

BEFORE THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
BY ZIA NATURAL GAS COMPANY FOR)
APPROVAL OF ITS 2022-2024 ENERGY)
EFFICIENCY PROGRAM)
PURSUANT TO THE NEW MEXICO)
PUBLIC UTILITY ACT AND THE)
EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY ACT)
ZIA NATURAL GAS COMPANY,)
Applicant.)**
_____)

Case No. 21-00222-UT

NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

Notice is hereby given by the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission ("NMPRC" or the "Commission") of the following:

On September 20, 2021, Zia Natural Gas Company, Inc. ("Zia") filed with the Commission an Application requesting approvals and authorizations necessary to implement its proposed 2022-2024 Energy Efficiency Program and budget. The Application requests approval of (1) its proposed modifications to Zia’s Energy Efficiency Program offerings approved in Case No. 18-00280-UT in order to increase Program effectiveness and encourage greater customer participation in Zia’s 2022-2024 Energy Efficiency Program, and (2) the annual Plan Year budget of \$514,414, including Zia’s request to earn an incentive of approximately \$36,659 as provided in the Efficient Use of Energy Act. The annual budgets for the 2019-2021 Energy Efficiency Program were \$358,138 which included an annual incentive of \$26,440.

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 Fifth Energy Efficiency Rate Rider No. 2. Zia requests no change to the currently approved Rate Rider tariff rate.

The Commission has assigned Case No. 21-00222-UT to this proceeding, and all inquiries or written comments concerning this proceeding should refer to that case number.

The following schedule has been established 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 **January 5, 2022**.

B. The Commission Utility Division Staff and Interveners shall file Direct Testimony by **January 14, 2022**.

C. Rebuttal Testimony shall be filed by **January 28, 2022**.

D. A prehearing conference shall be held beginning at 9:00 a.m. on **February 1, 2022** to discuss, among other issues, the manner in which the hearing will be conducted (i.e., through videoconference or in person) and the manner in which prepared testimony and other exhibits will be distributed to the parties prior to the hearing.

E. A proposed Recommended Decision shall be filed by Applicants on or before **February 3, 2022**.

F. A public hearing, if deemed necessary by the Commission, will begin at 9:00 a.m. on **February 10, 2022**.

The hearing may be vacated if, after the filing of prepared testimony, the parties and the Hearing Examiner agree that the hearing is not necessary to develop a complete evidentiary record on Zia's request. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, a public hearing, if deemed necessary by the Commission, may 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. Any person whose testimony has been pre-filed shall attend the hearing, if one is held, and submit to examination under oath.

The procedural dates and requirements provided herein are subject to further Order of the Commission or the Hearing Examiners. Interested persons should contact the Commission for confirmation of the hearing date, time and place, since hearings are occasionally rescheduled.

Any interested persons may appear at the time and place of hearing and make oral or written comment pursuant to 1.2.2.23(F) NMAC without becoming an Intervenor. Oral comment shall be taken at the beginning of the public hearing and shall be limited to 3 minutes per commenter. Persons wishing to make an oral comment must register in advance via email, not later than 8:30 a.m. MT on February 10, 2022, with Ana.Kippenbrock@state.nm.us.

Interested persons may also send written comments, which shall reference NMPRC Case No. 21-00222-UT, to the Commission at prc.records@state.nm.us. However, pursuant to Commission rule 1.2.2.23(F) NMAC, comments will not be considered as evidence in this proceeding.

Any person may examine Zia's filing in this case together with any exhibits and related papers that may be filed in this case at Zia's office, 100 Short Drive, Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico 88346, telephone: (800) 520-4277 or (575) 378-4277. You can obtain further information regarding this case at the Commission's website, <http://www.nmprc.state.nm.us/> or at Zia's website, <http://zngc.com/>.

Copies of documents filed with the Commission must be served on all parties of record and the Commission's utility Division Staff ("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. All filings shall be emailed to the Hearing Examiners at ashley.schannauer@state.nm.us and paul.bossert@state.nm.us.

Anyone filing pleadings, documents or testimony in this case shall 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.

Any person with a disability requiring special assistance in order to participate in the public hearing should contact the Director of Administrative Services Renada Peery-Galon at Renada.Peery-Galon@state.nm.us at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the public hearing.

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>.

I S S U E D at Santa Fe, New Mexico this **18th day of November, 2021**.

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

/s/ Paul D. Bossert

Paul D. Bossert
Hearing Examiner

/s/ Ashley C. Schannauer

Ashley C. Schannauer
Hearing Examiner