



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 21, 2024

Hearing Examiners issue Recommended Decision in NM Gas Co. LNG case

SANTA FE – The Hearing Examiners Division of the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) today took the next step in New Mexico Gas Company’s (NMGC) liquified natural gas (LNG) facility case by issuing a Recommended Decision.

The decision by the Hearing Examiner recommends against approving NMGC’s application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity (CCN) to build and operate the LNG facility, which the utility proposed to construct on a 160-acre parcel of land that encompasses parts of southern Rio Rancho and northwest Bernalillo County. The Commission will make an independent judgment in this case (case no. 22-00309-UT) next month. A copy of the Recommended Decision is available upon request.

NMGC submitted evidence in its application that the LNG facility was needed to replace its present arrangement with the Keystone Storage Facility located in the Permian Basin in west Texas. Currently, NMGC obtains gas storage services and pays to lease storage space from the Keystone Facility. NMGC said it developed concerns over the reliability and performance of the Keystone Facility and began to investigate alternative arrangements, including LNG storage.

Last month, a Hearing Examiner conducted a four-day public hearing for this case and developed an extensive evidentiary record. Upon close consideration of the record, the Hearing Examiner recommended that the prevailing evidence weighs against approving a CCN for the LNG facility.

The parties in this case will have an opportunity to take exceptions to the Hearing Examiner’s recommendation. The Commission will then review the Recommended Decision, considering the record and the parties’ exceptions, and decide whether or not to accept or modify it.

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###

*The **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission** (NMPRC) serves New Mexico by ensuring safe operations and reliable utility services at fair, just, and reasonable rates consistent with the State’s legal, economic, environmental, and social policies. To learn more about the work of the NMPRC, please visit www.prc.nm.gov.*

CONTACT

Patrick Rodriguez

Public Information Officer

Email: patrickj.rodriguez@prc.nm.gov

Phone: 505-490-7910

P.O. Box 1269

Santa Fe, NM 87504

www.prc.nm.gov