

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25A-0044EG

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR APPROVAL OF THE MOUNTAIN ENERGY PROJECT AND ASSOCIATED CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPLY.

**INTERIM DECISION GRANTING SUPPLEMENTED
MOTION FOR EXTRAORDINARY PROTECTION**

Issued Date: April 10, 2025

I. STATEMENT

A. Background

1. On January 16, 2025, Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service” or the “Company”) filed an Application for Approval and Authorization of the Mountain Energy Project (“Application”) and a related Motion for Extraordinary Protection of Highly Confidential Information (“Motion”). On March 24, 2025, after discussing the Motion with several other parties, Public Service filed a supplement to the Motion addressing participation by the members of the Mountain Communities Coalition. By this Decision, I grant the Motion as supplemented.

B. Motion for Extraordinary Protection

2. When presented with a motion for extraordinary protection of claimed highly confidential information, the Commission determines whether the information is, in fact, highly confidential, the level of extraordinary protection that may be warranted, and to whom access should be granted.

3. The operative language in Rule 1101(b)(IV) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 *Code Colorado of Regulation* (“CCR”) 723-1, which concerns motions requesting highly confidential protection, requires that the motion:

shall include a showing that the information for which highly confidential protection is sought is highly confidential; that the protection afforded by the Commission’s rules for furnishing confidential information provides insufficient protection for the highly confidential information; and that, if adopted, the highly confidential protections proposed by the movant will afford sufficient protection for the highly confidential information ...

4. I find persuasive the reasoning and arguments in the Motion, as supplemented. The Motion states good cause to grant the relief sought under Rule 1101 and I find the requested protections are appropriate, are reasonable, and are consistent with the Commission’s rules and past practice.

5. Based on the foregoing, I grant the Motion and approve the non-disclosure agreements filed in this Proceeding.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The Motion for Extraordinary Protection of Highly Confidential Information filed on January 16, 2025 by Public Service and supplemented on March 24, 2025, is granted.

2. This Decision is effective immediately upon its Issued Date.

(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