

Decision No. C14-0729

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 14V-0188E

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR A VARIANCE FROM THE REQUIREMENT THAT IT FILE A 2015-2017 RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD COMPLIANCE PLAN ON OR BEFORE MARCH 14, 2014 AND A WAIVER FROM RULE 1206(D) TO SHORTEN COMMISSION NOTICE AND INTERVENTION PERIOD TO MARCH 4, 2014.

DECISION APPROVING SETTLEMENT

Mailed Date: July 1, 2014
Adopted Date: June 25, 2014

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. This matter comes before the Commission for consideration of a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement (Joint Motion), filed on June 19, 2014, by Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service or Company) and The Alliance for Solar Choice (TASC). Being fully advised in the matter, we grant the Joint Motion.

B. Procedural Background

2. On February 28, 2014, Public Service filed its Petition for Variance requesting the Commission: (1) postpone the filing date of Public Service's next Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Compliance Plan from March 14, 2014 up to and including 60 days after the Commission issues a final decision on the Company's 2014 RES Plan in Proceeding No. 13A-0836E; and (2) permit Public Service to file a one year 2015 RES Plan instead of a three-year 2015 through 2017 RES Plan.

3. TASC intervened on March 7, 2014. TASC did not oppose the postponement of the next RES Plan, but opposed the request to limit the next RES Plan to 2015. TASC argued Public Service should design its next plan to cover 2015 through 2017.

4. By Decision No. C14-0278-I, mailed March 12, 2014, the Commission granted Public Service's unopposed first request, thereby extending the deadline for the filing of its next RES Plan. The Commission scheduled a status conference on Public Service's second request for June 9, 2014. Public Service and TASC reached an oral agreement during that status conference. The Settlement filed on June 19, 2014 memorializes that oral agreement.

C. Settlement

5. The Settlement proposes that, no later than 60 days after the final Commission decision in Proceeding No. 13A-0836E, Public Service shall file its next RES Compliance Plan covering calendar years 2015 through 2016. The Settlement also proposes that the 2014 RES Plan, presently pending in Proceeding No. 13A-0836E, shall continue in full force and effect until the Commission issues its final decision on the 2015 through 2016 Plan. Further, nothing in the Settlement prevents Public Service from applying to amend its 2015 through 2016 RES Plan as a result of Commission rulings in Proceeding No. 14M-0235E, the proceeding where the Commission is exploring the net metering issues. Finally, Public Service and TASC agreed that Public Service shall address its RES Plan for the years 2017 and beyond when Public Service files its next Electric Resource Plan, which will be filed by October 31, 2015.

6. We find the Settlement accurately memorializes the oral agreement reached by Public Service and TASC at the June 9, 2014 status conference. We also find the Settlement is just and reasonable and find good cause to approve it.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement, filed on June 19, 2014, by Public Service Company of Colorado and The Alliance for Solar Choice is granted.
2. This Decision is effective upon its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
June 25, 2014.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Doug Dean,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOSHUA B. EPEL

PAMELA J. PATTON

GLENN A. VAAD

Commissioners