

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 21AL-0147E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 804 FILED BY BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC DOING BUSINESS AS BLACK HILLS ENERGY TO REVISE THE ELECTRIC DEMAND-SIDE MANAGEMENT COST ADJUSTMENT CALCULATION TO REFLECT THE 2020 FINANCIAL DISINCENTIVE OFFSET, THE 2020 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE, AND TO TRUE-UP ANY OVER OR UNDER COLLECTION OF COSTS IN 2020 TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2021.

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

Mailed Date: April 16, 2021
Adopted Date: April 7, 2021

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement, Findings, and Conclusions

1. On April 1, 2021, Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC (Black Hills or Company) filed a Motion for Approval of Alternative Form of Notice (Motion). By Advice Letter No. 804-Electric, also filed on April 1, 2021, the Company seeks to amend its Demand-Side Management Cost Adjustment calculation inputs on Tariff Sheet No. 71, in the Rate Section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 11-Electric Tariff, effective July 1, 2021.

2. Black Hills now moves pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., to provide alternative forms of notice of the tariff. In addition to posting the customer notice on its website as mandated by § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I), C.R.S., Black Hills is seeking Commission approval to use the following alternative forms of notice:

- Printing a message on each applicable customer's bill providing the website URL for the Customer Notice and the Advice Letter and its accompanying tariff sheet, and a toll-free number for assistance, for one full bill cycle beginning within one week after the filing of the Advice Letter; and

- Publishing a legal notice, attached to the Motion as Attachment 1, in three newspapers of general circulation for the service territory, specifically in *The Pueblo Chieftain* on two consecutive Tuesdays, the *Cañon City Daily Record* on two consecutive Fridays, and the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette* on two consecutive Thursdays.

3. Black Hills maintains good cause exists for the Commission to approve the alternative form of notice. The Company states that the bill message does not conflict with its billing cycle and provides visibility to the customer because it is presented on the first page of the bill. Black Hills represents that the toll-free phone number provided in the bill message will give customers a second option to learn more about the amended tariff if they cannot access the internet for the Company's website, and Black Hills states that the newspaper notices will provide general notice to customers throughout its service territory. Black Hills concludes that the proposed alternative notice is expeditious and economic for its customers.

4. 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 that the alternative forms of notice Black Hills proposes in its Motion will provide sufficient notice to the Company's customers and will do so efficiently. We therefore find good cause to approve the alternative forms of notice Black Hills requests.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The Motion for Approval of Alternative Form of Notice filed by Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC, on April 1, 2021, is granted.
2. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
April 7, 2021.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Doug Dean,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

JOHN GAVAN

MEGAN M. GILMAN

Commissioners