# RECOVERY OF GAS MANAGEMENT COSTS ROAD MAP

Overriding Objective: Questar Gas Company is obligated to manage gas supplies to provide safe and reliable gas service for customers.

# I. History of Case

Factual, procedural and timeline (McKay)

## II. Gas Supplies

- A. Supplies are changing (Conti, Lamarre, Reid)
  - 1. Historically, Questar Gas and Questar Pipeline were an island (Conti, Lamarre)
  - 2. Questar Pipeline has become part of an interstate natural gas pipeline grid (Conti, Lamarre, Reid)
  - 3. Traditional reserves are being depleted (Conti, Lamarre)
- B. Coal bed Methane (CBM) is a critical natural gas resource and it is increasing (Lamarre, Walker)
  - 1. Where did it come from? (Lamarre)
  - 2. Compare CBM to traditional supplies (Lamarre)
- C. Questar Gas couldn't have foreseen the tremendous development of CBM (Lamarre)
  - 1. CBM supplies will flow on Questar Gas' system (Lamarre)
  - 2. A prudent utility would choose CBM as a supply source (Lamarre)
- D. CBM has provided tremendous benefit to Questar Gas and its customers (Walker, Reid)
  - 1. Abundant supply (Lamarre, Reid)
  - 2. Reduced commodity costs (Walker, Reid)
  - 3. Reduced transportation costs (Walker)
  - 4. State of Utah tax and economic benefits (Walker)

#### III. Safety

- A. Interchangeability and Combustion Theory (Conti, Benson)
  - 1. Gas composition (Conti, Benson)
    - a. Btu
    - b. Specific gravity
    - c. Hydrocarbons
    - d. Inerts

- 2. Interchangeability Indices (Benson, Conti)
  - a. Wobbe Index
  - b. AGA Index
  - c. Weaver Index
- B. Change in gas supply can impact customer safety (Conti, Benson)
  - 1. Comparison with liquefied natural gas (Benson)
  - 2. Gas Council White Paper (Conti, Benson, McKay)
  - 3. March 2005 Lab Test (Benson)
  - 4. Verification of Questar Gas' previous analysis (Benson)
- C. Questar Gas' changing supply requires appliances to be inspected and if necessary adjusted (Benson, Conti)
- D. Gas supply must be managed within a given range (Conti)
  - 1. Questar Gas has always managed gas supplies
  - 2. Narrow range is needed for a transition period

### IV. Decision-Making Process (Conti, McKay)

- A. We are following the Public Service Commission's August 2004 Order (McKay)
  - 1. Objective: Manage gas supplies to provide safe and reliable service for customers
  - 2. Criteria
    - a. Safety (Conti)
    - b. Reliability (Conti, Walker)
    - c. Implementation (Conti)
    - d. Cost (Conti, McKay)
    - e. Affiliate conflict (Conti, McKay, Walker)
  - 3. Alternatives
    - a. Review and elimination of alternatives (Conti)
    - b. Technical conference selection of three preferred alternatives (Conti, McKay)
      - i. CO<sub>2</sub> removal (Conti, McKay)
      - ii. Precision blending with CO<sub>2</sub> removal as backup (Conti, McKay)
      - iii. Precision blending with Kern River as backup (Conti, McKay, Walker)

## V. Summary (All Witnesses)

- A. The lingering doubts about CBM, Questar Gas actions, safety and affiliate influence, or "what- ifs" have been answered with ample evidence
- B. Questar Gas should be allowed to recover going-forward costs
- C. Questar Gas should be granted cost recovery beginning January 1, 2003