

Decision No. R20-0722-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 20AL-0301E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 1828 ELECTRIC OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO REVISE ITS COLORADO P.U.C. NO. 8 – ELECTRIC TARIFF TO IMPLEMENT AN ADVANCED GRID RIDER TO BE EFFECTIVE ON AUGUST 17, 2020.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
ROBERT I. GARVEY
RESCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING**

Mailed Date: October 9, 2020

I. STATEMENT

1. On July 17, 2020, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service) filed Advice Letter No. 1828 with tariff sheets to implement an Advanced Grid Rider (AGR), which is designed to recover certain costs associated with implementation of Public Service’s Advanced Grid Intelligence and Security (AGIS) Initiative. The proposed effective date of the tariffs filed with Advice Letter No. 1828 is August 17, 2020.

2. In the Advice Letter, Public Service proposes to implement a time-limited AGR in order to recover costs associated with the deployment of its AGIS Initiative, an effort to enhance the distribution system related to security, efficiency, reliability, and customer access. Proceeding No. 16A-0588E resulted in approval of a Settlement Agreement and a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for foundational components of the AGIS Initiative, including Advanced Metering Infrastructure, Integrated Volt-Var Optimization, and portions of the Field Area Network (FAN) communications network. Other aspects of the AGIS Initiative are being

undertaken in the ordinary course of business, including the Advanced Distribution Management System and Geospatial Information System, a spatial load forecasting tool, Fault Location Isolation and Service Restoration, and private network portions of the FAN. Public Service provides testimony describing distribution system and information technology integration work related to AGIS Initiative activities.

3. Accompanying Advice Letter No. 1828 was a Motion for Extraordinary Protection of Highly Confidential Information.

4. On July 29, 2020, the Colorado Office of Consumer Counsel filed its Protest and requested the matter be suspended and set for an evidentiary hearing.

5. The procedural history of this proceeding is set out in previous Decisions and is repeated here as necessary to put this Decision in context.

6. On September 30, 2020, by Decision No. R20-0694-I, a procedural schedule was adopted. The procedural schedule set a Public Comment hearing for October 21, 2020.

7. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) shall *sua sponte* reschedule the Public Comment Hearing originally scheduled for October 21, 2020. The Public Comment Hearing shall now be held on December 2, 2020.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

8. The instructions for public access to the hearing with a new link and access phone number are contained below. Please refer to Attachment A in Decision No. in R20-0694-I for detailed instructions.

9. The ALJ finds that, given the uncertainty which the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic creates on future public gatherings, it is in the best interests of the parties and Commission personnel to hold the public comment hearing remotely and that doing so is

consistent with emergency declarations and public health advisories to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, the ALJ will order that the public comment hearing be held remotely by video conference.

10. The Commission prefers written comments over oral comments. As a result, interested persons are encouraged to submit written comments through either: (a) the Commission's Electronic Filing System at <https://www.dora.state.co.us/pls/efi/EFI.homepage> in this proceeding; or (b) the Commission's website at <https://puc.colorado.gov/> by clicking on the "FILE A COMMENT OR COMPLAINT" link. Both oral and written comments will be given the same weight in this proceeding.

11. For those individuals who want to provide oral comments, the Commission will use the web-hosted video conferencing service, GoToMeeting, to hold video conferences, and in this case, a remote public comment hearing. Video-conference participation allows for oral comments to be presented in a manner most similar to that which occurs during in-person hearings. Individuals who wish to provide oral comments during the public comment hearing can participate and provide their comments either by telephone or computer. Attachment A in Decision No. R20-0694-I sets forth general instructions and requirements for how to participate by telephone or by computer. These requirements are intended to ensure that the remote hearing proceeds efficiently without technical problems. Attachment A in Decision No. R20-0694-I includes important requirements and technical information on participating in the hearing through GoToMeeting. Hence, it is vitally important that Participants and counsel carefully review and follow all requirements in this Decision and Attachment A in Decision No. R20-0694-I.

12. **To Participate by Telephone.** Any member of the public or party who wishes to provide comments by telephone during the remote public comment hearing must call +1 571-317-3122 when the hearing takes place. When prompted, input the pin 838-0298-141. You will then be placed into the public comment hearing. Please note that your session and participation will be controlled by the ALJ/Commission Staff. When you are not speaking, please mute your telephone.

13. **To Participate by Computer.** Any member of the public or Participant who wishes to participate in the public comment hearing by computer must use a computer that is connected to the internet and has a microphone and a speaker. At the time of the hearing, please go to <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/838029141>. When you are not speaking, please mute your microphone. Attachment A in Decision No. R20-0694-I contains detailed instructions for participating in the hearing using GoToMeeting.

14. The ALJ anticipates that the hearing will be webcast, consistent with Commission practice. This means that those persons wishing to observe the hearing may do so without needing to join the hearing online. Please use the audio or video connection for Hearing Room A found at <https://puc.colorado.gov/webcasts>.

III. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The remote public comment hearing is scheduled for October 21, 2020 is rescheduled for December 2, 2020. It shall take place from 4:00 p.m. until it is concluded. Members of the public who wish to participate in and/or to provide oral comments at the remote public comment hearing, must follow the instructions stated above in this Interim Decision.

2. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ROBERT I. GARVEY

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Dean".

Doug Dean,
Director