Decision No. C25-0480-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24A-0547E

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2025-2029 DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLAN AND THE GRID MODERNIZATION ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE.

PROCEEDING NO. 25A-0061E

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO'S AGGREGATOR VIRTUAL POWER PLANT PROGRAM AND TARIFF, ALONG WITH ASSOCIATED PROGRAM BUDGET AND COST RECOVERY METHODOLOGY.

INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION SCHEDULING PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING AND ADDRESSING ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS REGARDING HEARING EXHIBIT NUMBERING AND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

> Issued Date: June 26, 2025 Adopted Date: June 18, 2025

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On December 16, 2024, Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" or the "Company") filed its Application for Approval of its 2025-2029 Distribution System Plan ("DSP") and Grid Modernization Adjustment Clause ("Application") in this Proceeding. On January 31, 2025, pursuant to Senate Bill ("SB") 24-218, Public Service filed an Application for Approval of an Aggregator Virtual Power Plant in Proceeding No. 25A-0061E (Proceeding

No. 25A-0061E or "AVPP Application"). This Proceeding is the consolidated docket of the AVPP Application and the DSP Application.

2. By Decision No. C25-0261-I, issued April 8, 2025, the Commission adopted a procedural schedule and scheduled an *en* banc evidentiary hearing. By this Decision, the Commission addresses several procedural matters for this Proceeding and schedules a remote public comment hearing for August 26, 2025, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

B. Background

- 3. On December 16, 2024, Public Service filed its DSP Application.

 On January 31, 2025, Public Service filed its AVPP Application.
- 4. By Decision No. C25-0154-I, the Commission deemed the DSP Application complete and granted the requests for permissive intervention filed by Colorado Energy Consumers Group ("CEC"); the City and County of Denver ("Denver"); the Interstate Renewable Energy Council ("IREC"); Pivot Energy Inc. ("Pivot"); the Eastern Metro Area Business Coalition (the "Eastern Metro Area Business Coalition"); the City of Boulder ("Boulder"); Holy Cross Electric Association Inc. ("Holy Cross"); Western Resource Advocates ("WRA"); Tesla, Inc. ("Tesla"); the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project and Natural Resource Defense Counsel, jointly ("SWEEP/NRDC"); Mission:data Coalition, Inc. ("Mission:data"); and filing jointly, the Colorado Solar and Storage Association ("COSSA"), the Solar Energy Industries Association ("SEIA"); the Coalition for Community Solar Access ("CCSA"), and the Advanced Energy United ("AEU") (jointly the "Associations for Clean Energy," or "ACE"). The Commission acknowledged the notices of intervention of right filed by Trial Staff of the Commission ("Staff"), the Office of the Utility Consumer Advocate ("UCA"), and the Colorado Energy Office ("CEO"). By Decision No. C25-0155-I, the Commission deemed the AVPP Application complete and established the parties

to the AVPP Proceeding, including CEC; Pivot; Boulder; WRA; AEU; COSSA/SEIA/CCSA; Colorado Renewable Energy Society; Mr. William Althouse; Solar United Neighbors; CEO; UCA; and Staff.

5. By Decision No. C25-0261-I, the Commission consolidated the DSP and AVPP Applications and established a procedural schedule for the consolidated proceeding.

C. Discussion, Findings, and Conclusions

1. Public Comment Hearing

- 6. By Decision No. C25-0261-I, the Commission scheduled a nine-day remote evidentiary hearing *en banc* for the days of August 25-29, 2025, and September 2-5, 2025, as well as established the remainder of the procedural schedule. However, the Commission did not set a time for a hearing to solicit public comment.
- 7. Based on the scope and importance of this Proceeding, we find good cause to schedule a public comment hearing in this matter. We will conduct a remote public comment hearing on Tuesday August 26, 2025, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., or until concluded by the Commission.
- 8. The public comment hearing will be held using web-based conferencing Zoom platform. Members of the public cannot attend the remote public comment hearing in-person.
- 9. Additional information about participation in the public comment hearings, such as the sign-up sheet, and all relevant information on how to log on to the remote public comment hearings will be made available on the Commission's public calendar at: https://puc.colorado.gov/puccalendar.
- 10. A court reporter will live transcribe each of the hearings to create a written record of the comments received. Commenters should give their full name, and spell it, before they give

their comments. In general, commenters will be called to speak in the order in which they sign up. The presiding officer may adopt procedures and time limits for comments as necessary to ensure that all members of the public have opportunity to comment, and the transcribed record is clear and understandable. Typical time limits range from one to three minutes for each commenter. To ensure the hearing time is used efficiently, commenters are requested to avoid repetitive comments that re-state filed written comments or repeat oral comments already provided at hearing. As discussed below, written public comment can be filed at any time in the Proceeding and will be afforded the same weight as oral comments. Finally, the purpose of a public comment hearing is to provide opportunity for members of the public to provide oral comments. To that end, parties to the Proceeding and their representatives are not permitted to present comments. Individuals may present comments on their own behalf.

