

Decision No. C24-0661-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24A-0380EG

IN THE MATTER OF THE VERIFIED APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR APPROVAL OF DEFERRED ACCOUNTING TREATMENT FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH CHANGES IN PREMIUMS FOR EXCESS LIABILITY INSURANCE AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION
ESTABLISHING SHORTENED NOTICE AND
INTERVENTION PERIOD AND SETTING RESPONSE
TIME TO MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT**

Issued Date: September 12, 2024

Adopted Date: September 11, 2024

TO THE PARTIES IN THIS MATTER AND ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, FIRMS, OR CORPORATIONS:

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On September 5, 2024, Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service” or the “Company”) filed an Application for approval of deferred accounting treatment for certain costs associated with changes in premiums for excess liability insurance (“Application”). Public Service also filed a Motion for Expedited Treatment (“Procedural Motion”).

2. By this Decision, the Commission establishes a shortened notice and intervention period for the Application. A pleading to intervene in this matter shall be filed by any person, firm, or corporation desiring to be a party and fully participate in this Proceeding no later than September 27, 2024. Responses to the Procedural Motion are also due on September 27, 2024.

B. Discussion

3. Through its Application, Public Service seeks to create a regulatory asset to track and defer above or below what is included in base rates for excess liability insurance premiums. The Company wants this general accounting order to become effective on October 18, 2024, the day upon which the Company's renewed insurance policy takes effect. Public Service asks the Commission to approve the establishment of the regulatory asset before the end of 2024.

4. Public Service states that due to increasing wildfire risk, the Company anticipates its excess liability insurance premiums to increase dramatically. The Company emphasizes that despite these increased premiums, it is still prudent for the Company to maintain excess liability insurance to limit the risk of catastrophic claims that cause the Company to incur financial stresses and ultimately increase costs. Public Service also asserts the deferral will provide needed support to facilitate the Company's obtaining of excess liability insurance and to support the Company as it faces evolving wildfire risks.

5. In the Procedural Motion, Public Service argues that a shortened notice and intervention period is appropriate because the scope of the requested relief is narrow, and the prudence of the deferred costs will be decided in a future rate proceeding. Public Service further requests that the Commission render a final decision on the Application by the end of 2024 and therefore consider the matter *en banc*. The Company further asks that the Commission modify the response time to the Procedural Motion by waiving the response time to the Company's request for shortened notice and intervention period and requiring responses to the Procedural Motion to be included with any interventions filed in this Proceeding.

C. Findings and Conclusions

6. We find good cause to waive response time to the request for a shortened notice and intervention period as set forth in the Procedural Motion and establish a shortened notice and intervention period as requested by Public Service.

7. The Application is available for public inspection by accessing the Commission's E-Filings System under Proceeding No. 24A-0380EG at:

https://www.dora.state.co.us/pls/efi/EFI.Show_Docket?p_session_id=&p_docket_id=24A-0380EG.

This Decision is the notice that Public Service's application for approval of deferred accounting treatment for certain costs associated with changes in premiums for excess liability insurance has been filed with the Commission.

8. A pleading to intervene may be filed by any person, firm, or corporation desiring to be a party and fully participate in this Proceeding, as ordered below. The filing of any other document protesting the tariff sheets shall not allow participation as an intervenor in this matter.

9. The deadline for responses to the Company's other procedural requests in its Procedural Motion shall be September 27, 2024.

10. Further procedures for this matter will be addressed by separate decision.

II. ORDER**A. It Is Ordered That:**

1. The request of Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service") for a shortened notice and intervention period for its application filed on September 5, 2024, for approval of deferred accounting treatment for certain costs associated with changes in premiums for excess liability insurance a variance, is granted.

2. Service of this Decision will provide notice of Public Service's application to all interested persons, firms, and corporations.

3. The notice and intervention period shall expire at 5:00 p.m. on September 27, 2024.

4. Any person desiring to intervene or participate as a party in this proceeding, including Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, shall file a Petition for Leave to Intervene, or under the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-1, file other appropriate pleadings to become a party, no later than September 27, 2024.

5. All persons who file an Objection, Notice of Intervention as of Right, Motion to Permissively Intervene, or any other appropriate pleading shall do so in accordance with the instructions set forth in the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure and this Decision.

6. Responses to the Motion for Expedited Treatment filed by Public Service on September 5, 2024, shall be filed no later than September 27, 2024.

7. This Decision is effective on its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
September 11, 2024.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners