

Decision No. R25-0458

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 25AL-0146E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 1980 - ELECTRIC FILED BY PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO TO REVISE ITS COLORADO P.U.C. NO. 8 - ELECTRIC TARIFF TO INCREASE THE TRANSMISSION COST ADJUSTMENT RIDER, TO BECOME EFFECTIVE MAY 2, 2025.

**INTERIM DECISION VACATING REMOTE
PREHEARING CONFERENCE, EXTENDING
STATUTORY DEADLINE, ESTABLISHING
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE, ASSIGNING EXHIBIT
NUMBER BLOCKS, AND SCHEDULING REMOTE
HEARING**

Issued Date: June 17, 2025

I. STATEMENT

A. Background

1. On April 1, 2025, Public Service Company of Colorado (“Public Service” filed Advice Letter No. 1980 - Electric to modify its Transmission Cost Adjustment (“TCA”) for the purpose of reconciling revenue collections with eligible spending associated with distribution system-related activities and investments in 2024. The revenue effect of this TCA advice letter filing is a net increase in annual revenue of \$617,926, to be recovered May 2, 2025, through December 31, 2025, compared to the rates currently in effect. Public Service filed Advice Letter No. 1980 with direct testimony of two witnesses.

2. On April 24, 2025, Trial Staff of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (“Staff”) filed a protest to the Advice Letter asking the Commission to set the matter for hearing and suspend the effective date of the tariff sheets filed with the Advice Letter.

3. On May 1, 2025, the Commission issued Decision No. C25-0341 that set the matter for hearing, thereby suspending the tariff sheets filed with CNG’s Advice Letter No. 1980 for 120 days through August 30, 2025, established an intervention period through May 30, 2025, and referred the proceeding to an Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”). The proceeding was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ.

4. On May 30, 2025, Staff filed a Notice of Intervention.

5. On June 9, 2025, the ALJ issued Decision No. R25-0445-I that acknowledged the Notice of Intervention, scheduled a remote prehearing conference for June 20, 2025 at 1:30 p.m., and required the parties to confer regarding a procedural schedule and for Public Service to file a report of conferral by noon on June 18, 2025.

6. On June 13, 2025, Public Service filed the Conferral Report in which it reported that the parties had agreed to the following procedural schedule (“Consensus Schedule”):

<u>Event</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Answer Testimony	July 8, 2025
Rebuttal Testimony	August 22, 2025
Corrections to Written Testimony Cross-Examination Matrix	August 28, 2025
Prehearing Motions Stipulations Settlement Agreements	September 4, 2025
Evidentiary Hearing	September 9, 2025
Statements of Position	October 10, 2025

7. Public Service also reported that the parties agree that: (a) Commission Rule 1405 will govern discovery; and (b) the hearing should be conducted as a remote hearing.

B. Pre- and Post-Hearing Schedule

8. With one exception, the Consensus Schedule will be accepted. The exception is that a deadline for Statements of Position (“SOPs”) will not be established at this time. The ALJ will address the SOP deadline at a later date.

9. In order to efficiently organize the numbering and preparation of exhibits for the hearing, all parties must use a unified numbering system for all hearing exhibits. Blocks of hearing exhibit numbers are assigned as follows:

- Public Service is assigned hearing exhibit numbers 100 to 199; and
- Staff is assigned hearing exhibit numbers 200 to 299.

C. Remote Evidentiary Hearing

10. As agreed to by the parties, the evidentiary hearing shall be scheduled for September 9, 2025. Based on the input of the parties, the hearing will be conducted as a remote hearing. This Decision and Attachments A and B provide critical information and instructions to facilitate holding the remote hearing, which all parties must follow.

11. To minimize the potential that the remote hearing may be disrupted by non-participants, the link, meeting ID code, and passcode to attend the hearing will be provided to the participants by email before the hearing, and the participants will be prohibited from distributing that information to anyone not participating in the hearing.

12. Attachment A to this Decision provides the information addressing how to use the Zoom platform for remotely participating in the hearing. Attachment B outlines procedures and requirements for marking and formatting exhibits to facilitate the efficient and smooth electronic evidence presentations at the remote hearing. It is extremely important that the parties carefully review and follow all requirements in this Decision and Attachments A and B.

D. Further Extension of Effective Date

13. As noted above, the Commission set the tariff pages for hearing, which suspended the effective date of those pages for 120 days from the proposed effective date (May 2, 2025) to August 30, 2025.

14. Section 40-6-111(1), C.R.S., provides that the Commission may, in its discretion, by a separate decision, suspend the effective date of the tariff page(s) for an additional 130 days. Thus, the Commission has the power and authority to suspend the effective date of the tariff pages for a maximum of 250 days.

15. Here, in light of the time available, the schedule proposed by the parties, the time necessary to address other pending matters, and the need for the Commission to have adequate time to deliberate the issues presented in this matter, it is not feasible for a final Commission decision to issue by August 30, 2025. Accordingly, it is necessary to extend the effective date of the tariff sheets filed with the Advice Letter for an additional 130 days pursuant to § 40-6-111(1), C.R.S. The new effective date of the proposed modified tariff sheets, after suspension, is January 7, 2026.

E. Remote Prehearing Conference

16. The Conferral Report comprehensively addresses the issues the ALJ intended to address at the remote prehearing conference. Accordingly, the scheduled remote prehearing conference will be vacated.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. For the reasons stated above, the effective date of the tariff sheets filed with Advice Letter No. 1980 is suspended for an additional 130 days pursuant to § 40-6-111(1), C.R.S.

2. The schedule stated in paragraph 6 above is adopted; with the exception that no deadline for Statements of Position will be set at this time.

3. A remote evidentiary hearing in this proceeding is scheduled as follows:

DATE: September 9, 2025

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PLACE: By video conference: using the Zoom web conferencing platform at a link be provided to the participants by email.¹

4. Nobody should appear in-person for the remote evidentiary hearing.

5. The remote prehearing conference scheduled for June 20, 2025 is vacated.

¹ Additional information about the Zoom platform and how to use the platform are available at: <https://zoom.us/>. All participants are strongly encouraged to participate in a test meeting prior to the scheduled hearing. See <https://zoom.us/test>.

6. This Decision is effective on its Issued Date.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CONOR F. FARLEY

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

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

Rebecca E. White,
Director