Decision No. R25-0386-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24AL-0498E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 1971 - ELECTRIC FILED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO REVISE ITS COLORADO P.U.C. NO. 8 - ELECTRIC TARIFF TO REVISE RATES FOR THE OFF-SITE NET METERING CREDIT, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025.

INTERIM DECISION VACATING EVIDENTIARY HEARING

Issued Date: May 21, 2025

I. <u>STATEMENT</u>

A. Procedural Background

1. On November 15, 2024, Public Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" or

"the Company") filed Advice Letter No. 1971 – Electric with tariff sheets to provide revised rates

for the Off-Site Net Metering Credit for 2025.

2. On December 10, 2024, the Colorado Solar and Storage Association, the Solar

Energy Industries Association, and the Coalition for Community Solar Access (collectively, the

"Solar Parties") filed their Protest, Request for Hearing, and Request to Suspend Implementation

of Proposed Tariff by the Colorado Solar and Storage Association, Solar Energy Industries

Association, and Coalition for Community Solar Access, requesting that the Colorado Public

Utilities Commission ("Commission" or "PUC") issue an order suspending the Advice Letter and

setting the matter for interventions and hearing.

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- 3. By Decision No. C24-0954, issued December 31, 2024, the Commission suspended the Tariff Sheets until May 1, 2025, set an intervention period through January 31, 2025, and referred this matter to an administrative law judge ("ALJ"). This Proceeding was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ.
- 4. On January 28, 2025, the Motion to Intervene and Notice of Appearance of the Colorado Solar and Storage Association, Solar Energy Industries Association, and Coalition for Community Solar Access (the "Solar Parties' Motion to Intervene") was filed by the Solar Parties.
- 5. On January 31, 2025, Trial Staff of the Commission ("Staff") filed its Notice of Intervention as of Right by Trial Staff of the Commission, Entry of Appearance, Notice Pursuant to Rule 1007(a) and Rule 1401, and Request for Hearing ("Staff's Notice of Intervention").
- 6. By Decision No. R25-0104-I, issued February 14, 2025, the undersigned ALJ granted the Solar Parties' Motion to Intervene, acknowledged the intervention of Staff, adopted a procedural schedule, and scheduled a remote evidentiary hearing for May 22, 2025.
- 7. On April 16, 2025, Public Service filed a Notice of Unanimous and Comprehensive Settlement Agreement, stating in relevant part that a settlement in principle had been reached and the final settlement and motion for its approval would be filed no later than May 2, 2025.
- 8. On May 2, 2025, Public Service filed a Joint Motion to Approve Unanimous Comprehensive Settlement Agreement ("Motion"), pursuant to Rule 1408(a) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 Code of Colorado Regulations ("CCR") 723-1. The Settlement Agreement, attached to the Motion as Hearing Exhibit 101 ("Settlement Agreement"), was executed by all parties to the Proceeding. The Motion states that the Settlement Agreement resolves all issues that have been or could have been raised in this Proceeding.¹

¹ Motion at 1.

В. **Evidentiary Hearing and Motion**

- 9. The Motion states: "The Settlement Agreement, filed contemporaneously with this Motion, resolves all issues between the Settling Parties in this proceeding."²
- 10. Pursuant to Rule 1408(a), 4 CCR 723-1, the Commission encourages settlement of contested proceedings. Because the Settlement Agreement purports to resolve all disputed issues among the parties, and no party opposes the Motion, the ALJ finds good cause to vacate the evidentiary hearing scheduled for May 22, 2025. Therefore, the evidentiary hearing will be vacated, as ordered below.
- 11. While the ALJ does not anticipate the need to hold a hearing on the Settlement Agreement at this time, the parties are advised that a hearing may nonetheless be ordered by separate decision at a later date.
 - The Motion will be addressed by a separate decision. 12.

II. **ORDER**

It is Ordered That:

Consistent with the discussion above, the evidentiary hearing scheduled for May 1. 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., is vacated.

² Id. at p. 3. The "Settling Parties" are define in the Motion as Public Service, Staff, and the Solar Parties. Id. at p. 1.

2. This Decision is effective immediately.



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

AVIV SEGEV

Administrative Law Judge

Rebecca E. White, Director