

Sustainable Golden
711 Illinois St.
Golden, Colorado 80401



January 17, 2026

Re: Proceeding Number 25A-0220G, Public Service Company - 2025-2030 GIP Plan, C3.

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is written on behalf of Sustainable Golden in opposition to Proceeding Number 25A-0220G, Public Service Company – 2025-2040 GIP Plan, C3. Specifically, we oppose Xcel’s proposal to supply new residential construction with natural gas infrastructure, based on its negative impacts to the economy, the environment, and rate payer affordability.

Economically, expansion of natural gas distribution systems into new construction is costly and unnecessarily burdens new and existing Xcel customers with rate increases at a time when 89% of Coloradans rank the rise in cost of living as a very or extremely serious problem based on a recent Colorado Health Foundation poll. Studies by the US Department of Energy (Solar Futures Study, EERE, 2021) and NREL (Cost-Reduction Roadmap for Residential Solar Photovoltaics, NREL, 2018) show that solar generation on buildings is the lowest-cost mix of technologies for decarbonization, and that it is much more cost-effective to integrate it into initial construction instead of retrofitting at a later time.

Environmentally, the State of Colorado, the Public Utilities Commission, and Xcel itself have all committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by setting reduction goals for natural gas consumption. Investments that reinforce fossil energy use in new residential and commercial construction are in opposition to these goals, further distancing regulatory agencies and Xcel from meeting their mutually established milestones.

Furthermore, it has been proven that it is cheaper to construct new residential buildings with onsite renewable energy based on initial construction and ongoing utility costs ([New Buildings Institute, April 2021](#)). This means that construction of new homes with natural gas instead of renewable energy adds costs to future homeowners and reduces housing affordability.

We ask that the PUC and Xcel complete further evaluation of the economic, environmental, and affordability impacts of installation of new natural gas infrastructure instead of renewable energy to show the public that this is in fact the best solution for homeowners and businesses before proceeding with expansion of Colorado’s natural gas footprint.

Yours sincerely,

Sustainable Golden

Sustainable Golden is a non-profit organization that provides a local organization for passionate, talented, informed, and professional citizens of Golden to engage in initiatives that support our city in creating a sustainable living environment.