

Decision No. C19-1037

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**

PROCEEDING NO. 19L-0714E

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING IT TO REVISE ITS ELECTRIC COMMODITY ADJUSTMENT TO BE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020, ON LESS THAN STATUTORY NOTICE.

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**COMMISSION DECISION AUTHORIZING  
AN UPWARD REVISION OF  
THE ELECTRIC COMMODITY ADJUSTMENT**

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Mailed Date: December 27, 2019

Adopted Date: December 27, 2020

**I. BY THE COMMISSION**

**A. Statement**

1. On December 13, 2019, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service or Applicant) filed an application seeking a Commission decision authorizing it, without a formal hearing and on less-than-statutory notice, to increase the Electric Commodity Adjustment (ECA) Factors and place into effect on January 1, 2020, tariffs resulting in an increase to its existing ECA rates now on file with the Commission (Application).

2. On December 18, 2019, Public Service filed an amended application to continue to recover costs of the Rush Creek Wind Project through the ECA and the Renewable Energy Standard Adjustment beginning January 1, 2020 when this ECA goes into effect. The original filing on December 13, 2019 omitted these costs in anticipation that a Commission decision in Proceeding No. 19AL-0268E would be effective on January 1, 2020. As part of the Commission's deliberations in this proceeding on December 17, 2019, the Commission decided that a Commission decision will not be issued until after January 1, 2020.

3. The proposed tariffs are attached to the Application as Exhibit No. 1 and affect Applicant's customers in Colorado.

4. This Application for authority to change tariffs is made pursuant to §§ 40-3-104(1)(c)(III) and 40-3-104(2), C.R.S., and Rule 3109(b)(II) of the Rules Regulating Electric Utilities, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-3.

**B. Findings and Conclusions**

5. The Application contains all of the information required by Commission Rules and is therefore deemed complete.

6. Applicant is an operating public utility subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission and is engaged in, *inter alia*, the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity for public uses in various certificated areas within the State of Colorado.

7. Applicant generates electricity from its own power plants to meet its customers' demands and also purchases electricity from time-to-time to supplement its own generation from other utilities in the west and east interconnections.

8. Decision No. C09-1446, Proceeding No. 09AL-299E, issued December 24, 2009, maintained the requirement that Public Service file quarterly revisions to its ECA Factors.

9. In Decision No. C07-0676, Proceeding No. 06A-478E, issued August 9, 2007, the Commission granted Public Service's request to collect the Modeled ECA Costs as provided in the Renewable Energy Standard Compliance Plan through the ECA. In Decision No. R09-0549, Proceeding No. 08A-532E, issued May 22, 2009, the Commission approved the methodology for the change in the true-up procedure between the projected costs of Eligible Energy and the actual cost of Eligible Energy to be collected in the ECA.

10. The Applicant, in calculating the new Residential Energy-Time of Use and Residential Demand-Time Differentiated Rate Schedules, applied the methodology approved by Commission Decision No. C16-1075 on November 23, 2016, in its Phase II Electric Rate Case, Proceeding No. 16AL-0048E.

11. The proposed tariffs are attached to this Decision as Appendix A. Public Service projects that the revised ECA Factors will result in an increase of \$3,731,152 in its revenues under the currently effective ECA Factors for the period January 1 through March 31 of 2020. Per Commission Decision No. C16-0958, Proceeding No. 16A-0117E issued October 20, 2016, Public Service has included Rush Creek Wind Project revenue requirements of \$30,017,326 and offsetting Production Tax Credits of \$18,916,831. Public Service has applied a \$9,836,641 Renewable Energy Standard Adjustment credit. Also included in the ECA calculation is an ECA Deferred Account under-collected balance of \$10,855,813, Rush Creek Capital Cost sharing of \$4,154,548 and Renewable\*Credit subscription payments of \$998,603.

12. The estimated effect of the requested revised ECA Factors on residential electric bills is an increase of \$2.82 per month to \$65.50 or a 4.50 percent increase, based on a monthly use of 627 kilowatt-hours. The estimated effect of the requested revised ECA Factors on small business electric bills is an increase of \$4.47 per month to \$92.98, or a 5.05 percent increase, based on a monthly use of 995 kilowatt-hours. On a percentage basis, the following increases for Public Service's other rate schedules are anticipated: 5.42 percent for Secondary General, 6.83 percent for Primary General, and 8.63 percent for Transmission General.

13. The notice of this amended Application was published in the Legal Classified Section of *The Denver Post*, a newspaper of general circulation within Public Service's service territory, on December 22, 2019.

14. The Commission finds good cause to allow the proposed increases on less-than-statutory notice. In addition, on its own motion, the Commission will waive Rule 1206(l) of the Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 CCR 723-1, to permit Public Service to file the new tariffs complying with this Decision on less than two business days' notice. We find this rule waiver is necessary to permit the new tariffs to go into effect on January 1, 2020.

## II. ORDER

### A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The application filed by Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service) on December 13, 2019 and amended on December 18, 2019, is deemed complete.

2. The application for authority to change tariffs on less-than-statutory notice is granted.

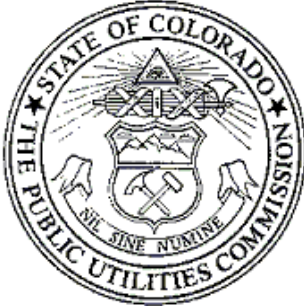
3. Public Service shall file a new advice letter and tariff on not less than two business days' notice. The advice letter and tariff shall be filed as a new advice letter proceeding and shall comply with all applicable rules. In calculating the proposed effective date, the date the filing is received at the Commission is not included in the notice period and the entire notice period must expire prior to the effective date. The advice letter and tariff must comply in all substantive respects to this Decision in order to be filed as a compliance filing on shortened notice. These tariffs shall be effective for actual electricity sales on or after their effective date of January 1, 2020.

4. The 20-day time period provided by § 40-6-114, C.R.S., to file an application for rehearing, reargument, or reconsideration shall begin on the first day after the effective date of this Decision.

5. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING  
December 27, 2019.**

( S E A L )



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY



Doug Dean,  
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

FRANCES A. KONCILJA

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JOHN GAVAN

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Commissioners

CHAIRMAN JEFFREY P. ACKERMANN  
ABSENT.