

Decision No. R23-0797-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23M-0464EG

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S IMPLEMENTATION OF ASPECTS OF SENATE BILL 23-291 INCLUDING ITS CONSIDERATION OF CUSTOMER CONNECTIONS TO AND DISCONNECTIONS FROM INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC AND GAS UTILITY SYSTEMS AND THE STUDY OF POTENTIAL BARRIERS TO BENEFICIAL ELECTRIFICATION AND DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES.

**INTERIM DECISION OF HEARING COMMISSIONER
MEGAN M. GILMAN ISSUING ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

Mailed Date: November 30, 2023

I. STATEMENT, FINDINGS, AND CONCLUSIONS

1. By Decision No. C23-0627, issued on September 18, 2023, the Commission opened this Proceeding to implement certain provisions in Senate Bill (SB) 23-291 related to customer connections to and disconnections from investor-owned electric and gas utility systems and designated Commissioner Megan M. Gilman as Hearing Commissioner. One purpose of this Proceeding is to facilitate the study the Commission must complete in compliance with SB 23-291 addressing potential barriers to beneficial electrification of transportation and buildings (BE) and the deployment of distributed energy resources (DERs).

2. By Decision No. R23-0636-I, issued September 20, 2023, the Hearing Commissioner set forth initial questions for answer from Colorado's two investor-owned electric utilities, namely, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service) and Black Hills Colorado Electric, Inc. (Black Hills), as means to launch the Commission's study into barriers to BE and the deployment of DERs.

3. By this Decision, the Hearing Commissioner issues additional questions for answer by Public Service and Black Hills to facilitate the Commission’s study into barriers to BE and the deployment of DERs. The questions are provided as Attachment A to this Decision. These questions have been specifically tailored for each utility based on feedback collected from the experiences of customers, developers, and other stakeholders located in the utility’s particular service territory.

4. Public Service and Black Hills shall file responses to these additional questions in this Proceeding no later than December 20, 2023. Timely and thorough responses to these additional questions are necessary, given the statutory deadline for work in this scope to be completed.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. Consistent with the discussion above, Public Service Company of Colorado and Black Hills Colorado Electric, Inc. shall file responses to the questions included in Attachment A to this Decision no later than December 20, 2023.

2. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

MEGAN M. GILMAN

Hearing Commissioner

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Rebecca E. White'.

Rebecca E. White,
Director