

# **PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD**

## **Atmos Energy Corporation's Application for Adjustment of its Natural Gas Rates**

Atmos Energy Corporation ("Atmos Energy") filed an Application with the Kansas Corporation Commission ("Commission" or "KCC") on September 9, 2022, Docket No. 23-ATMG-359-RTS. Atmos Energy has requested an overall net revenue increase of \$8.3 million.

### **Public Hearing**

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing concerning Atmos Energy's application, which seeks KCC approval of its proposed rate increase. This hearing will provide information about Atmos Energy's application and potential impact on customers' bills and an opportunity for customers to ask questions and to present testimony or comments for the Commission's consideration.

The public hearing typically consists of two parts: During the first part, representatives of Atmos Energy, KCC Staff and CURB will give short presentations about their roles in this docket and a review of the issues involved and will be available to answer customers' questions pertaining to the application. In the second part of the public hearing, customers may make formal statements to the Commission concerning the application. However, the Commission may determine how to best accommodate the public participation in this important rate proceeding.

The date and time of the public hearing is:

**Wednesday, January 11, 2023, beginning at 6:00 p.m. (CDT)**

### **The Commission will hold a public hearing online via zoom.**

Kansans wishing to make a public comment during the hearing should sign up in advance at <https://kcc.ks.gov/your-opinion-matters> to receive login information and time restraints for presentations.

As there may be limited capacity, registration will be first come, first serve. A live video stream will also be available on the Commission's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-uTcucl0oyHJr-iOheuuw> for individuals to watch, but not comment, during the public hearing.

### **Comment Period**

In addition, the Commission is accepting comments from the public until 5:00 p.m. (CDT), March 10, 2023. Comments regarding this case should reference Docket No. 23-ATMG-359-RTS. The public can mail their comments to the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 SW Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027. The public can also submit comments through the Commission's website <https://kcc.ks.gov/your-opinion-matters> or via electronic mail (sent to [public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov](mailto:public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov)).

A complete copy of the Commission’s Order Adopting Procedural Schedule establishing this hearing and Atmos Energy’s application with supporting testimony is available on the Commission’s website:

<https://estar.kcc.ks.gov/estar/portal/kscs/page/docket-docs/PSC/DocketDetails.aspx?DocketId=e56f8853-8544-450b-9e77-d065560366d1>

The KCC has until May 9, 2023, to make a decision on the proposed rate case in this proceeding.

### **Atmos Energy’s Application**

In its filed application, Atmos asks for an overall net revenue increase of approximately \$8.3 million. This increase includes the rolling in of \$3.5 million in revenue associated with its Gas System Reliability Surcharge (“GSRS”) and \$600,000 of ad valorem charges. The estimated impact of these proposed increases for the average monthly bill of a residential customer is \$5.60/month. This would be accomplished through an increase to the fixed portion of customers’ bills, referred to as the “facilities charge,” from \$20.20/month (inclusive of base rate and GSRS fixed charges) to \$25.71 per month for residential customers and an increase to the commodity charges from \$0.14994/ccf to \$0.15128/ccf.

The Company is also requesting authority to modify its tariffs, including the introduction of a new Voluntary Smart Choice Carbon Offset program. This program would allow for customers to voluntarily incur a new charge to offset some or all of the carbon emissions associated with their natural gas usage through Atmos’s purchase and retirement of carbon offset credits.

Atmos is further asking to modify its existing System Integrity Program (SIP) that was established in the Company’s last rate case. The SIP is a surcharge designed to recover costs and expenses dedicated to the replacement of obsolete materials in its pipeline infrastructure. Currently, the SIP pilot is in year 3 of 5 with a \$35 million budget. The request is to increase the budget to \$50 million for the remainder of the pilot period, due to inflation, and to extend the SIP tariff for an additional five years.

### **Evidentiary Hearing**

The Commission has scheduled an evidentiary hearing on the application for Tuesday, March 7, 2023 through Thursday, March 9, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Central.

### **Additional Information is available from the KCC and CURB**

For more information about Atmos Energy’s application or the public hearing, contact the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 1-800-662-0027. Any persons requiring special accommodations at the hearing site under the Americans with Disabilities Act must give notice to the Commission at least 10 days prior to the scheduled hearing date by calling 1-800-662-0027.

The Citizens’ Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) can also be contacted 785-271-3200 for further information.