

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24AL-0210E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE NO. 1950 – ELECTRIC FILED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO REVISE ITS COLORADO P.U.C. NO. 8 – ELECTRIC TARIFF TO MODIFY THE SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR RENDERING SERVICE TO ADD A CHARGE FOR REMOTE CONNECTIONS AND RECONNECTIONS FOR CUSTOMERS THAT HAVE ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE METERS, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JUNE 14, 2024.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF NOTICE**

Mailed Date: June 6, 2024
Adopted Date: May 29, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement, Findings, and Conclusions

1. On May 14, 2024, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service or Company) filed a Motion for Approval of an Alternative Form of Notice (Motion) to apply to the Company's Advice No. 1950 – Electric Tariff filing to revise its Schedule of Charges for Rendering Service in the Company's Colorado P.U.C. No. 8 – Electric Tariff. By the Advice Letter filing, the Company proposes to provide a charge of \$6 for remote connections and reconnections for customers that have Advanced Metering Infrastructure.¹

2. Concurrent with the advice letter filing, Public Service moves pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S. and Rule 1207(b), 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-1

¹ The Advice Letter represents that current reconnection charges for all customers are \$49 if reconnected in 24 hours and \$92 if reconnected in 12 hours. For residential or commercial customers that receive an Advanced Meter with an internal switch that enables remote disconnection and reconnection, the Company includes that the decreased charge is a result of removing the cost of labor and fleet to conduct field visits.

of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, to provide an alternative form of notice for the Company's filing to its customers. Public Service requests Commission approval to use the following forms of notice:

- Publishing a legal notice, in the form to attached to the Motion as Exhibit 1, in *The Denver Post*, on one weekday in May 2024;
- Posting the customer notice on the Company's public regulatory website pursuant to §40-3-104(1)(c)(I), C.R.S.; and
- Emailing a copy of the public filing materials to participants in Proceeding No. 22R-0557EG, which was the rulemaking pursuant to House Bill 22-1018.

3. Public Service maintains that good cause exists for the Commission to approve the proposed alternative form of notice, and that it will provide notice to the public in a less costly manner. Specifically, Public Service states that its policy is to limit electronic mail to significant proceedings, such as rate cases, given customers authorize the Company to use their contact information for limited rather than general purposes. Moreover, Public Service will notify participants in Proceeding No. 22R-0557EG, who have previously been engaged on disconnection rules and practices. Finally, the Company states that it intends to conduct additional customer education and outreach related to the remote disconnection and reconnection process, which will be outlined in a report that will be filed soon. In the Advice Letter, the Company further states that it met with stakeholders on April 19, 2024, to discuss a customer education and outreach strategy.

4. Pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., and 4 CCR 723-1-1207(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a utility may request to provide alternative forms of notice for a tariff change. We find the alternative form of notice the Company proposes in its Motion will provide sufficient notice to its customers and to engaged stakeholders and will do so efficiently. In addition, we emphasize the importance of the recent outreach and customer education noted by the Company in its filing, and required by rule updates in Proceeding No.

22R-0557EG.² Particularly because disconnection and reconnection processes can impact vulnerable populations and customers, ongoing improvements, affordability, and education to customers are critical. In addition to the alternative notice proposed for distribution via newspaper, online, and email, is our continued expectation that the outreach and plan filing will increasingly improve robust outreach on a nuanced subject.

5. We therefore find good cause to approve the alternative forms of notice that the Company requests.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The Motion for Approval of an Alternative Form of Notice, filed by Public Service Company of Colorado on May 14, 2024, is granted, consistent with the discussion above.

² The Company filed its Customer Education and Outreach Strategy Report on May 28, 2024, which can be accessed and reviewed in Proceeding No. 22R-0557EG.

2. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
May 29, 2024.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners