

Decision No. C19-0962-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 19AL-0642E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE NO. 1811 FILED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO UPDATE THE RENEWABLE*CONNECT CREDIT TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2020.

**INTERIM COMMISSION DECISION GRANTING
REQUEST FOR ALTERNATIVE FORM OF NOTICE**

Mailed Date: December 2, 2019

Adopted Date: November 20, 2019

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement, Findings, and Conclusions

1. On November 15, 2019, Public Service Company of Colorado (Public Service or the Company) filed a Motion for Approval of Alternative Form of Notice (Motion) to apply to the Company's Advice No. 1811-Electric, also filed on November 15, 2019. By Advice No. 1811-Electric, the Company seeks to update the Renewable*Connect (R*C) Credit in its Colorado P.U.C. No. 8 – Electric tariff, effective January 1, 2020.

2. Public Service states that it is reducing the credit by \$0.00051 to \$0.03649 in 2020 due to a reduction in the R*C energy portion of the Credit, which can be attributed to lower forecasted natural gas prices. The Company states that its R*C program is an optional service for customers to purchase photovoltaic energy by subscriber agreement, and that this schedule will not directly affect any other service or customer classes.

3. By its Motion, in addition to posting the proposed tariff changes on its website and keeping the filing open for public inspection consistent with § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I), C.R.S., Public Service seeks approval to use the following alternative form of notice:

(a) publishing a legal notice (attached to the Motion as Exhibit 1) in *The Denver Post*, a newspaper of general circulation for the service territory, on two consecutive Sundays: December 8, 2019, and December 15, 2019; and

(b) electronic service of the legal notice, the Advice Letter, and associated tariffs on all intervenors in Proceeding No. 16A-0055E, the Company's Renewable*Connect (formerly Solar*Connect) Application, and all parties to the three-case settlement in Proceeding No. 16AL-0048E.

4. Public Service states that the proposed forms of notice will be less costly than notice forms prescribed by statute. The Company believes in this case, a bill onsert/insert, email, or text is not necessary due to the number of customers affected and that these options would incur unnecessary costs. It states that the other notice forms would not provide notice to customers during the first twenty (20) days of the thirty (30) day period prior to the January 1, 2020 effective date.

5. The Company states that it is utilizing electronic service for intervenors of Proceeding Nos. 16AL-0048E and 16A-0055E. To explain why it is not otherwise providing notice through email and why it is not providing notice through test message, Public Service states that it uses emails for significant filings such as rate review filings, and that it uses text messages primarily for outage and restoration information. Public Service states that e-mailing or text messaging customers for all filings could cause customer confusion.

6. As good cause to grant the motion, Public Service states that the proposed alternative notice should be sufficient to alert affected and interested parties of the changes proposed by its Advice Letter in a timely fashion. The Company states that it believes the requested alternative forms of notice will provide the required information concerning the R*C

filing to all parties who participated in the most recent cases involving R*C and to the general public, including the estimated impact to average R*C customers.

6. Pursuant to § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E), C.R.S., and 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-1-1207(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a utility may request to provide an alternative form of notice of proposed tariff changes. We find the alternative form of notice proposed by Public Service in its Motion to apply to Advice No. 1811-Electric is reasonable with respect to the Company's stakeholders and its general body of electric ratepayers. We therefore find good cause to approve the alternative form of notice requested by Public Service.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. The request for alternative form of notice to apply to Advice No. 1811-Electric proposed in the Motion for Alternative Form of Notice filed by Public Service Company of Colorado on November 15, 2019, is granted.

2. This Decision is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
November 20, 2019.**

(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

FRANCES A. KONCILJA

JOHN GAVAN

Commissioners

CHAIRMAN JEFFREY P. ACKERMANN
ABSENT.