C05-1046





P.O. Box 840 Denver, Colorado 80201-0840

August 3, 2005

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

AUG 0 3 2005

FILED

BY BLF STATE OF COLORADO

Advice Letter No. 94 - Steam

Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado 1580 Logan Street, OL-2 Denver, Colorado 80203

The accompanying tariff sheets issued by Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" or the "Company") are sent to you for filing in accordance with the requirements of the Public Utilities Law:

## COLORADO P.U.C. NO. 1 - STEAM

and the following sheets are attached:

Colorado P.U.C. Shee	et No.	Title of Sheet	Cancels Colorado P.U.C. Sheet No.	
Thirty-sixth Revised	l 3	Rate Schedule Summation Sheet	Thirty-fifth Rev. 3	3
Sixth Revised	5	Schedule H	Sub. Fifth Revised 5	5
First Revised	5A	Schedule H	Original 5	5Α
Fourth Revised	9	Steam Cost Adjustment	Sub. Third Revised 9	}
Sub. Fifth Revised	9A	Steam Cost Adjustment	Sub. Fourth Revised 9	A(
Sixth Revised	9B	Steam Cost	Sub. Fifth Revised 9	9B
Appended H		Adjustment		

The principal proposed change is to place into effect, in the Company's Colorado P.U.C. No. 1 - Steam Tariff, new base rates for all steam service customers that will replace and supersede the currently effective base rates effective September 3, 2005. Public Service is requesting Commission approval to implement revised tariff sheets to reflect a substantial increase in steam service base rate revenues, to change the structure of its base rates from two components to three components with the introduction of a Capacity Charge, and to make certain clarifying changes to its Steam Cost Adjustment tariff.

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Public Service's proposal to revise its steam base rates will increase its projected annual steam service revenues by approximately \$3,366,684, or about 74 percent, on steam base rate revenues of \$4,537,123. proposed base rates are intended to recover the cost to produce and distribute steam to its customers in downtown Denver based upon revenue requirements of \$7,903,807 developed using a test year of 12 months ending March 31, 2005. The proposed increase is 22.08 percent of total steam service revenues, including fuel costs recovered through the Steam Cost Adjustment, of \$15,249,159. The Company's proposed base rates are intended to allow Public Service to commence recovering approximately \$10 million in capital investments made to replace or improve steam system infrastructure since 2001, including a replacement boiler at the State of Colorado Capitol Complex, relocation of the Stout Street Main Line, and improvements in Denver Steam Plant systems. The proposed base rates are also intended to recover increased levels of Operating & Maintenance expenses and Administrative and General expenses resulting from refinements and improvements in the process of accounting for these steam costs in the Company's general ledger accounting system implemented in 2001. The Company's proposed rates will have an approximate 20.15 percent net effect on an average steam customer's monthly bill. A customer with intermittent high peaks will see a higher bill than a customer with a more consistent usage pattern.

Along with this proposed rate change, Public Service proposes to introduce a more equitable rate structure for the recovery of non-fuel costs. Currently, the Company utilizes a Service & Facility Charge and Commodity Charge. In this filing, the Company proposes to include a third component, a Capacity Charge. Instituting a capacity component would allow costs to be more closely recovered on the basis of how they were incurred, and provide steam customers more appropriate and equitable rates.

The Company also proposes to revise its Steam Cost Adjustment tariff to clarify the terms and calculations thereunder in accordance with the tariff review process implemented as a result of the stipulation approved by the Commission in Docket No. 04S-271ST, Decision No. R05-0174.

The effect on the Company's annual revenue as a result of this filing will be an increase of \$3,366,684.

Contemporaneously filed with this advice letter is the supporting testimony and exhibits of five witnesses.

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Customers of the Company receiving steam service as of the date of this filing will be notified of this filing by individual notice provided by first class mail, and by general notice published in the legal classified section of <u>The Denver Post</u>. A copy of the official notice is attached hereto as <u>Appendix A</u>.

The Company requests that the tariff sheets accompanying this advice letter become effective on September 3, 2005.

Please send copies of all notices, pleadings, correspondence, and other documents regarding this filing to:

Fredric C. Stoffel, Vice President Policy Development Xcel Energy Services Inc. 1225 17th Street, Suite 1000 Denver, CO 80202-5533

and

James D. Albright Assistant General Counsel Xcel Energy Services Inc. 1225 17th Street, Suite 900 Denver, CO 80202-5533

FCS: kdw

Enclosures

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