

Decision No. R20-0644-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 19M-0661EG

IN THE MATTER OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF § 40-3-117, C.R.S. REGARDING AN INVESTIGATION INTO PERFORMANCE-BASED RATEMAKING.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
HEARING COMMISSIONER
JOHN GAVAN
SCHEDULING A WORKSHOP ON COST EFFICIENCY,
EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS, AND EXPANSION OF
DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES**

Mailed Date: September 3, 2020

I. STATEMENT

1. On December 5, 2019, the Commission issued Decision No. C19-0969 opening this Proceeding, exploring performance-based regulation and performance-based incentive mechanisms in regulation of Colorado's investor-owned electric and gas utilities. In Decision No. C19-0969, the Commission stated that the sole purpose of this Proceeding is to address the requirements of § 40-3-117, C.R.S., and submit, by November 30, 2020, a requisite report to the Senate Transportation and Energy Committee and the House of Representatives Energy and Environment Committee. Additionally, this Proceeding serves as a repository for the filing of comments, studies, and analyses, and will serve as a platform from which to conduct workshops and Commissioner Informational Meetings, pose questions, discuss processes, and issue orders.

2. Section 40-3-117(1), C.R.S., directs the Commission to investigate: financial performance-based incentives and performance-based metric tracking to identify mechanisms

that may serve to align regulated utility operations, expenditures, and investments with public benefit goals including safety, reliability, cost efficiency, emissions reductions, and expansion of distributed energy resources.

3. Through Interim Decision No. R19-1002-I issued December 16, 2019, comments and reply comments on safety, reliability, and customer service were solicited. Responsive comments were filed by a number of participants and a workshop to discuss comments was held on February 21, 2020.

4. Through Decision No. R20-0127-I, issued February 26, 2020, comments and reply comments on cost efficiency were requested. Responsive comments were filed by numerous parties. By Decision No. R20-0239-I, issued April 13, 2020, the workshop scheduled for April 21, 2020 was postponed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

5. Through Decision No. R20-0343-I, issued May 6, 2020, comments on carbon emissions reductions and the expansion of distributed energy resources (DERs) were requested. Numerous parties filed responsive comments by June 26, 2020.

A. Discussion

6. Decision No. C19-0969 established that the purpose of this Proceeding is to address the requirements of § 40-3-117, C.R.S., and specifically to submit the required report to the Senate Transportation and Energy Committee and the House of Representatives Energy and Environment Committee. Comments are urged to be submitted in this Proceeding that will assist the Commission in preparing that report.

7. An online workshop addressing the public benefit goals of cost efficiency, emissions reductions, and expansion of DERs will be scheduled for Monday, September 14,

2020, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Discussion, questions, and answers will be conducted online. Questions can also be asked via email at dora_cim@state.co.us.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. A workshop on performance-based regulation addressing public benefit goals, especially cost efficiency, distributed energy resources, and emissions reduction, established by § 40-3-117(1), C.R.S., is as follows:

DATE: Monday, September 14, 2020
TIME: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
FOR WEBCASTS: Online via Hearing Room B
METHOD: Join by video conference or by telephone at the link provided below
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/219886845>
Or dial in using your phone:
United States: +1 (646) 749-3122
Access Code: 219-886-845

2. Stakeholders wishing to listen to the Workshop, but are not participating may listen to the Workshop through the Commission’s webcasting at:

www.puc.colorado.gov/webcasts.

3. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOHN GAVAN

Hearing Commissioner

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Doug Dean'.

Doug Dean,
Director