

Decision No. C23-0155

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 21I-0321E

IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO THE INTERCONNECTION OF
DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES.

COMMISSION DECISION CLOSING PROCEEDING

Mailed Date: March 2, 2023
Adopted Date: February 15, 2023

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. The Commission, in Decision No. C21-0399, mailed July 12, 2021, opened a proceeding directing staff to investigate interconnection practices with the intent that the information would be helpful in improving the interconnection process for distributed energy resources (DERs). In the decision opening the proceeding, the Commission directed staff to: collect data from the two rate regulated electric utilities; solicit similar information on a voluntary basis from Colorado electric utilities not regulated by the Commission; and solicit anonymous comments on certain topics from entities with direct experience interconnecting to Colorado's electric grid, such as generation owners, developers, and installers.

2. The Commission established in the decision opening the investigation established that this would be a non-adjudicated Staff investigation, and there would be no parties to this proceeding.

3. The Commission further stated that “[t]he purpose of this proceeding is to authorize Staff to investigate interconnection as discussed above and receive Staff’s report of findings. Any further action will be taken up in future proceedings as appropriate.”¹

4. The Commission staff received data from both Commission regulated electric utilities and from four Colorado cooperative utilities. Comments were also provided from numerous installers, solar industry organizations, and customers. The results of the staff investigation were filed with the Commission a staff report on December 29, 2021.

5. The Commission, in Decision No. C22-0399-I, mailed June 30, 2022, established a comment process to allow interested persons (utilities, installers, solar industry organizations, customers, etc.) to file comments on the Staff report by July 15, 2022, and responsive comments by July 29, 2022. In addition to the comments received as established by the Commission, numerous additional comments were filed with the Commission over the following months that for the most part demonstrated that the delays and missed deadlines were a continuing problem for customers seeking to interconnect DERs with the Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service” or “Company”).

6. Public Service Company of Colorado on February 14, 2023, filed comments in response to the many comments received by the Commission regarding the delays and missed deadlines. The Company described the actions it is taking to resolve the issues.

¹ C21-0399, ¶14.

II. DISCUSSION

7. The investigation, report and comments provided establish an adequate record which may be taken notice of in a future proceeding where the Commission may take action as contemplated when the proceeding was opened.

8. The Commission finds that it is appropriate to close this proceeding.

III. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. This Proceeding is now closed.
2. This Decision is effective upon its Mailed Date.

B. **ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING February 15, 2023.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

G. Harris Adams,
Interim Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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MEGAN M. GILMAN

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Commissioners