

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY)
ZIA NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF)
ITS 2025-2027 ENERGY EFFICEINCY PROGRAM)
PURSUANT TO THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC UTILITY) Case No. 24-00247-UT
ACT AND EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY ACT)
)
ZIA NATURAL GAS COMPANY, APPLICANT)**

NOTICE TO ZIA CUSTOMERS OF PROCEEDING AND HEARING

To Zia Natural Gas Company customers:

This document is required by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (Commission). The purpose of this document is to provide you with notice of the Application Zia filed with the Commission requesting approval of its 2025-2027 Energy Efficiency Program and associated relief. This Notice:

- describes the Commission’s process for considering Zia’s Application; and
- describes how you can participate in this process if you wish to do so.

If you wish to participate in this process, the information below details how you may participate. **If you do not wish to participate, no action is required on your part.**

Therefore, **NOTICE** is given by the Commission of the following:

On September 30, 2024, Zia Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Zia") filed with the Commission its Application requesting approvals and authorizations necessary to implement its proposed 2025-2027 Energy Efficiency Program and budget. The Application requests approval of its proposed modifications to Zia’s Energy Efficiency Program offerings approved in Case No. 21-00222-UT in order to increase Program effectiveness and encourage greater customer participation in Zia’s 2025-2027 Energy Efficiency Program and the Plan-Year budget of \$583,801, including Zia’s request to earn an incentive of approximately \$42,701 as provided in the Efficient Use of Energy

Act. Zia estimates its proposed 2025-2027 Energy Efficiency Program will result in benefit-cost ratios at or above 1.0 pursuant to the Commission's Utility Cost Test ("UCT") standards, both overall and for all of the five proposed measures. The proposed Program is expected to result in energy savings of 169,089 therms per year.

The New Mexico Efficient Use of Energy Act allows Zia to recover costs incurred as a result of implementing, funding, and administering energy efficiency programs through a tariff rider. Zia currently recovers its program costs through its approved Sixth Energy Efficiency Rate Rider No. 2. Zia requests no change to the currently approved Rate Rider tariff rate.

The Commission has assigned Case No. 24-00247-UT to this proceeding, and all inquiries or written comments concerning this proceeding should refer to that case number.

The Hearing Examiner has established the following schedule for this case:

A. Any person who desires to become a party to this case must file a Motion for Leave to Intervene, pursuant to 1.2.2.23 NMAC, by December 6, 2024. All motions for leave to intervene shall be served on all existing parties and other proposed intervenors of record.

B. Commission Utility Division Staff shall, and Interveners may, file Direct Testimony by December 13, 2024.

C. Rebuttal Testimony may be filed by December 20, 2024.

D. A public hearing will be held, if necessary, beginning at **9:30 A.M. on January 14, 2025**. The public hearing, if deemed necessary by the Commission, shall be conducted via the Zoom videoconference platform. Participation in the public hearing shall be limited to party participants (i.e., counsel, witnesses, and other representatives of the parties), the Commissioners, and other Commission personnel. Other interested persons may view the hearing via a livestream

on YouTube provided on the Commission's website at <https://www.prc.nm.gov/>. Any person whose testimony has been pre-filed shall attend the hearing, if one is held, and submit to examination under oath.

E. The procedural dates and requirements provided herein are subject to further order of the Commission or the Hearing Examiner. Interested persons should contact the Commission at 505-690-4191 for confirmation of the hearing date, time, and place because hearings are occasionally rescheduled.

F. Interested persons who are not affiliated with a party may make oral or written comment as allowed by Rule 1.2.2.23(F) NMAC. Oral comments shall be taken shortly after the beginning of the evidentiary hearing on January 14, 2025, and comments shall be limited to 3 minutes per person. As part of the public hearing, public comment will be taken via the Zoom platform; therefore, persons wishing to make an oral public comment must register in advance, not later than 8:30 a.m. MT on January 14, 2025, by email to Ana.Kippenbrock@prc.nm.gov. Alternatively, written public comments may be submitted before the Commission takes final action. Those comments shall reference Case No. 24-00247-UT and be emailed to PRC.records@prc.nm.gov. Public comments, whether oral or written, shall not be considered as evidence in this proceeding.

G. Any person may examine Zia's filing, exhibits, and related papers at Zia's office located at 100 Short Drive, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico 88346, telephone: (800) 520-4277 or (575) 378-4277; online at Zia's website <http://www.zngc.com/>; or at the Commission's website <https://www.prc.nm.gov/case-lookup-e-docket/>.

H. Copies of documents filed with the Commission must be served on all parties of

record and Staff in the manner indicated on the Certificate of Service for this case. All filings shall be emailed to Staff and the parties on the date they are filed with the Commission. Additionally, all filings shall be emailed to the Hearing Examiner at Elizabeth.Hurst@prc.nm.gov.

I. Anyone filing pleadings, documents or testimony in this case shall, until further notice, comply with the Commission's electronic filing policy as posted on the Commission website, as amended from time to time. This includes filings in pdf format, with electronic signatures, sent to the Records Bureau's email address at PRC.records@prc.nm.gov within regular business hours of the due date in order to be considered timely filed. Documents received after regular business hours will be considered as being filed the next business day. Regular business hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MT.

J. The Commission's Rules of Procedure, 1.2.2 NMAC, shall apply in this case except as modified or varied by order of the Commission. The Rules of Procedure and other Commission rules are available online the official NMAC website: <https://www.srca.nm.gov/nmac-home/nmac-titles/>.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

IF YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY WHO IS IN NEED OF A READER, AMPLIFIER, QUALIFIED SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF AUXILIARY AID OR SERVICE TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING, OR FOR A SUMMARY OR OTHER TYPE OF ACCESSIBLE FORMAT OF PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OF THE COMMISSION AT (505) 827-8019 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE PRIOR TO THE HEARING.

ISSUED under the Seal of the Commission at Santa Fe, New Mexico this 16th day of October, 2024.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION



Elizabeth C. Hurst

Elizabeth C. Hurst
Hearing Examiner