

Decision No. C24-0654

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24M-0384EG

IN THE MATTER OF ENERGY ASSISTANCE SYSTEM BENEFIT CHARGE FOR 2024-2025 PURSUANT TO 4 CCR 723-3-3412 AND 4 CCR 723-4-4412 TO BE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2024.

**COMMISSION DECISION OPENING MISCELLANEOUS
PROCEEDING AND APPROVING ENERGY ASSISTANCE
SYSTEM BENEFIT CHARGE FOR 2024-2025**

Issued Date: September 11, 2024

Adopted Date: September 4, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. The Energy Assistance System Benefit Charge (“EASBC”) is a fixed monthly charge collected by the regulated electric and gas utilities from all ratepayers unless they opt-out or are otherwise exempted. The EASBC was enacted as a result of Colorado House Bill 21-1105 and is codified in statute at § 40-8.7- 104(2.5), C.R.S. EASBC provides financial funding for income-qualified energy assistance programs.

2. The Rule 4412(m) of the Rules Regulating Gas Utilities 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (“CCR”) 723-4 and Rule 3412(m) of the Rules Regulating Electric Utilities 4 CCR 723-3, provide for the EASBC to be adjusted for inflation annually in accordance with changes in the United States Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for Denver-Aurora-Lakewood beginning on October 1, 2024.

3. The Rule 4412(m)(I) of the Rules Regulating Gas Utilities 4 CCR 723-4 and Rule 3412(m)(I) of the Rules Regulating Electric Utilities 4 CCR 723-3 directs Commission staff to compute the charge adjusted by the index and to send a letter to each utility stating the EASBC charge to be paid by customers during the next calendar year.

B. Discussion and Findings

4. Staff has considered inflation in accordance with changes in the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for Denver-Aurora-Lakewood for All Items, for the latest available period of July 2023 to July 2024, at 1.9 percent (Reference: https://www.bls.gov/regions/mountain-plains/news-release/consumerpriceindex_denver.htm).

5. The EASBC, therefore, is computed as USD 0.81 (US Cents Eighty-One) for period starting October 1, 2024.

6. The following table summarizes the applicable EASBC charge:

Effective On and After	Rate Schedules	EASBC - Monthly Charge
October 1, 2021	All	\$0.50
October 1, 2022	All	\$0.75
October 1, 2023	All	\$0.79
October 1, 2024	All	\$0.81

7. The increase in monthly EASBC for 2024-2025 effective October 1, 2024 is, thus, \$0.02.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. A new Miscellaneous Proceeding (“M-docket”) is opened.
2. For 2024-2025, a new monthly Energy Assistance System Benefit Charge (“EASBC”) of \$0.81 is approved. This shall be effective from October 1, 2024.
3. The Public Utilities Commission Director is directed to issue a letter notifying the EASBC for 2024-2025 and that be filed in the new M-docket.

B. **ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS’ WEEKLY MEETING September 4, 2024.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Rebecca E. White

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners