

Decision No. R24-0319-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 23A-0585E

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TRI-STATE GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2023 ELECTRIC RESOURCE PLAN.

**INTERIM DECISION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
AVIV SEGEV
GRANTING MOTION REQUESTING PUBLIC COMMENT
HEARING AND SCHEDULING IN-PERSON AND
REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT HEARINGS**

Mailed Date: May 9, 2024

I. STATEMENT

A. Procedural Background

1. On December 1, 2023, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State) filed an Application for Approval of its 2023 Electric Resource Plan (Application). The filing of the Application commenced this Proceeding.

2. By Decision No. R24-0080-I, issued February 6, 2024, the undersigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), among other things, granted Moffat County's and the City of Craig's, (together, Moffat/Craig) Motion to permissively intervene in this Proceeding.

3. On April 3, 2024, Moffat/Craig filed the Unopposed Motion of Moffat County and the City of Craig Requesting the Scheduling of a Public Comment Hearing (Motion Requesting Public Comment Hearing).

B. Motion Requesting to Hold a Public Comment Hearing

4. In the Motion Requesting Public Comment Hearing, Moffat/Craig “request the Commission schedule an in-person public comment hearing in Craig, Colorado, preferably at a date prior, and near in time, to the July evidentiary hearing.”¹ Moffat/Craig explain that they

believe that it is important for the Commission to hear from members of the public, especially those living in Moffat County, which anchors Craig Station, by providing the public with the opportunity to voice their opinions about the proposed accelerated closure of Craig Unit 3 and how it will affect the local community, coal workers, and the local economy.²

5. The Motion Requesting Public Comment Hearing is unopposed and states good cause for the requested relief, and will therefore be granted, as ordered below.

6. The undersigned ALJ has carefully considered Moffat/Craig’s request in the context of the agency’s full case schedule and limited staff availability. An in-person public comment hearing shall be held in Craig, Colorado on July 9, 2024, as ordered below.

7. Because the venue of the in-person public comment hearing session in Craig, Colorado has not yet been confirmed, the same will be identified by a subsequent interim decision in this Proceeding.

8. To allow members of the public who are unable to attend an in-person hearing in Craig to submit live comments, the ALJ will hold an additional virtual public comment session on July 11, 2024, as ordered below.

1. Observing or Participating in the In-Person Public Comment Hearing

9. The in-person public comment hearing will be held in Craig, Colorado, on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at a location to be determined. The hearing will take place from 3:00 p.m. until not later than 6:00 p.m. The hearing will conclude upon the completion of the public

¹ Motion Requesting Public Comment Hearing at 3.

² *Id.*

comments, but no earlier than 5:30 p.m. The venue and additional information about the hearing will be specified by a forthcoming decision.

10. Members of the public who wish to observe but not provide comments will be able to view the public comment hearing live and recorded on the Commission's YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@COPublicUtilitiesCommission/>.

2. Observing or Participating in the Virtual Public Comment Hearing

11. The virtual public comment hearing will be hosted using Zoom video-conferencing services. The hearing will take place from 4:00 p.m. until no later than 6:00 p.m. The hearing will conclude upon the completion of the public comments, but no earlier than 5:30 p.m.

12. Information about how to register to join the public comment hearing and to provide live comments will be specified by a forthcoming decision.

13. Members of the public who wish to observe but not provide comments will be able to view the public comment hearing live and recorded on the Commission's YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@COPublicUtilitiesCommission/>.

3. Requesting Accommodations for Public Comment Hearings

14. The Commission strives to accommodate all members of the public at its hearings by providing services for foreign language users and persons with disabilities upon receipt of a reasonable accommodation request. Interested persons requesting an accommodation for the public comment hearing should complete the Language Access Form under the "How to Make Comments" tab at <https://puc.colorado.gov/how-to-participate> at least one week prior to the hearing. Requests for accommodation can also be made directly by contacting Holly Bise at 303-894-2024, or holly.bise@state.co.us.

4. Other Methods to Submit Public Comments

15. Interested persons may provide written or oral comments. Although the Commission prefers written comments over oral comments, they are given the same weight.

16. Interested persons are encouraged to submit written comments through either:

- a. Using the Commission's Electronic Filing System at <https://www.dora.state.co.us/pls/efi/EFI.homepage>;
- b. Submitting a comment via online form on the Commission's website at <https://puc.colorado.gov/> by clicking on the "FILE A COMMENT OR COMPLAINT" link;
- c. Mailing comments to the Commission's offices at: Colorado Public Utilities Commission, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202; or
- d. Leaving a voicemail at (303) 869-3490 (English and Spanish options).

Please reference this Proceeding (No. 23A-0585E) when submitting a comment.

II. ORDER

A. It is Ordered That:

1. Consistent with the discussion above, the Unopposed Motion of Moffat County and the City of Craig Requesting the Scheduling of a Public Comment Hearing, filed April 3, 2024, is granted.

17. An in-person public comment hearing on the above-captioned Application is scheduled as follows:

DATE: Tuesday, July 9, 2024

TIME: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Craig, Colorado, at a venue to be identified by a subsequent decision.

18. A virtual public comment hearing on the above-captioned Application is scheduled as follows:

DATE: Thursday, July 11, 2024

TIME: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: By video conference: using the Zoom web conferencing platform at a link in the calendar of events on the Commission's website, available at <https://puc.colorado.gov/>.

19. This Decision is effective immediately.

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

AVIV SEGEV

Administrative Law Judge

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca E. White".

Rebecca E. White,
Director