Decision No. C21-0302-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 20A-0528E

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2020 ELECTRIC RESOURCE PLAN.

INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION EXTENDING TIMELINE FOR FILING OF A CONSENSUS PROPOSAL OR CONFERRAL REPORT

Mailed Date: May 19, 2021 Adopted Date: May 19, 2021

I. <u>BY THE COMMISSION</u>

A. Statement

1. By this Decision, the Commission extends the timeline for Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) to confer with parties to this Proceeding and to submit a consensus proposal for a procedural schedule that sets forth filing deadlines, hearing dates, and discovery provisions, and allows for the modeling of up to five scenarios, or to submit a conferral report in the event no consensus is reached.

B. Background

2. Tri-State filed a 2020 Electric Resource Plan in this Proceeding on December 1, 2020. By Decision C21-0263-I, issued April 30, 2021, we directed Tri-State to confer with parties to this Proceeding and to develop a consensus as to a limited number of reasonable scenarios to model and a reasonable timeline for the Proceeding. The Consensus Proposal was to define up to five additional scenarios Tri-State will model in this Proceeding and to set forth filing deadlines, hearing dates, and discovery provisions. The Consensus Proposal was also to

address whether parties stipulate to the completeness of the Application under Rule 1303(c) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-1, and whether Tri-State waives the statutory timeline associated with § 40-6-109.5(3), C.R.S.

3. Tri-State was directed to file the Consensus Proposal or conferral report within ten business days following the Mailed Date of the prior decision. On May 14, 2021,¹ Tri-State filed a Conferral Report that provided an update on the process of reaching consensus related to a procedural schedule. Tri-State states that it and the parties request one additional week to resolve remaining issues; it represents that no party objects to the requested extension. Tri-State reports that the parties have had multiple meetings and technical conferences, and that significant progress has been made to reaching consensus. Tri-State further believes that additional technical conferences are likely to allow parties to reach agreement regarding the procedural schedule and additional scenarios, and thus it requests that the deadline to submit the Consensus Proposal or a second conferral report be extended to May 21, 2021.

C. Conclusions and Findings

4. In the interest of procedural efficiency, we grant Tri-State's request that the timeline to file a Consensus Proposal or conferral report be extended to May 21, 2021.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. Consistent with the discussion above, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. is directed to confer with the parties to this Proceeding and to file a Consensus

¹ Tri-State also filed a Notice of Technical Difficulty stating that it was unable to complete the filing of its Conferral Report on May 14, 2021, due to errors with the E-Filing system.

Proposal for a procedural schedule and scenarios to model by May 21, 2021, or a conferral report in the event that no consensus is reached.

- 2. Responses to the Consensus Proposal or conferral report are due within three business days following its submission.
 - 3. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

Director

B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING May 19, 2021.

