

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 19AL-_____ E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 774 FILED BY BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC TO INCREASE THE ENERGY COST ADJUSTMENT (ECA) TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE FORM OF NOTICE

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(D) and Rule 1207(b), Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC (“Black Hills” or “Company”), by its undersigned attorney, requests that the Commission enter an Order approving an alternative form of notice that will apply to Advice Letter No. 774-Electric. By Advice Letter No. 774-Electric, Black Hills seeks to amend its Energy Cost Adjustment (“ECA”) calculation inputs, on Tariff Sheet No. 65, in the Rates section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 10-Electric Tariff. The ECA is applicable to all retail customers. Black Hills also asserts that conferral is not required for this Motion according to Commission Rule 1400(a)(I), and that responses to this Motion are not allowed according to Commission Rule 1207(b). In support of the relief requested, Black Hills states as follows:

1. On May 31, 2019, the Company filed Advice Letter No. 774-Electric to amend its ECA calculation inputs, on Tariff Sheet No. 65, in the Rates section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 10-Electric Tariff. The proposed tariff amendments will increase the ECA rate from \$0.03810 per kWh to \$0.04099 per kWh, beginning July 1, 2019.

2. By this Motion, Black Hills seeks Commission approval to provide alternative notice of its proposed tariff amendment.

3. Specifically, Black Hills seeks Commission authorization to use the following form of alternative notice:

- a. Filing with the Commission, and keeping open for inspection, Advice Letter No. 774-Electric, which amends its ECA calculation inputs, on Tariff Sheet No. 65, in the Rates section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 10-Electric Tariff.
- b. Posting on the website for Black Hills Energy: (1) a Customer Notice attached herewith as Attachment 1 and (2) Advice Letter No. 774-Electric and its accompanying tariff sheet, for thirty (30) days beginning within one week after the filing of Advice Letter No. 774-Electric.
- c. Printing a message on each applicable customer's bill providing the website URL for the Customer Notice and Advice Letter No. 774-Electric and its accompanying tariff sheet, and a toll-free phone number for assistance, beginning within one week after the filing of Advice Letter No. 774-Electric. The bill messages, by customer class, read as follows:

Residential:

“We filed to increase our ECA to \$0.04099 per kWh effective July 1. If approved, the revision will increase annual revenues by \$4.09M. An average monthly residential bill would increase \$1.80 from \$100.28 to \$102.08, or 1.79%. Call 888-890-5554 or visit blackhillsenergy.com/filings for details.”

Small Commercial:

“We filed to increase our ECA to \$0.04099 per kWh effective July 1. If approved, the revision will increase annual revenues by \$4.09M. An average small commercial bill would increase \$6.90 from \$326.40 to \$333.30, or 2.11%. Call 888-890-5554 or visit blackhillsenergy.com/filings for details.”

Other Customers:

“We filed to increase our ECA to \$0.04099 per kWh effective July 1. If approved, the revision will increase annual revenues by \$4.09M. Customers can call (719)-546-6410 for information on how the proposed amendment may affect them.”

- d. Publishing a legal notice of Advice Letter No. 774-Electric (*i.e.*, Attachment 1), with size dimensions of four columns width and 11 inches height, in three newspapers of general circulation for the service territory: 1) *The Pueblo Chieftain* (two consecutive Tuesdays, June 4th and June 11th); and 2) the *Cañon City Daily Record* (two consecutive Fridays, June 7th and June 14th); and 3) the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette* (two consecutive Thursdays, June 6th and June 13th).

4. The Company plans to go forward with this alternative form of notice. The Company would like to avoid incurring “time and materials” expense for printing customer bill inserts. In the event the Commission denies this Motion, and determines that additional notice is required, the Company will provide additional notice consistent with the Commission’s order.

5. There is good cause for the alternative form of notice requested by this Motion. A bill message, unlike a bill insert, provides more visibility to the customer because it is presented on the first page of the bill, where the customer looks for dollar amount due and the payment deadline. The website posting will provide the required information regarding the amended tariff sheet to the general public. The toll-free phone number provided in the bill message will give customers a second option to learn more about the amended tariff if they cannot access the internet for the Company’s website. These alternative forms of notice are expeditious and economic for the Company’s customers.

6. Wherefore, Black Hills respectfully requests that the Commission approve the alternative form of notice set forth in this Motion to amend the ECA inputs, on Tariff Sheet No. 65, in the Rates section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 10-Electric Tariff.

Date: May 31, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Tyler Mansholt
Tyler Mansholt, #51979
Corporate Counsel
Black Hills Corporation
1515 Arapahoe Street, Tower 1 – Suite 1200
Denver, CO 80202
Telephone: 303-566-3455
Email: Tyler.Mansholt@blackhillscorp.com

Attorney for Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC