ATTACHMENT A
INITIAL QUESTIONS FOR INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC UTILITIES FOR STUDY PURSUANT TO § 40-3.2-104.6, C.R.S.

The following questions will open the investigation on behalf of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, in accordance with § 40-3.2-104.6, C.RS. The questions below are structured to gain insight from the two investor-owned electric utilities in the state of Colorado, *i.e.*, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service) and Black Hills Colorado Electric, Inc. (Black Hills), on their policies, practices, and programs as they relate to the barriers and details of integration of beneficial electrification and distributed energy resources (DERs). It is expected that each utility will file complete answers the questions below, to the best of its available knowledge, and will provide all requested resources and additional information to assist the Commission with its statutorily mandated objectives.

Questions for Public Service and Black Hills

1. Please describe the process that transpires when a new construction project is presented to the company regarding connecting a **new all-electric building or complex.**

    a. Include details about each step of the process from the company first becoming aware of the project to the completion of work to connect the project to the electric grid.

        i. Include timelines and the internal responsible parties/departments for each step outlined in the process.

        ii. Additionally, include detail on all touchpoints, analysis, or other interaction that happens internally, with external stakeholders, and/or between the consumer within each step of the process.

b. Indicate how a consumer would start the process and where they would find information to contact the company to support their request. Provide average response time for customer inquiries such as this.

c. Indicate for each step of the process and timeline if any informal or formal policies or procedures dictate the company's response or actions.

d. Provide documentation of any written policies or procedures related to this process and timeline.

e. Please provide any specific policies / procedures that dictate different steps or procedures for projects that are for income-qualified tenants or other specific affordable housing programs, as appropriate.

2. Please describe the process that transpires when a new construction project is presented to the company regarding connecting a **new mixed-fuel building or complex**. Include all details requested in question 1 for the mixed-fuel building or complex. If there are differences in the processes, policies, or steps between new all-electric buildings or complexes and mixed-fuel buildings or complexes, specifically highlighting those differences.

a. Include details about each step of the process from the company first becoming aware of the project to the completion of work to connect the project to the electric grid.

   i. Include timelines and the internal responsible parties/departments for each step outlined in the process.

ii. Additionally, include detail on all touchpoints, analysis, or other interaction that happens internally, with external stakeholders, and/or between the consumer within each step of the process.

b. Indicate how a consumer would start the process and where they would find information to contact the company to support their request. Provide average response time for customer inquiries such as this.

c. Indicate for each step of the process and timeline if any informal or formal policies or procedures dictate the company's response or actions.

d. Provide documentation of any written policies or procedures related to this process and timeline.

e. Please provide any specific policies / procedures that dictate different steps or procedures for projects that are for low-income or affordable tenants if they exist.

3. Please describe the process that transpires when an owner of an existing building approaches the company to request an **electric service size upgrade to accommodate electrified building systems and/or EV charging.**

a. Include details about each step of the process from the company first becoming aware of the project to the completion of work to support the building in the electrification and/or EV charging upgrade.

i. Include timelines and the internal responsible parties/departments for each step outlined in the process.

ii. Additionally, include detail on all touchpoints, analysis, or other interaction that happens internally, with external stakeholders, and/or between the consumer within each step of the process.

b. Indicate how a consumer would start the process and where they would find information to contact the company to support their request. Provide average response time for customer inquiries such as this.

c. Indicate for each step of the process and timeline if any informal or formal policies or procedures dictate the company's response or actions.

d. Provide documentation of any written policies or procedures related to this process and timeline.

e. Please provide any specific policies / procedures that dictate different steps or procedures for projects that are for low-income or affordable tenants if they exist.

4. Please describe the process that transpires when **new/increased electric loads, whether from service size upgrades in existing buildings or from new construction, require upgrades to utility infrastructure, including transformers, substations, or other equipment off of the customer premise.**

a. Include details about each step of the process both internally in the company and externally with the new or existing customer, from the company first becoming aware of the new load requirements to the completion of work to connect the project to the electric grid.

i. Include timelines and the internal responsible parties/departments for each step outlined in the process.

ii. Additionally, include detail on all touchpoints, analysis, or other interaction that happens internally, with external stakeholders, and/or between the consumer within each step of the process.

b. Indicate how a party requesting the new or increased service would start the process and where they would find information to contact the company to support their request. Provide average response time for customer inquiries such as this.

c. Indicate for each step of the process and timeline if any informal or formal policies or procedures dictate the company's performance or actions.

d. Provide documentation of any written policies related to this process and timeline.

e. Describe how the company determines cost allocation for the required upgrades to utility infrastructure for each of the following scenarios:

i. Existing buildings requiring service size upgrades.

ii. New all-electric buildings.

iii. New mixed-fuel buildings.

f. Please provide any specific policies / procedures that dictate different steps or procedures for projects that are for low-income or affordable tenants if they exist.

5. For new, all electric buildings, how does the company project annual electric usage in order to determine the maximum amount of solar that may be installed on the project?

a. If the company has done any verification of assumptions prior to construction vs actual usage, especially for new, all electric buildings, please provide representative examples of this analysis.

6. When the company receives a request for new service, how does the company determine the appropriate electric rate under which the project should take service?
    a. Provide documentation of the specific or relevant criteria that are used to determine the electric rate structure for different project types.
    b. Specifically, address situations in which the company must determine if a new project should be placed on an electric rate with a demand component.
7. If a demand rate is utilized, what is the process for re-evaluating the demand rate for new buildings after occupancy?
8. Share all company policies and formal or informal practices about how the company supports new or existing customers in complying with local building code and other applicable codes. Specifically, address how the company will support customers in compliance with EV charging infrastructure and electric-ready building code provisions.
    a. If processes differ between customer groups (government buildings, affordable housing complexes, single family homes, commercial buildings, etc.), describe the differences in process between each customer group.
9. Has the company ever participated in consumer education or outreach efforts related to beneficial electrification, statewide or local building codes, and/or renewable energy?
    a. If so, describe those campaigns and provide examples?
        i. What guiding principles does the company use to develop these educational campaigns?

10. Do the Company's current Distribution System Planning processes involve localized forecasting for beneficial electrification adoption for EV charging and building energy systems, inclusive of consideration of local building codes and incentives?

11. What assumptions does the company make about the timing of the various types of beneficial electrification loads, as it relates to the coincident peak on the local electric distribution system, in determining available local capacity?

12. Has the company ever participated in lobbying or stakeholder efforts related to local or statewide building code consideration and adoption?

    a. If so, please describe the extent of the lobbying and send any emails, letters, mailers, or other direct to consumer outreach communication shared with customers or stakeholders through the lobbying process.

    b. Is it standard company practice to be involved in these types of local issues? Please explain why or why not.

    c. Explain how the company determines whether or not they will participate in local or state-wide lobbying efforts. Provide any written company policies related to lobbying, if applicable.

    d. What guiding principles or company values does the company use to develop lobbying or participation perspectives or positions?

13. Share all company formal or informal interconnection policies for new direct-current fast charging (DCFC) stations.

    a. If system upgrades are needed to accommodate the installation of new DCFC charging stations, how are costs allocated between the utility and the customer?

b. Provide detail on any rate structure requirements that DCFC charging stations must utilize, including any formal or informal guidance provided to the customer from the company on how to set EV charging rates.

c. If a customer contacts the company to support siting of a direct-current fast charging (DCFC) station, provide detail on what information is provided to the customer to support the siting decision for the DCFC station.

i. Does the company provide electric system information to customers to provide insight on the siting locations that would result in the lowest system upgrade costs?

14. Share all company formal or informal interconnection policies for new Level 2 EV charging stations.

a. If system upgrades are needed to accommodate the installation of new Level 2 charging stations, how are costs allocated between the utility and the customer?

b. Provide detail on any rate structure requirements that Level 2 charging stations must utilize, including any formal or informal guidance provided to the customer from the company on how to set EV charging rates.

15. Share all formal and informal company policies as they relate to supporting the installation and interconnection of EV charging infrastructure to comply with local and state codes.

a. Share all relevant details on interconnection to the grid, required service upgrades and how costs are allocated to the consumer(s), and required or enforced rate structures.

b. Share all relevant details on internal timelines, processes, procedures, and responsible parties for how the company supports customers who must comply with state or local EV charging regulations.

16. Share all company formal or informal policies related to connecting new distributed energy resources to the grid for all customer types, including information on the required from the customer and company's average time to complete specific points in the process for the following types of systems:

    a. Grid-connected photovoltaic systems.

    b. Grid-connected energy storage systems.