

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24AL-0521E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 879 FILED BY BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC DOING BUSINESS AS BLACK HILLS ENERGY TO INCREASE THE ENERGY COST ADJUSTMENT RATE, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025.

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

Issued Date: December 11, 2024

Adopted Date: December 4, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement, Findings, and Conclusions

1. On November 27, 2024, Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC (“Black Hills” or the “Company”) filed a Motion for Approval of Alternative Forms of Notice (“Motion”) to apply to Advice Letter No. 879-Electric. By Advice Letter No. 879-Electric, Black Hills seeks to amend its Energy Cost Adjustment (“ECA”) rate contained on Tariff Sheet No. 65 in the Rates section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 11-Electric Tariff.

2. Black Hills 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 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, to provide alternative forms of notice for the Company’s filing to its customers. Black Hills’ Motion only pertains to a request for alternative form of notice for the Company’s amendments to its tariff to reflect the ECA revisions, but it explains that in other proceedings, it has proposed amendments, all effective January 1, 2025, to its Purchased Capacity Cost

Adjustment (“PCCA”), Transmission Cost Adjustment (“TCA”), and Demand Side Management Cost Adjustment (“DSMCA”). Therefore, Black Hills proposes to provide alternative notice that reflects the filing of these three adjustments as well. Black Hills requests Commission approval to use the following forms of notice:

- Filing Advice Letter No. 879-Electric with the Commission and posting the Advice Letter, accompanying tariff sheet, and Customer Notice on its website for 45 days. The Customer Notice will explain the individual and comprehensive bill impact of proposed amendments to the ECA, DSMCA, TCA, and PCCA filings.
- Including a message on each applicable customer’s bill providing the website URL for the customer notice and Advice Letter No. 879-Electric and its accompanying tariff sheet, beginning with the December 2024 bill cycle. The bill messages will provide customer notice of the aggregated bill impact associated with proposed amendments to the ECA, DSMCA, TCA, and PCCA.
- Publishing a legal notice in three newspapers of general circulation, *The Pueblo Chieftain*, the *Cañon City Daily Record*, and the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette*, on two occasions each.

3. Black Hills maintains that good cause exists for the Commission to approve the proposed alternative forms of notice and that it will avoid incurring the expenses that is entailed in other forms of statutory notice. The Company concludes the proposed alternative forms of notice will be sufficient to alert affected and interested parties to the tariff changes the Company is proposing, including by providing notice of the estimated impact on average customers and the combined impact of proposed changes to the ECA, TCA, DSMCA, and the PCCA.

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 of a tariff change. We find the alternative forms of notice the Company proposes in the Motion will provide sufficient notice to its customers and will do so efficiently. 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 Alternative Forms of Notice, filed by Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC, on November 27, 2024, is granted.
2. This Decision is effective on its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
December 4, 2024.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners