

Decision No. C14-1146-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 14A-0923E

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF BLACK HILLS/COLORADO ELECTRIC UTILITY COMPANY, LP FOR AN ORDER APPROVING A 2015 INTERIM ON-SITE SOLAR AND COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDEN PROGRAM.

**INTERIM DECISION GRANTING
SHORTENED NOTICE AND INTERVENTION
PERIOD AND WAIVER OF RESPONSE TIME**

Mailed Date: September 17, 2014
Adopted Date: September 17, 2014

TO THE PARTIES IN THIS MATTER AND ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, FIRMS, OR CORPORATIONS:

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. This matter comes before the Commission for consideration of a Motion to Shorten Notice and for Expedited Consideration and Decision (Motion) filed by Black Hills/Colorado Electric Utility Company, LP (Black Hills or Company) on September 9, 2014.

2. The Motion relates to a Verified Application Black Hills filed on September 9, 2014 requesting approval of interim on-site solar and community solar garden programs. Black Hills states that the interim programs would serve to bridge the period from the expiration of the Company's current solar programs, which would be no later than December 31, 2014, and the date of a final decision on the Company's proposed 2015-2017 Renewable Energy Standard Compliance Plan in Proceeding No. 14A-0535E.

3. In the interest of time, the Company requests a 14-day intervention period. In addition, Black Hills requests expedited consideration of the Application without an evidentiary hearing.

B. Findings and Conclusions

4. We find good cause to waive response time to the request for a shortened intervention period. Black Hills states that it has conferred with all of the parties in Proceeding No. 14A-0535E and that none oppose the waiver of response time to the Motion or a shortened intervention period.

5. We further conclude that a shortened notice and intervention period for this proceeding is reasonable given the timing issues stated in the Application. All requests for intervention shall be filed no later than October 2, 2014, including any notice of intervention by right filed by the Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission.

6. Parties seeking to intervene shall address the Company's request for expedited consideration of the Application in their intervention filings. The Commission will take up the merits of the request for expedited consideration by a separate decision.

7. The Application is available for public inspection at the Commission's offices located at 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado 80202, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., excluding weekends and state holidays. **This Decision is the notice that the Application requesting Commission approval for a 2015 Interim On-site Solar and Community Solar Gardens program has been filed.**

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. Response time to the Motion for Shortened Notice and Intervention Period and for Expedited Consideration and Decision (Motion) filed by Black Hills/Colorado Electric Utility Company, LP (Black Hills) on September 9, 2014 is waived, consistent with the discussion above.

2. The Motion is granted, in part, consistent with the discussion above.

3. The notice period for the Application for an Order Approving a 2015 Interim On-Site Solar and Community Solar Garden Program filed on September 9, 2014 by Black Hills shall extend through October 2, 2014.

4. Any person desiring to intervene or participate as a party in this proceeding, including Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, shall file a petition for leave to intervene or, under the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, other appropriate pleadings to become a party no later than October 2, 2014.

5. Alternatively, persons who do not wish to intervene or become a party, but desire to file comments, may send written comments addressed to the Public Utilities Commission, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, Colorado 80202.

6. This Decision is effective upon its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
September 17, 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