

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 21AL-_____ E

IN THE MATTER OF ADVICE LETTER NO. 819 FILED BY BLACK HILLS COLORADO ELECTRIC, LLC FOR NEW AND AMENDED TARIFFS TO ADD SECTION 26, INTERCONNECTIONS SERVICE TO BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 18, 2022.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE FORM OF NOTICE

Pursuant to C.R.S. § 40-3-104(1)(c)(I)(E) and Rule 1207(b), Black Hills Colorado Electric, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy (“Black Hills” or “Company”), requests that the Commission enter an Order approving an alternative form of notice that will apply to Advice Letter No. 819-Electric. By Advice Letter No. 819-Electric, Black Hills seeks to amend the Rules section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 11-Electric to add Section 26, Interconnections Service. Section 26 will govern the Company’s interconnection of Company facilities with generating facilities owned by its customers where such facilities will operate in parallel with the Company’s distribution system. The proposed effective date for the tariff is January 18, 2022. 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 December 17, 2021, the Company filed Advice Letter No. 819-Electric to add Section 26, Interconnections to the Rules section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 11-Electric. If approved, the tariff will become effective on January 18, 2022.

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. 819-Electric, which adds Section 26, Interconnection Service in the Rules section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 11-Electric Tariff. The Company will also post on its website at the time of filing: (1) a Customer Notice attached herewith as Attachment 1 and (2) Advice Letter No. 819-Electric and its accompanying tariff sheet, for at least sixty (60) days. The website posting will include a reference to the applicable proceeding number. The applicable website address for the posting of Advice Letter No. 819-Electric, Attachment 1, and the accompanying tariff sheet, is located at: <http://www.blackhillsenergy.com/rates/applications>.
- b. Printing a message on each customer's bill providing the website URL for the Customer Notice and Advice Letter No. 819-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. 819-Electric. The bill message will run for one full billing cycle. The bill message will read as follows:

All Retail customers:

“Black Hills Energy has filed to add Section 26 Interconnections Service to its tariff effective Jan. 18, 2022, if approved. For full details, blackhillsenergy.com/rates/applications or call 888-890-5554.”

- c. Publishing a legal notice of Advice Letter No. 819-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, January 4 and 11, 2022); and, 2) the *Cañon City Daily Record* (two Fridays, January 7 and 14, 2022); and, 3) the *Rocky Ford Daily Gazette* (two Thursdays, January 6 and 13, 2022).

4. There is good cause for the alternative form of notice requested by this Motion. The Company's bill message does not conflict with its billing cycle, and it provides 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 toll-free phone number provided in the bill message will give customers a second option to learn more about the new tariff if they cannot access the internet for the Company's website. In addition, the newspaper publications will ensure general notice to customers throughout the Company's service territory. These alternative forms of notice are expeditious and economic for the Company's customers.

5. Wherefore, Black Hills respectfully requests that the Commission approve the alternative form of notice set forth in this Motion to add Section 26, Interconnections Service in the Rules section of its Colo. P.U.C. No. 11-Electric Tariff.

Date: December 17, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

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