# 2024 COLORADO NATURAL GAS RATE REVIEW

STRENGTHENING OUR SYSTEMS TO ENSURE SAFETY, RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCY



The energy sector is in a period of transformation and profound change – driven by technological advancements, environmental and regulatory mandates, climate commitments, energy security needs and resiliency efforts, alongside evolving and growing customer expectations. Xcel Energy is anticipating and keeping pace with these changes, all while maintaining dependable service and keeping energy costs affordable.

Following significant investments to make Colorado's natural gas system safer and more reliable and resilient for customers today, we've asked the Colorado Public Utilities Commission to review our rates. The request supports the existing natural gas system while we simultaneously work to increase electrification opportunities, transition to cleaner fuels and continue progress toward our net-zero 2050 vision.



#### Safety is our number one priority

Most of the investments in our proposal support public safety efforts including:

- Ongoing proactive pipeline safety initiatives, integrity programs, gas emergency response and damage prevention programs.
- Adding new compressor stations and rebuilding regulator stations, and strength testing natural gas pipelines.
- Inspecting natural gas pipelines with state-of-the-art tools.
- Replacing and upgrading miles of natural gas pipeline to cut the risk of leaks and blowing gas.
- Using mobile leak-detection technology to find and fix problems to reduce methane and carbon dioxide emissions on the system.

## Increasing reliability and resiliance

Much of our rate request reflects the costs of our standard, ongoing operations work, plus improvements to build a stronger system, including:

- Large-scale regional reliability infrastructure projects.
- Reinforcements to reduce risks of extreme weather all along the Front Range, in the mountains and other communities across the state.
- Technology improvements to enhance the prevention, detection and containment of cyberattacks and protect critical information and sensitive customer data.
- Enhancing My Account, our customer mobile app and other digital platforms to improve the overall customer experience and serve you.

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## **Keeping bills low**

Xcel Energy-Colorado's average residential natural gas bills are below the national average compared to our peer utilities. Residential natural gas bills will remain below average if this proposal is approved.

- We're requesting a net revenue increase of approximately \$171 million to cover the improvements we've made to the natural gas system over the last several years.
- If approved as filed, there will be no customer bill impacts until 2025 when the bill impact for Winter Storm Uri is no longer in effect.
- Beginning Feb. 15, 2025, a typical residential bill would increase by approximately 7.4% compared to current rates. Beginning Feb. 15, 2026, this bill impact would decrease to 2.5% compared to current rates.

### We're here for you

Energy affordability is important for our customers - which is why we work hard to control costs, keep energy bills low and provide assistance for customers in need. We will always work with our customers to provide options such as payment plans and assistance programs to get them through difficult times and ideas for ways they can save on their energy budget. Learn more by visiting **xcelenergy.com/EnergyAssistance** or calling **800-895-4999**.

