Decision No. R25-0445-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25AL-0146E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 1980 - ELECTRIC FILED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO REVISE ITS COLORADO P.U.C. NO. 8 - ELECTRIC TARIFF TO INCREASE THE TRANSMISSION COST ADJUSTMENT RIDER, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE MAY 2, 2025.

INTERIM DECISION ACKNOWLEDGING
INTERVENTION, SCHEDULING REMOTE
PREHEARING CONFERENCE, AND
REQUIRING PARTIES TO CONFER AND PUBLIC
SERVICE TO FILE A REPORT REGARDING THE
CONFERRAL BEFORE THE REMOTE PREHEARING
CONFERENCE

Issued Date: June 9, 2025

I. STATEMENT

A. Background

1. On April 1, 2025, Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" filed Advice Letter No. 1980 - Electric to modify its Transmission Cost Adjustment ("TCA") for the purpose of reconciling revenue collections with eligible spending associated with distribution system-related activities and investments in 2024. The revenue effect of this TCA advice letter filing is a net increase in annual revenue of \$617,926, to be recovered May 2, 2025, through December 31, 2025, compared to the rates currently in effect. Public Service filed Advice Letter No. 1980 with direct testimony of two witnesses.

- 2. On April 24, 2025, Trial Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission ("Staff") filed a protest to the Advice Letter asking the Commission to set the matter for hearing and suspend the effective date of the tariff sheets filed with the Advice Letter.
- 3. On May 1, 2025, the Commission issued Decision No. C25-0341 that suspended the tariff sheets filed with CNG's Advice Letter No. 1990 for 120 days, through August 30, 2025; set the matter for hearing; established an intervention period through May 30, 2025; and referred the proceeding to an Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"). The proceeding was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ.
 - 4. On May 30, 2025, Staff filed a Notice of Intervention.

B. Remote Prehearing Conference

5. A remote prehearing conference will be scheduled for June 20, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. The purpose of the remote prehearing conference will be to establish a schedule and address any other issues that must be addressed at this early stage of this proceeding. The remote prehearing conference will be conducted over the Zoom videoconferencing platform. The ALJ or a member of Commission Staff will email the log-in information in advance of the hearing.

C. Conferral and Conferral Report

6. Public Service shall confer with Staff in advance of the remote prehearing conference regarding a schedule for this proceeding, any discovery procedures that are inconsistent with the Commission's rules governing discovery, and the method by which the hearing should be conducted. As to the hearing method, the Commission can conduct in-person, remote, or hybrid hearings. A remote hearing is one in which all of the participants appear and participate from remote locations over the Zoom web conferencing platform. A hybrid hearing involves the ALJ and at least one party and/or witness participating from one of the Commission's hearing rooms in

Denver, and the remaining party(ies) and witness(es) participating from one or more remote locations using the Zoom web conferencing platform. An in-person hearing is one in which the ALJ and all parties and witnesses participate in the hearing at the same location.

- 7. Public Service will be ordered to file a report of the results of the conferral. If there is agreement on a schedule, including dates for the hearing, discovery procedures that are inconsistent with the Commission's rules governing discovery, and/or the method for conducting the hearing (*i.e.*, remote, hybrid, or in-person), the report shall state as much and detail the stipulated procedural schedule, discovery procedures, and/or method for conducting the hearing. If no agreement is achieved, the report shall state as much and identify the competing schedules, discovery procedures, and/or methods for conducting the hearing proposed by the parties. The parties are on notice that the ALJ will retain the discretion to change the method by which the hearing will be conducted.
- 8. The parties are urged to review the Commission's public calendar to identify suitable days for the hearing in this proceeding and propose more than one date or consecutive dates for the hearing. The latest date on which the hearing can conclude is September 12, 2025, which assumes that the effective date of the tariff sheets filed with Advice Letter No. 1980 will be extended an additional 130 days pursuant to § 40-6-111(1), C.R.S. The deadline for Public Service to file the report is 12:00 p.m. on June 18, 2025.
- 9. All parties must appear at the remote prehearing conference. Failure to attend or to participate in the remote prehearing conference is a waiver of any objection to the rulings made, to the procedural schedule established, and to the hearing dates scheduled during the remote prehearing conference.

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II. **ORDER**

It Is Ordered That: A.

- 1. The Notice of Intervention filed by Trial Staff of the Commission ("Trial Staff") on May 30, 2025 is acknowledged.
- 2. The parties in this proceeding are Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service") and Trial Staff.
 - 3. A remote prehearing conference in this proceeding is scheduled as follows:

DATE: June 20, 2025

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

WEBCAST: **Commission Hearing Room**

METHOD: Join by video conference using Zoom at the link to be

provided in an email from the Administrative Law Judge¹

- 4. Nobody should appear in-person for the remote prehearing conference.
- 5. Public Service shall file the report of the conferral identified above on or before 12:00 p.m. on June 18, 2025.

¹ Additional information about the Zoom platform and how to use the platform are available at: https://zoom.us/. All are strongly encouraged to participate in a test meeting prior to the scheduled hearing. See https://zoom.us/test.

6. This Decision is effective on its Issued Date.

(SEAL)

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CONOR F. FARLEY

Administrative Law Judge

Rebecca E. White, Director