

Decision No. C24-0644-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24A-0296E

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2025-2027 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN, WILDFIRE MITIGATION ADJUSTMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF PLAN, AND THE RECOVERY OF ITS 2023 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN DEFERRAL.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION
VACATING PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND
WAIVING RESPONSE TIME TO MOTION**

Issued Date: September 6, 2024

Adopted Date: September 4, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. By this Decision, the Commission vacates the prehearing conference scheduled for September 11, 2024. Considering the scope and complexity of this Proceeding, the Commission will take under consideration how best to address the proposed procedural schedule filed on August 29, 2024, by Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service”) in its Notice of Conferral and Unopposed Motion to Approve Consensus Procedural Schedule and Request for Waiver of Response Time (“Unopposed Motion”).

B. Background

2. On August 12, 2024, by Commission Decision No. C24-0575-I, the Commission, among other things, deemed the Application complete, set the matter for hearing *en banc*, required Public Service to confer with the parties to this proceeding and file a proposed procedural schedule no later than August 29, 2024. We also scheduled a prehearing conference for September 11, 2024.

3. On August 29, 2024, Public Service timely filed its Unopposed Motion, in which it states consensus was reached among the parties for a proposed procedural schedule. The Company further states it is not proposing to waive any statutory timelines to accommodate the schedule and asserts the schedule was designed to comply with the statutory deadline of this proceeding.

C. Findings and Conclusions

4. Upon review of Public Service’s proposed procedural schedule, we determine additional time is necessary to consider the proceeding’s schedule and we therefore vacate the September 11, 2024 prehearing conference. We will bring the procedural schedule issue back at a later date to discuss whether to modify the proposed schedule and determine whether extraordinary circumstances exist pursuant to § 40-6-109.5(4), C.R.S. to extend the statutory 250-day deadline in which to issue a final decision in this matter.

5. As detailed in Commission Decision No. C24-0575-I, the scope of the Application is sweeping, the Application’s budget is nearly \$2 billion, and the Application’s cost recovery mechanism is complex. The Application also functionally includes two separate applications in one – Public Service’s Wildfire Mitigation Plan (“WMP”) and Public Service’s PSPS Plan. Considering these factors, we find it is in the public interest to afford the Commission the opportunity to devise a procedural schedule that will best allow it to give appropriate weight to both the WMP and the PSPS plan. We therefore vacate the prehearing conference and will bring this matter at a future Commissioners’ Weekly Meeting in order to thoroughly consider the proper procedural path forward.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The prehearing conference scheduled for September 11, 2024, is vacated.

2. Response time to Public Service Company of Colorado’s Notice of Conferral and Unopposed Motion to Approve Consensus Procedural Schedule and Request for Waiver of Response Time is waived.

3. This Decision is effective immediately on its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS’ WEEKLY MEETING
September 4, 2024.**

(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