

NATURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

ENSURING RELIABLE SERVICE ON THE PATH TO NET ZERO



Natural gas is a highly flexible and efficient fuel for millions of furnaces, water heaters, stoves and other appliances across the state; today, most Coloradans rely on natural gas for heating their homes and businesses. That's why we're planning targeted investments to ensure the natural gas system continues to reliably deliver service to customers, while laying the groundwork for our vision to achieve net-zero carbon in the areas of natural gas distribution and clean transportation.

Our Gas Infrastructure Plan provides details on proposed projects that are critical to ensuring a safe and reliable natural gas system. Our existing system, working together with newer solutions, can deliver for current and future customers as we take a new approach to natural gas system planning and work towards our net-zero energy vision.

Plan Overview

Our Gas Infrastructure Plan includes:

- **Background information** about our processes for system planning, modeling, stakeholder engagement, budgeting and cost projections.
- **Forecasts** used to design the system to meet peak natural gas demand, customer counts, sales and capacity, natural gas mixtures and changes in projected greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Existing Infrastructure Assessment** statistics on customer-owned natural gas lines, hydrogen compatibility and advanced leak detection monitoring.
- **Planned Projects details**, including why specific projects are needed, locations and maps, analysis of alternatives, anticipated construction timelines, environmental requirements and total proposed investment.

Customer Value & Benefits

Our natural gas system is a valuable, shared asset that has reliably served our customers for decades, and we plan to continue using it for decades to come. In fact, continuing to use, and invest in, existing natural gas infrastructure benefits our customers in many ways.

- Enhances system **reliability and resilience** by delivering a stable energy supply, ensuring uninterrupted power when it's needed most.
- Increases the **safety and integrity** of the natural gas system to help protect the communities we serve.
- Provides an **affordable and efficient** fuel source as we evolve our energy mix.
- Helps **meet growing energy needs** in new housing, construction and business developments across our service area.
- Supports **customer choice** as we work toward our net-zero vision and meeting state electrification, clean heat and emission reduction goals.
- Allows us to integrate **technological advances** and **emerging alternatives** to deliver more sophisticated solutions to serve our customers.

Planning & Operational Transparency

Colorado regulators and policy makers have asked natural gas utilities for additional transparency and oversight of natural gas system planning and operations. To meet this request, we file a Gas Infrastructure Plan every two years, with the plan's scope covering a six-year period. We also submit status reports with updates on planned projects, any approved alternatives and variances in costs, scope of work or timelines.

We want to hear from you.

Contact us at GasInfrastructurePlan@xcelenergy.com to share your thoughts or ask questions about the plan or proposed projects in your community.