

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 19AL-0643G

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 958 FILED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO INCREASE THE PIPELINE SYSTEM INTEGRITY ADJUSTMENT RIDER TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE FORM OF NOTICE**

Mailed Date: December 2, 2019

Adopted Date: November 20, 2019

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement, Findings, and Conclusions

1. On November 15, 2019, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service or the Company) filed a Motion for Approval of Alternative Form of Notice (Motion) to apply to the Company's Advice No. 958-Gas, also filed on November 15, 2019. By Advice No. 958-Gas, the Company seeks to revise the Pipeline System Integrity Adjustment (PSIA) rates, effective January 1, 2020, as required by the PSIA provisions in its Colorado P.U.C. No. 6 – Gas tariff. The revised PSIA rates will apply to all retail gas customers.

2. By its Motion, in addition to posting the proposed customer notice on its website and keeping the filing open for public inspection consistent with § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I), C.R.S., Public Service seeks approval to use the following alternative form of notice:

(a) publishing a legal notice (attached to the Motion as Attachment A) in *The Denver Post*, on two consecutive Sundays: December 1, 2019, and December 8, 2019, consistent with § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(A), C.R.S;

(b) posting a copy of the public version of the PSIA filing package on the Company's Website; and

(c) providing a bill onsert (attached to the Motion as Attachment B) to Public Service's gas customers with all mailed and e-billed customer bills, which are expected to be mailed or e-billed during a regular billing cycle over the course of approximately 5 weeks commencing approximately 1 week after filing.

3. Public Service states that the proposed forms of notice are reasonable because newspaper notice provides nearly all customers the opportunity to obtain notice of the tariff changes during the first twenty (20) days of the thirty (30) day period prior to the January 1, 2020 effective date, and because notice will also be provided via bill onserts. Public Service states that newspaper notice is less costly than the procedures prescribed by statute.

4. To explain why it is not providing notice through text message or through emails other than e-bills, Public Service states that it uses emails for significant filings such as rate review filings, and that it uses text messages primarily for outage and restoration information. Public Service states that e-mailing or text messaging customers for all filings could cause customer confusion and that there is a concern that frequent noticing or regulatory messages through e-mails or texts will cause customers to unsubscribe or opt out from receiving e-mails or texts.

5. As good cause to grant the motion, Public Service states that the proposed alternative notice should be sufficient to alert affected and interested parties of the changes proposed by the PSIA filing in a timely fashion. The Company states that it believes the requested alternative forms of notice will provide the required information concerning the PSIA filing to the general public, including the estimated impact to customers.

6. Pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., and 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-1-1207(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a utility may request to provide an alternative form of notice of proposed tariff changes. We find the alternative form of notice proposed by Public Service in its Motion to apply to Advice No. 958-Gas is reasonable with

respect to the Company's stakeholders and its general body of gas ratepayers. We therefore find good cause to approve the alternative form of notice requested by Public Service.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The request for alternative form of notice to apply to Advice No. 958-Gas proposed in the Motion for Alternative Form of Notice filed by Public Service Company of Colorado on November 15, 2019, is granted.

2. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

B. **ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING November 20, 2019.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Doug Dean,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

FRANCES A. KONCILJA

JOHN GAVAN

Commissioners

CHAIRMAN JEFFREY P. ACKERMANN
ABSENT.