Docket No. 23–11–02 – Application of Connecticut Natural Gas
Corporation and the Southern
Connecticut Gas Company to Amend
Their Rate Schedules

Consultant Pre-Proposal Conference RFP 2023-04 June 26, 2023







## Statutory Requirements

- CGS Sec. 16-19
  - Identifies required filings companies must include with proposed rate amendment
  - Establishes a mandatory deadline for PURA to complete its review
    - 350 days for gas and electric
    - 200 for all other public service companies (i.e. water); will change to 270 if PA 23-102 is signed
    - If deadlines are not met, companies' proposed amendments become effective
- CGS Sec. 16-19a
  - Requires PURA to conduct a complete review and investigation of financial and operating records of each gas and electric distribution company with 75k+ customers at least every four years
  - PA 20-5 added a requirement to consider performance-based incentives/penalties and metrics in any rate hearing
- CGS Sec. 16-19e
  - Specifies the principles and guidelines PURA shall adhere to while conducting its investigation and determining if the proposed rate amendments are necessary, just, reasonable, and adequate



#### Decisional Staff Consultant – General Tasks

Discovery	Advisement
<ul> <li>Conduct research to benchmark relevant portions of a utility's rate application</li> <li>Assist with review of application and pre-filed testimony, and relevant discovery responses</li> <li>Drafting or assisting staff with drafting interrogatories or other discovery prompts</li> <li>Conducting cross-examination of party and intervenor witnesses</li> <li>Assessing relevant portions of legal briefs submitted by parties and intervenors</li> <li>Attending all notified evidentiary hearings, late file exhibit hearings and oral arguments</li> <li>Draft sections of final Decision</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Attend regular internal strategy meetings led by PURA decisional staff</li> <li>Advising decisional staff and commissioners on the incorporation of written exceptions and oral argument submitted with respect to the Authority's proposed final decision in the matter</li> <li>Participate in remote access regular internal strategy meetings with PURA staff.</li> </ul>



# Decisional Staff Consultant – Specific Tasks

Task 2 - Rate Base, Depreciation, Engineering
<ul> <li>Consultant will examine rate base issues related to depreciation plant-in-service</li> <li>Other engineering tasks as directed by GPSU staff, such as unused service lines and inspection costs</li> </ul>
Task 4 - Cost Allocation
Consultant will examine shared service cost allocation issues both intradepartmental and between affiliates and subsidiaries

#### Task 5 - Information Technology, Cybersecurity, and Billing Systems

 Consultant will review and analyze expenses associated with IT, cybersecurity, and billing system items and assess the sufficiency of the IT organization and cybersecurity framework.



# Potential EOE Consultant – Specific Tasks

Research	Advisement/Representation
<ul> <li>Analyze the perception of regulated utilities as public service providers in CT*</li> <li>Prepare baseline analysis of performance metrics and accountability in customer care and social investment practices*</li> <li>Analyze funding, costs, purpose and impacts of customer care, public-facing social investments, and associated business initiatives*</li> <li>Research best-in-class customer care and social investment practices and metrics nationwide*</li> <li>Research best-in-class state and household level customer care, social investment with focus on vulnerable customers*</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Provide recommendations and next steps for best-in-class practices for public benefit for CT customers with associated performance metrics*</li> <li>Guide staff in drafting interrogatories or other discovery</li> <li>Assist with drafting pre- and/or late-filed testimony</li> <li>Represent EOE as a witness regarding any testimony at hearings as required</li> <li>Assist in reviewing other parties' filings and recommend rebuttal testimony if needed</li> <li>Review draft decision and assist in preparing written exceptions</li> </ul>

<sup>\* -</sup> required tasks

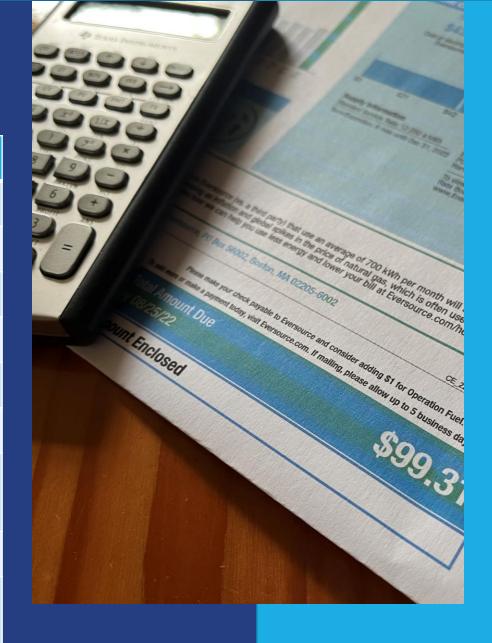


#### Proposal Requirements

- See Table 1 in Section III of the RFP
  - Contains all required proposal components
  - Please prepare proposals in the sequence given by this table
- See the Cost Estimate Breakdown by Annual Proceeding template in Section III.F of the RFP
  - Allows reporting across standard cost categories for comparison

#### **Tentative Procedural Schedule**

Event	Date
Application Filing Date	November 1, 2023
Rolling Discovery Commences	November 1, 2023
Pre-filed Testimony Due	Week of Jan. 22, 2024
Rebuttal Testimony Due	Week of Feb. 19, 2024
Surrebutal Testimony Due	Week of Mar. 4, 2024
Rolling Discover Concludes	Week of Apr. 1, 2024
Evidentiary Hearings	Weeks of Apr. 15, 22, and 29, 2024
Late Filed Exhibit Hearings	Week of May 13, 2024
Final Decision (STATUTORY DEADLINE)	October 16, 2024



#### **Next Steps**

Event	Date	Action
Notice of Intent to Bid	June 26, 2023	Submit by COB today
Deadline for RFP Questions	<del>June 30</del> , July 7, 2023	Submit to PURA.RFP@ct.gov
RFP Clarifications from PURA	July 14, 2023	Posted on RFP webpage and distributed to notified bidders
Proposal Due Date	July 26, 2023	Submit to PURA.RFP@ct.gov

See RFP for more details on each event