

Decision No. C14-1309-I

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**

PROCEEDING NO. 13A-0836E

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2014 RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD COMPLIANCE PLAN.

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**INTERIM DECISION REQUIRING  
FILING OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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Mailed Date: October 29, 2014

Adopted Date: October 29, 2014

**I. BY THE COMMISSION**

**A. Statement**

1. On July 31, 2014, Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Adams issued Recommended Decision No. R14-0902 granting with modification Public Service Company of Colorado's (Public Service or Company) application for its 2014 Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Compliance Plan. The ALJ found that, because of the timing of filings, and given that the calendar year 2014 was more than half over at the time of his decision, the 2014 RES Plan should be extended for the period from a final decision in the instant proceeding through the approval of Public Service's 2015 through 2016 RES Compliance Plan, which he concluded to be 18 months.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Decision No. R14-0902, at ¶¶ 39 - 41.

2. The ALJ also determined that, because Public Service is in compliance with its RES requirements, the Company shall not advance funds to its Renewable Energy Standard Adjustment (RESA) account in order to acquire the resources approved in the Recommended Decision.<sup>2</sup>

3. The ALJ approved capacity levels for the Solar\*Rewards and Solar\*Rewards Community programs over an 18-month period. The capacity approved is greater than proposed by Public Service in its 2014 RES Plan.<sup>3</sup> The ALJ also approved larger Recycled Energy and Solar\*Rewards Community programs.<sup>4</sup>

4. On August 20, 2014, Public Service filed exceptions to the Recommended Decision.<sup>5</sup> Public Service requests the Commission to decrease the maximum capacity for the Solar\*Rewards Community program from 30 MW to 6.5 MW, and to clarify whether spending in support of the Solar\*Rewards Community program has priority over the Solar\*Rewards program. Public Service does not challenge the Recommended Decision's directive not to advance funds into the RESA account, but Public Service questions whether the amount of available RESA funds will support 30 MW in capacity for the Solar\*Rewards Community program and 20 MW for Recycled Energy.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Decision No. R14-0902, at ¶ 37

<sup>3</sup> Decision No. R14-0902, at ¶ 41.

<sup>4</sup> In addition to the 65 MW for the Solar\*Rewards program, the ALJ approved the acquisition of up to 20 MW for the Company's Recycled Energy Program and up to 30 MW through the Solar\*Rewards Community program (or Community Solar Gardens).

<sup>5</sup> Trial Staff of the Commission, the Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association, Sunshare, LLC, the Alliance for Solar Choice, and Western Resource Advocates also filed exceptions to the Recommended Decision. We do not address these exceptions or other issues raised by Public Service in its exceptions by this Decision.

<sup>6</sup> Brief on Exception of Public Service, at pages 13 and 22.

5. Public Service also argues that the decision on the Recycled Energy program needs to be clarified on the impacts to the RESA account of the ALJ's determination increasing the annual cap for the Recycled Energy Program to 20 MW and paying the incentives over 10 years instead of 20 (as proposed by the Company).<sup>7</sup>

**B. Conclusions**

6. Before we rule upon the exceptions to the Recommended Decision, we seek additional information from Public Service about the costs and RESA impacts of the 2014 RES Plan, including a discussion of how much of the resources approved in the Recommended Decision can be acquired within the limits of the annual RESA funds available as approved by the ALJ. We direct Public Service to file the additional information identified in Attachment A to this Decision no later than **November 6, 2014**.

7. Interested parties may file a response no later than **November 12, 2014**.

**II. ORDER**

**A. It Is Ordered That:**

1. Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service) shall file the information requested in Attachment A to this Decision no later than November 6, 2016.

2. Interested parties shall file comments in response to Public Service's filing no later than November 12, 2014.

3. This Decision is effective upon its Mailed Date.

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<sup>7</sup> Brief on Exception of Public Service, at page 21.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING  
October 29, 2014.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

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

Doug Dean,  
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

JOSHUA B. EPEL

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PAMELA J. PATTON

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GLENN A. VAAD

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Commissioners