

Decision No. C14-1183

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 14L-0938G

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF
COLORADO ON LESS THAN STATUTORY NOTICE FOR AN ORDER
AUTHORIZING IT TO REVISE ITS THERM CONVERSION ENERGY FACTORS.

**COMMISSION DECISION
AUTHORIZING REVISIONS OF THERMAL
CONVERSION ENERGY FACTORS**

Mailed Date: September 25, 2014
Adopted Date: September 24, 2014

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On September 22, 2014, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service or Applicant) filed a verified application seeking a Commission decision authorizing it to revise tariffs and update Energy Factors for use in the conversion of metered volumes to therms, without a formal hearing and on less-than-statutory notice. The proposed tariffs are to go into effect on October 1, 2014. The application contains all materials required by the Commission's rules, and is therefore deemed complete.

2. The proposed tariffs are attached to the application and affect Applicant's customers in its Colorado certified areas on file with the Commission.

3. This application for authority to change tariffs is made pursuant to § 40-3-104(2), C.R.S., and Rule 4109(b)(II) of the Rules Regulating Gas Utilities and Pipeline Operators, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-4.

4. Public Service is an operating public utility subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission and is engaged in, *inter alia*, the purchase, transmission, distribution, transportation, and sale of natural gas in various certified areas within the State of Colorado.

5. In accordance with Rules 4002(b)(VII) and 4002(b)(XI)(D), 4 CCR 723-4, Public Service explicitly acknowledges that the company has read and agrees to abide by the provisions of Rules 4002(b)(IV) through (VI) and Rules 4002(b)(XI)(A) through (C).

6. Public Service's Colorado P.U.C. No. 6 - Gas Tariff, Sheet No. 13A, requires that the Energy Factors, which are incorporated into the Therm Multiplier and consequently used to convert metered volumes to therms, be revised on a quarterly basis effective January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of each year. These quarterly revisions are based on an analysis of the Heating Value of the natural gas for each BTU Zone for the preceding three-month period ending one month prior to each of these dates.

7. Public Service has completed the analysis of the Heating Value of its natural gas for each BTU Zone for the period June 1, 2014 through August 31, 2014, and is requesting a revision of its Energy Factors contained on Sheet 13A to reflect the result of this analysis. In accordance with the provisions of Sheet 13A of its P.U.C. No. 6 – Gas Tariff, Public Service proposes that this revision become effective with meter readings commencing October 1, 2014.

8. Public Service represents that there is no change in overall revenue since the revision to the proposed Energy Factors reflects the most accurate Heating Value of the gas delivered to its natural gas customers based upon the most recent data available. Public Service's application to revise the Energy Factors filed on March 19, 1997, in Proceeding No. 97L-135G illustrates this concept on a theoretical basis.

9. Public Service requests that the Commission issue a decision approving the proposed changes on less than 30 days' notice so that it may place the requested revision into effect starting with meter readings on October 1, 2014. Public Service represents that it could not have filed the proposed changes earlier because the information necessary to compute the updated Energy Factors, which was derived from BTU Zone data for the June 1, 2014 through August 31, 2014 period, only recently became available. Public Service has been directed to file such applications to revise its therm conversion energy factors within 15 business days following the end of the applicable test period. Public Service filed all supporting work papers for this application as required to assist the Commission and Commission Staff. We note that work papers should also be filed with similar future applications. *See* Decision No. C96-1183, Proceeding No. 96L-424G, issued November 8, 1996, P.2, at ¶ 2. This application complies with those requirements.

10. In accordance with Rule 4604, 4 CCR 723-4, the filing of this application was brought to the attention of Public Service's affected customers within three days after the filing of this application by publication in *The Denver Post*, a newspaper of general circulation in the areas affected.

11. Good cause exists to allow the proposed changes on less-than-statutory notice.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The application filed by Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service) is deemed complete.

2. The application filed by Public Service for authority to revise Sheet 13A of its P.U.C. No. 6 – Gas Tariff on less-than-statutory notice is granted.

3. Public Service is authorized to file, on less than one day's notice, the tariffs attached as Appendix A and made a part of this Decision. These tariffs shall be effective for actual gas sales on and after their effective date of October 1, 2014.

4. The 20-day time period provided by § 40-6-114, C.R.S., to file an application for rehearing, reargument, or reconsideration shall begin on the first day after the effective date of this Decision.

5. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
September 24, 2014.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOSHUA B. EPEL

GLENN A. VAAD

Commissioners

Doug Dean,
Director

COMMISSIONER PAMELA J. PATTON
ABSENT.