

Decision No. R23-0637-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23M-0466EG

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S EXAMINATION OF THIRD-PARTY PROVISION OF GAS DEMAND RESPONSE SERVICES, VIRTUAL POWER PLANTS, AND NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIFICATION IN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO'S ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS SERVICE AREAS PURSUANT TO DECISION NO. C23-0413.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
HEARING COMMISSIONER TOM PLANT
ISSUING QUESTIONS AND SETTING PROCEDURAL
SCHEDULE**

Mailed Date: September 20, 2023

I. STATEMENT

1. By Decision No. C23-0628, issued on September 18, 2023, the Commission opened this Proceeding to explore third-party implementation of certain pilot programs in the electric and natural service areas of Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service) in accordance with Decision C23-0413.¹

2. This Decision sets forth questions to Public Service and other interested persons and sets a schedule for filings and workshops to facilitate the development and implementation of requests for proposals (RFPs) for third-party implementation of three pilot programs: (1) virtual power plants; (2) natural gas demand response; and (3) neighborhood electrification.

¹ Decision No. C23-0413, issued on June 22, 2023, Proceeding No. 22A-0309EG.

II. DISCUSSION, FINDINGS, AND CONCLUSIONS

3. Attachment A to this Decision includes a series of questions related to the development and implementation of RFPs for the three contemplated pilots. These questions are intended to solicit comments from interested stakeholders and to cause responses from Public Service.

4. Public Service and interested persons may also file comments related to the main objectives of this Proceeding as stated in Decision No. C23-0628: (1) identifying the core objectives and timelines for the three pilots; (2) setting the main technical, cost and time parameters for the RFPs; (3) establishing milestones for the RFPs; and (4) setting operational and reporting milestones for the pilots.

5. Consistent with Decision No. C23-0628, the timeline for this Proceeding will be accelerated to ensure the pilots are useful to Public Service’s next strategic issues application proceeding for demand-side management (DSM) and beneficial electrification (BE) required to be filed in 2025.

6. Accordingly, the following schedule is adopted:

Scheduled Event	Event Due Date:
Initial Comments/Responses to Questions in this Decision	October 4, 2023
Workshop with Hearing Commissioner	October 11, 2023
Follow-up Questions from Hearing Commissioner	October 20, 2023
Follow-up Comments/Responses	November 3, 2023
Follow-up Workshop with Hearing Commissioner	TBD

7. The procedural schedule established above will allow for the issuance of a recommended decision with guidelines for the release and implementation of the RFPs.

8. In the event that a stakeholder elects not to file initial comments but nevertheless intends to participate in this proceeding, a notice of intent to participate should be filed in this Proceeding no later than October 4, 2023.

9. A remote workshop is scheduled for October 11, 2023, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The remote technical conference will be held using the web-hosted video conferencing service Zoom. The link and meeting ID or access code will be provided by e-mail to persons filing comments in this Proceeding or otherwise filing notices to participate on or before October 4, 2023. Other interested persons may observe the webcast of the workshop through the Commission's website.

III. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. Consistent with the discussion above, Public Service Company of Colorado shall file responses to the questions included in Attachment A to this Decision no later than October 4, 2023.

2. Interested persons shall file initial comments or notices of intent to participate in this Proceeding no later than October 4, 2023, consistent with the discussion above.

3. A workshop is scheduled as follows:

DATES: October 11, 2023

TIMES: 1:00 p.m., continuing until concluded, but no later than 5:00 p.m.

PLACE: By video conference or telephone using the Zoom web conferencing platform at a link emailed to those filing comments or notices to participate on or before October 4, 2023.

4. Those wishing to observe but not participate in the above workshop may do so by observing the Commission's webcast for the assigned hearing room at: puc.colorado.gov/webcasts.

5. This Decision is effective upon its Mailed Date.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

TOM PLANT

Hearing Commissioner

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director