

Decision No. R21-0132-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 20R-0516E

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO RULES REGULATING ELECTRIC UTILITIES, 4 CODE OF COLORADO REGULATIONS 723-3, TO IMPLEMENT § 40-2-132, C.R.S., RELATING TO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING.

**INTERIM DECISION ESTABLISHING
PROCEDURES FOR THE MARCH 11 AND 12, 2021
REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING AND
PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION**

Mailed Date: March 9, 2021

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On December 3, 2020, by Decision No. C20-0837, the Commission opened this Proceeding by issuing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NOPR) to amend the Commission's Rules Regulating Electric Utilities, 4 Code of Colorado Regulations (CCR) 723-3, through the development of new rules regarding Distribution System Planning (DSP). The Commission solicited written comments on proposed DSP Rules and scheduled a rulemaking hearing for March 11 and 12, 2021.

2. On February 26, 2021, the Commission referred the matter to Commissioner Megan Gilman, acting as Hearing Commissioner, for the issuance of a recommended decision.

B. Instructions for Written Comments

3. Written comments are preferred to oral comments given the unique circumstances of having a virtual public comment hearing.

4. Written comments may be submitted at any time before the March 11, 2021 hearing and will be accepted throughout that day.

5. Members of the public may provide written comments in Proceeding No. 20R-0516E at:

<http://www.dora.state.co.us/pacific/PUC/puccomments.html>

6. Registered filers for the Commission's E-filing System should instead submit their comments in this Proceeding through the E-filing System.

C. Instructions for Accessing the Remote Public Comment Hearing

7. For those individuals who nevertheless want to provide oral comments at the hearing, the Commission will use the conferencing service GoToMeeting at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/111216317>.

8. Members of the public may enter a queue to provide oral comments by dialing **(646) 749-3122** at the time of the hearing. When prompted, the caller shall input **111-216-317** to be placed into the hearing. All participants in the hearing should mute their phones or microphones until called upon to provide comments by Hearing Commissioner Megan Gilman.

9. The Commission will also provide access to the March 11-12, 2021 hearing through a GoToMeeting video conferencing platform to individuals who have an e-mail address on file for service for this Proceeding through the Commission's E-filing System. Via an e-mail message sent prior to the start of the hearing, the Commission will provide a link for access to the video conferencing platform. The e-mail will also include applicable instructions to access and participate via the video platform.

10. The March 11-12, 2021 hearing will be webcast to the general public at puc.colorado.gov/webcasts (Hearing Room A). Persons seeking to attend the hearing without

providing oral comment are encouraged to participate in this manner and should not use the GoToMeeting platforms. Audio recordings will be available 24 hours after the hearing.

11. Additional information and tutorials for using GoToMeeting are available at:

<https://www.gotomeeting.com/meeting/resources/gotomeeting-quick-and-helpful-guide-for-attendees>.

These links are only provided for the convenience of the individuals who plan to participate in the remote public comment hearing, and are not intended to guarantee that the information on the link is accurate or that it provides all the information the parties may need in order to use GoToMeeting.

D. General Instructions for the Hearing

12. We intend to focus the March 11-12, 2021, public comment hearing on oral comments related to the proposed rules discussed in the December 2020 Decision.

13. Participants in the March 11-12, 2021 hearing are discouraged from orally repeating comments that have been submitted in writing.

14. The following are the procedures for the public comment hearing:

- a) The hearing will be transcribed.
- b) The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. on March 11, 2021 and will continue until concluded, but in no event later than 5:00 p.m. on March 12, 2021.
- c) The Hearing Commissioner will compile a list of commenters and call on each to provide the oral comments. At the outset of the hearing, and periodically during the course of the hearing, the Hearing Commissioner will ask participants who wish to provide comments to identify themselves and the topics or rules they seek to address.
- d) The Hearing Commissioner may take commenters in a particular order (*e.g.*, by topic area or rule).
- e) The Hearing Commissioner may set a time limit for each individual to speak.

f) The Hearing Commissioner may ask clarifying questions of an individual who makes an oral comment at the hearing.

g) The Hearing Commissioner encourages commenters to utilize headsets or headphones if possible and speak at a pace that allow for an accurate recording of remarks by the court reporter.

15. Individuals seeking to provide oral comment during the March 11-12, 2021 public comment hearing are encouraged to provide their name, organization if affiliated, phone number, and topic or topics that they plan to address on or before March 11, 2021, via e-mail at dora_puc_website@state.co.us. The e-mail should include Proceeding No. 20R-0516E and the March 11-12, 2021 hearing date in the subject line. An e-mail sent prior to the hearing is not required to provide oral comment at the hearing. However, participants providing information about their planned participation prior to the hearing will assist the Commission in organizing topics and planning the discussion.

16. In the event of technical difficulties or other unforeseen circumstances, the Commission may continue the meeting to a future date by separate order.

II. ORDER

A. **It Is Ordered That:**

1. The public comment hearing scheduled to be held on March 11-12, 2021 by Decision No. C20-0837 shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Decision. Participants who wish to provide oral comments at the remote public comment hearing must follow the instructions stated above.

2. Individuals may not attend the public comment hearing in-person, because the building containing the Commission's offices and hearing rooms is closed to the public.

3. Written comments are encouraged and shall be accepted in the proceeding, as discussed above.

4. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

MEGAN GILMAN

Hearing Commissioner

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

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

Doug Dean,
Director