- This means that those persons wishing to observe but not participate in the public comment hearing may do so by watching the webcast. To observe the remote public comment hearing, enter this link in the web browser https://puc.colorado.gov/webcasts and select the audio or video option for Hearing Room A. The Commission encourages interested persons who do not wish to provide comments at the remote public comment hearing to observe it through the webcast rather than Zoom. Doing so will help minimize background noise during the hearing and may assist in the orderly progression of the hearing.
- 12. Participating in the public comment hearing is not the only way to provide comments in this Proceeding. We encourage interested persons to provide written or oral public comments at any time this Proceeding is open. Please include "Proceeding No. 24A-0547E" in the public comments. Public comments can be provided by:

- Submitting written comments through the Commission's Electronic Filing System (E-Filings) at: https://www.dora.state.co.us/pls/efi/EFI.homepage
- Submitting written comments using the Commission's online form or through email at: <u>dora_puc_website@state.co.us</u>. These comments will be posted in E-Filings for this Proceeding.
- Mailing comments to the Commission's offices at: Colorado Public Utilities Commission, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202
- Calling (303) 869-3490 to leave oral comments (available in both English and Spanish options)
- 13. Finally, the Commission strives to accommodate all members of the public at its hearings and meetings by providing services for foreign language users and persons with disabilities upon receipt of a reasonable accommodation request. Requests for such accommodations should be made at least one week prior to the event by completing the Language Accommodation Request Form available at the Commission's webcast page.

2. Administrative Matters

- 14. The remote evidentiary hearing scheduled for August 26, 2025, by Decision No. C25-0261-I will be adjourned early at approximately 4:00 p.m. to accommodate the public comment hearing scheduled by this Decision.
- 15. Decision No. C25-0261-I also established the remainder of the procedural schedule for this Proceeding. At paragraph 27, the Commission adopted a procedural schedule that inadvertently set two dates for the deadline for filing of the cross-examination matrix. Pursuant to the Company's Conferral Report, filed on March 14, 2025, the deadline for the filing of the cross-examination matrix proposed by the parties is August 19, 2025, and the deadline for corrections to prefiled testimony and exhibits is August 18, 2025.
- 16. The Commission confirms that these deadlines are appropriate, and this Decision shall serve as an Errata for Decision No. C25-0261-I.

17. Paragraph 17 of Decision No. C25-0261-I shall read as follows:

Deadline/Action	Date
Supplemental Direct Testimony (discussed herein)	May 19, 2025
Answer Testimony	June 26, 2025
Rebuttal & Cross-Answer Testimony	July 30, 2025
Stipulations and Settlement Agreements	August 11, 2025
Settlement Testimony	August 11, 2025
Cross Examination Matrix	August 19, 2025
Pre-Hearing Motions	August 20, 2025
Corrections to Prefiled Testimony and Exhibits Cross-Matrix/Witness List	August 18, 2025
Remote En Banc Evidentiary Hearing	August 25-29, and September 2-5, 2025
Statements of Position	September 26, 2025
250-day deadline	November 3, 2025

18. Finally, we use this Decision to highlight that the Company has recently filed the AVPP Application direct and supplemental direct testimony into the DSP Proceeding docket. The Company updated the hearing numbers for the AVPP direct and supplemental testimony. This will ensure that the hearing process runs more efficiently and should lessen confusion because there will not be two hearing exhibits with the same exhibit numbers in the consolidated proceeding. We draw attention to this change in hearing exhibit numbering now to help with the preparation of answer testimony to the extent parties are able to cite the new hearing exhibit numbering.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. A remote public comment hearing is scheduled as follows:

DATE: August 26, 2025

TIME: 4:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., or until concluded by the Commission

WEBCAST: Commission Hearing Room A

METHOD: By video conference or telephone using the zoom web

conferencing platform at a link emailed to all those who register

to participate in the public comment hearing.

2. The remote evidentiary hearing scheduled for August 26, 2025, by Decision No. C25-0261-I will be adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m. to accommodate the public comment hearing scheduled that evening.

- 3. This Decision is effective immediately upon its Issued Date.
- a. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING June 18, 2025.



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

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MEGAN M. GILMAN

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Commissioners

Rebecca E. White, Director