

EXHIBIT A

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION AND MOTION)
OF ZIA NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR EMERGENCY)
AUTHORIZATION OF FINANCING TRANSACTION TO) Case No. 21-00048-UT
PAY GAS SUPPLY COSTS RELATED TO THE FEBRUARY)
2021 EXTREME WEATHER EVENT)**

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given of the following proceeding pertaining to the above-captioned case pending before the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (“Commission” or “NMPRC”):

On March 8, 2021, Zia Natural Gas Company (“Zia”), a division of Natural Gas Processing Company (“NGP”), filed an Application and Motion for emergency authorization of a proposed financing transaction to pay gas supply costs related to the February 2021 extreme weather event. Zia seeks emergency approval of its proposed financing transaction by March 24, 2021 so that it can pay its February gas supply costs by March 25, 2021. The Application and accompanying testimonies and exhibits describe the need for and key terms of the proposed financing transaction in the amount of approximately \$18,000,000 to cover its extraordinary and unprecedented February 2021 gas supply costs.

Zia, a division of NGP, is certified and authorized to conduct the business of providing public utility service within the State of New Mexico, provides natural gas utility service within the State of New Mexico, and is a public utility as defined by the Public Utility Act. The Commission has assigned Case No. 21-00048-UT to the Emergency Application and all correspondence, pleadings, and other communications shall refer to that case number.

Any interested person may inspect the Application filed in this on Zia's website or access the Commission's website at <https://edocket.nmprc.state.nm.us>. Any inquiries should refer to the Case No. 21-00048-UT docket for this case.

The procedural schedule for this case is as follows:

A. Zia shall immediately post the approved Notice on its website, and shall publish as soon as possible the approved Notice once in the *Albuquerque Journal*, which is a newspaper of general circulation in every county in which Zia provides service in New Mexico. Zia shall promptly file affidavits of publication and website posting.

B. Any person desiring to become a party ("intervenor") in this case shall file a motion for leave to intervene in conformity with Rule 1.2.2.23 NMAC on or before March 16, 2021.

C. The procedural schedule for this case is as follows.

D. Any person desiring to become a party ("intervenor") in this case shall file a motion for leave to intervene in conformity with Rule 1.2.2.23 NMAC on or before March 16, 2021.

E. The Commission's Utility Division Staff ("Staff") shall, and any intervenor may, file direct testimony or a verified statement of position on Zia's Application on or before March 17, 2021.

F. Any rebuttal testimony or response to verified statement of position shall be filed on or before March 18, 2021.

G. A public hearing, if deemed necessary by the Commission, shall be held March 24, 2021. If there are no interventions or protests filed by March 16, 2021, the Commission may determine, by the Commission or by subsequent single signature order of one Commissioner, that a public hearing is not necessary.

H. A Proposed Final Order shall be filed by Zia on or before March 19, 2021.

I. The procedural dates and requirements provided herein are subject to further order of the Commission.

J. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, a public hearing, if deemed necessary by the Commission, shall be conducted via the Zoom videoconference platform. Participation in the public hearing, if deemed necessary by the Commission, 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 www.nmprc.state.nm.us.

G. 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 NMPRC rules are available online at the New Mexico Commission of Public Records, State Records Center and Archives website at <http://www.srca.nm.gov/nmac-home/nmac-titles>.

H. Public comment shall be taken orally at the commencement of the public hearing or the Commission's regular open meeting on March 24, 2021. Public comment will be taken via the Zoom platform. Therefore, persons interested in providing public comment must request a Zoom invitation by emailing at Isaac.Sullivan-Leshin@state.nm.us by no later than 5:00 p.m. MT on March 23, 2021. Public comments shall be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. However, pursuant to 1.2.2.23(F) NMAC, public comment shall not be considered as evidence in this case. Interested persons may also submit written comments, which shall reference NMPRC Case No. 21-00048-UT, to the Commission via its Records Bureau's email address at: prc.records@state.nm.us. However, as noted above, pursuant to 1.2.2.23(F) NMAC, such comments will not be considered as evidence in this proceeding.

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@state.nm.us 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 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. MT. Parties shall serve a copy on all parties of record and Staff. All filings shall be emailed on the date they are filed with the Commission.

J. Any person with a disability requiring special assistance in order to participate in the public hearing should contact the director of Administrative Services Jim Williamson at Jim.Williamson@state.nm.us or (505) 467-9116 at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the public hearing.

K. 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 NMPRC rules are available online at the New Mexico Commission of Public Records, State Records Center and Archives website at <http://www.srca.nm.gov/nmac-home/nmac-titles>.

L. Any person with a disability requiring special assistance in order to participate in this proceeding should contact the offices of the Commission at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the public hearing or open meeting.