto:PRC.Records@state.nm.us">PRC.Records@state.nm.us</a>. Any person filing pleadings or testimony shall serve copies via e-mail on all parties, Commission Staff, and Russell Fisk.
- 10. The Commission's Rules of Procedure found at 1.2.2 NMAC shall apply to this proceeding unless modified by order of the Commission. Such rules are available online at the official NMAC website <a href="http://164.64.110.134/nmac/nmac-titles">http://164.64.110.134/nmac/nmac-titles</a>.
- 11. Any interested person may appear at any open meeting of the Commission and make an oral or written comment pursuant to Rule 1.2.2.23(F) NMAC without becoming an intervenor. Such comments will not be considered as evidence in this case.
- 12. Any person with a disability requiring special assistance in order to participate in this proceeding should contact the Commission at 1-888-427-5772.

**ISSUED** at Santa Fe, New Mexico on December 26, 2023.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION