

Decision No. C25-0592-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25A-0266E

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR PUBLIC INTEREST DETERMINATION FOR ENTRY INTO THE SOUTHWEST POWER POOL IN THE WESTERN INTERCONNECTION.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION SETTING
SHORTENED RESPONSE TIME TO MOTION FOR
EXTRAORDINARY PROTECTION**

Issued Date: August 14, 2025

Adopted Date: August 13, 2025

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statements, Findings, and Conclusions

1. On June 16, 2025, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (“Tri-State”), in accordance with § 40-5-108, C.R.S., filed an Application (“Application”) requesting a finding that the Southwest Power Pool Regional Transmission Organization in the Western Interconnection (“SPP RTO West”) is a Statutory Organized Wholesale Market (“OWM”), as defined in Rule 3752(n), 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-3, and that Tri-State’s planned participation in the SPP RTO West is in the public interest. Concurrent with its Application, Tri-State also filed a Motion to Approve a Proposed Procedural Schedule, Discovery Procedures, and Treatment of Confidential Information.

2. On June 26, 2025, by Decision No. C25-0484-I, the Commission noticed the Application, established a shortened notice and intervention period to run to July 9, 2025, and set July 14, 2025, as the response deadline to Tri-State's procedural motion.

3. On July 18, 2025, by Decision No. C25-0530-I, the Commission acknowledged the interventions of right filed by Trial Staff of the Commission ("Staff"), the Colorado Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate ("UCA"), and the Colorado Energy Office ("CEO"). The Commission also granted the motions for permissive intervention filed by: Interwest Energy Alliance ("Interwest"); Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC ("Black Hills"); Western Resource Advocates ("WRA"); and Holy Cross Electric Association, Inc ("Holy Cross"). Also through Decision No. C25-0530-I, the Commission required Tri-State to confer with the intervening parties regarding a procedural schedule and to file a new proposed procedural schedule by July 25, 2025. Tri-State then timely filed a proposed consensus procedural schedule.

4. On August 6, 2025, by Decision No. C25-0578-I, the Commission adopted the proposed consensus procedural schedule and granted Tri-State's procedural motion, in part.

5. Also on August 6, 2025, Tri-State filed an Unopposed Motion for Extraordinary Protection ("Motion") in which it seeks extraordinary protection for categories of documents and information it collectively refers to as Highly Confidential Information. Specifically, Tri-State requests extraordinary protection for interconnection customer information (including interconnection status for particular bids in Tri-State's 2023 ERP) and certain resources, sales, and load detail for preliminary SPP RTO Expansion planning reserve margin analysis.

6. Regarding conferral, Tri-State explains CEO, UCA, WRA, and Staff take no position on the Motion. Holy Cross and Interwest did not provide a conferral response. While Black Hills takes no position, it reserves the right to respond to the Motion.

7. Considering Black Hills's reservation of right to respond, and to allow for expeditious consideration of the Motion, we find good cause to set a shortened response timeline to the Motion. Responses shall therefore be due by **5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2025.**

8. We will address the merits of the Motion at a future date.

II. ORDER

A. **It Is Ordered That:**

1. The deadline to file responses to Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc.'s Unopposed Motion for Extraordinary Protection of Highly Confidential Information filed on August 6, 2025, is **5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2025.**

2. This Decision is effective immediately upon its Issued Date.

B. **ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING August 13, 2025.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners

Rebecca E. White,
Director