By The Commission:

On September 4, 2008, the Division of Public Utilities (Division) and Questar Gas Company submitted a stipulation representing their agreement whereby they compromise and settle the issues raised in the Division’s August 9, 2008, Request for Agency Action. They seek Commission approval of the stipulation and resolution of this docket on the terms of the stipulation. The stipulation is available for review at the Commission’s offices. Generally, the stipulation provides:

1. Questar Gas will provide up to $40,000 for the Division to hire a natural gas industry expert to audit Questar Gas’ current policies and procedures relating to five specific areas: emergency call processing and response procedures; emergency evacuation procedures; scene control; gas migration; and operator’s training and qualification for employees performing these tasks. The Division agrees to file the audit report with the Commission.

2. Questar Gas agrees to implement changes recommended in the audit that are both reasonable in cost and consistent with industry standards and practices of similarly situated natural gas companies in the Western United States.
3. Questar Gas agrees that it will increase, in 2008, the total number of safety training hours it provides to employees in total by 10 percent over the hours provided in 2006.

4. Questar Gas agrees that it will increase, in 2008, the number of its volunteer training hours to the Blue Stakes Center of Utah by 10 percent than the hours done in 2006.

5. Questar Gas will create a laminated hang tag to be distributed to all third-party excavators that provides information in both English and Spanish that explains what to do in the event a natural gas line is damaged.

6. On an ongoing basis, Questar Gas will file with the Commission semi-annual reports within 60 days of June 30 and of December 31, explaining the types and hours of training conducted both in-house at Questar Gas and in conjunction with the Blue Stakes Center of Utah.

The Commission requests comments on whether the stipulation should or should not be approved, with this case being resolved pursuant to the stipulation’s terms. Comments should be submitted to the Commission on or before November 5, 2008. Written comments may be submitted to the Commission, either as attachments to email correspondence, addressed to mlivingston@utah.gov, or to the Commission’s offices, addressed to Public Service Commission, 4th Floor, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111. The Commission requests that, where possible, an electronic media copy accompany any written comments.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 24th day of September, 2008.

/s/ Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary