

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO**

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF)
COLORADO FOR APPROVAL OF ITS) PROCEEDING NO. 23A-____E
2024-2026 TRANSPORTATION)
ELECTRIFICATION PLAN.)

DIRECT TESTIMONY AND ATTACHMENTS OF DEBORAH E. ERWIN

ON

BEHALF OF

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

May 15, 2023

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment DEE-1	Xcel Energy, EV Public Charging Perceptions Survey Research (April 4, 2022)
Attachment DEE-2	Martec Commercial EV Charging Quantitative Research prepared for Xcel Energy
Attachment DEE-3	Market-Based DCFC Rate Workbook
Attachment DEE-4	Letters of Support

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
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IN THE MATTER OF [THE)
APPLICATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE)
COMPANY OF COLORADO FOR) PROCEEDING NO. 23A-____E
APPROVAL OF ITS 2024-2026)
TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION)
PLAN.)

DIRECT TESTIMONY AND ATTACHMENTS OF DEBORAH E. ERWIN

**I. INTRODUCTION, QUALIFICATIONS, PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY, AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

2 **A.** My name is Deborah E. Erwin. My business address is 10 East Doty Street, Suite
3 511, Madison, Wisconsin 53703.

4 **Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT POSITION?**

5 **A.** I am employed by Xcel Energy Services, Inc. ("XES") as Director of Clean
6 Transportation Policy and Planning. XES is a wholly owned subsidiary of Xcel
7 Energy Inc. ("Xcel Energy") and provides an array of support services to Public
8 Service Company of Colorado ("Public Service" or the "Company") and the other
9 utility operating company subsidiaries of Xcel Energy on a coordinated basis.

10 **Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU TESTIFYING IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

11 **A.** I am testifying on behalf of Public Service.

1 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS.**

2 A. As Director of Clean Transportation Policy and Planning, I am responsible for
3 helping to support Xcel Energy’s clean transportation policy and conduct clean
4 transportation program planning for all of Xcel Energy’s four operating companies.
5 My qualifications and experience are more fully described in my Statement of
6 Qualifications at the conclusion of my testimony.

7 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

8 A. The purpose of my Direct Testimony is to support the new and expanded programs
9 Public Service proposes to include in its 2024-2026 Transportation Electrification
10 Plan (“TEP”) under the Public Charging Acceleration Network and Clean Vehicles
11 portfolios and support the continuation of the Equity Performance Incentive
12 Mechanism (“PIM”) from the Company’s 2021-2023 TEP. The new and expanded
13 programs I support through my Direct Testimony, including equity-focused EV
14 rebate programs and the increased deployment of public charging, are designed
15 to address two of the most significant barriers to electric vehicle (“EV”) adoption.
16 First, is the up-front cost associated with procuring an EV. Second, is range
17 anxiety, representing a customer’s concern that they will not have sufficient access
18 to convenient and affordable EV charging when they are away from their charging
19 home base. Related to the Company’s public fast charging stations, I also support
20 Public Service’s proposal for a new rate applicable to these stations.

1 **Q. AT A HIGH LEVEL, WHY IS THE COMPANY INCLUDING THESE PROPOSALS**
2 **IN THE 2024-2026 TEP?**

3 **A.** The new and expanded programs in the Clean Vehicles and Public Charging
4 Acceleration Network portfolios will enhance the Company's ability to achieve the
5 goals established in Senate Bill 19-077 ("SB 19-077"), including for electric utilities
6 to increase access to electricity as a transportation fuel and increase access to
7 EVs and their benefits for all customers. While the Company's first TEP marked
8 an historical first and comprehensive step to support EV adoption and all the
9 associated benefits, the Company has learned through its experiences working
10 closely with customers that there are some market segments that could benefit
11 from new and/or expanded support to help overcome barriers to greater EV
12 adoption. Additionally, the Company's Public Charging Acceleration Network
13 provides an opportunity for the Commission to ensure there is a reliable, cost-
14 effective backbone of public charging infrastructure designed to provide access for
15 everyone (versus only high utilization and/or affluent areas), with that core network
16 remaining under the Commission's oversight through its regulatory authority.

17 **Q. HOW IS YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY ORGANIZED?**

18 **A.** After this introductory section, in Section II of my Direct Testimony, I support Public
19 Service's proposal to accelerate the deployment of equitable and accessible public
20 charging that is necessary to support the State of Colorado's EV adoption goals.
21 In that section, I also support a new rate for the Company's public fast charging
22 stations.

1 In Section III, I present new and expanded programs that are designed to
2 address cost-related barriers to EV adoption for residential customers, including
3 income-qualified (“IQ”) customers and customers in disproportionately impacted
4 (“DI”) communities, as well as programs to make EVs more accessible to individual
5 drivers for Transportation Network Companies (“TNC”) and Delivery Network
6 Companies (“DNC”). I also support a rebate program to address cost-related
7 barriers that are unique to state and local governments.

8 In Section IV, I support Public Service’s continuation of the Equity PIM for
9 the 2024-2026 TEP period, which was approved by the Commission to apply under
10 the 2021-2023 TEP.

11 Finally, in Section V, I restate the Company’s recommendations and
12 conclude my Direct Testimony.

13 **Q. ARE YOU SPONSORING ANY ATTACHMENTS AS PART OF YOUR DIRECT**
14 **TESTIMONY?**

15 **A.** Yes, I am sponsoring Attachments DEE-1 through DEE-4, which were prepared
16 by me or under my direct supervision. The attachments are as follows:

- 17 • Attachment DEE-1: Xcel Energy, EV Public Charging Perceptions Survey
18 Research (April 4, 2022);
- 19 • Attachment DEE-2: Martec Commercial EV Charging Quantitative
20 Research prepared for Xcel Energy; and
- 21 • Attachment DEE-3: Market-Based DCFC Rate Workbook
- 22 • Attachment DEE-4: Letters of Support

1 **Q. WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS ARE YOU MAKING IN YOUR DIRECT**
2 **TESTIMONY?**

3 **A.** I recommend that the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”):

- 4 • Approve Public Service’s proposed Public Charging Acceleration Network
5 and Clean Vehicles portfolios;
- 6 • Approve Public Service’s revised rate for Company-owned public fast
7 charging stations and direct Public Service to implement this rate through a
8 compliance advice letter filed after a final Commission decision in this
9 proceeding;
- 10 • Approve Public Service’s request to build out Company-owned public fast
11 charging approved through this proceeding on a rolling basis beyond the
12 2026 plan year, to the extent not all authorized public fast charging is
13 constructed during this TEP period; and
- 14 • Approve continuation of the current Equity PIM.

1 **II. AN ACCESSIBLE AND EQUITABLE PUBLIC CHARGING NETWORK**

2 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

3 A. The purpose of this section of my testimony is to present the Company's plans to
4 expand on the public charging buildout approved in the first TEP, through which
5 Public Service develops, owns, and operates public fast chargers across our
6 service territory. In this section, I also discuss certain challenges the Company has
7 encountered in implementing the rollout of Company-owned public fast charging
8 and support Public Service's revised charging rate applicable to all Company-
9 owned public fast charging.

10 **Q. CAN YOU BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY REGARDING THE**
11 **PUBLIC CHARGING ACCELERATION NETWORK?**

12 A. Public Service recommends that the Commission approve the Company's proposal
13 to develop the Public Charging Acceleration Network as it directly addresses range
14 anxiety, a primary barrier to EV adoption facing customers today, and is intended
15 to be a catalyst for the step change in investment needed to drive vehicle
16 electrification and meet future charging demands. Prospective EV drivers
17 frequently cite a lack of access to public fast charging as a primary barrier to an EV
18 purchase. Currently, less than five percent of the fast charging necessary to meet
19 the State's 2030 goals exists, with the majority of identified charging needs located
20 within the Company's service territory.

21 In order to increase charging infrastructure access to all EV drivers and truly
22 address range anxiety and accelerate adoption, two things need to happen: public
23 fast charging stations need to be built in many locations and charging stations need

1 to be constructed in anticipation of demand rather than in response to it. Even with
2 support from State and federal funding initiatives, the non-regulated market will be
3 very challenged to meet these needs on its own based on current EV adoption
4 trends and the realities of their business model. Because of this, the State is not
5 likely to meet its EV adoption goals in the absence of robust regulated utility
6 support.

7 The Company is uniquely positioned to address this “chicken-and-egg”
8 problem through its public fast charging network. By building in anticipation of, and
9 to accelerate, demand, consumer confidence in the State’s public fast charging
10 network will increase and EV adoption will accelerate across the Company’s service
11 territory, helping the State reach its 2030 EV adoption goals.

12 Public Service therefore proposes to build upon the public fast charging
13 investments it has started under the Company’s inaugural TEP by establishing a
14 Public Charging Acceleration Network to ensure sufficient access to convenient,
15 reliable, and affordable public fast charging throughout its service territory. This
16 proposed Public Charging Acceleration Network will be developed to serve EVs of
17 all sizes, with stations at certain locations designed to fulfill the unique charging
18 demands of medium- and heavy-duty (“MD” and “HD”) EVs, which have proven
19 relatively more challenging to electrify than light-duty EVs. This proposal aligns
20 with the legislative declaration of SB 19-077 that calls on utilities to “increase access
21 to electricity as [a] transportation fuel, including for low- and moderate-income and
22 underserved communities.”¹ To this end, Public Service recommends that the

¹ SB 19-077, legislative declaration (d).

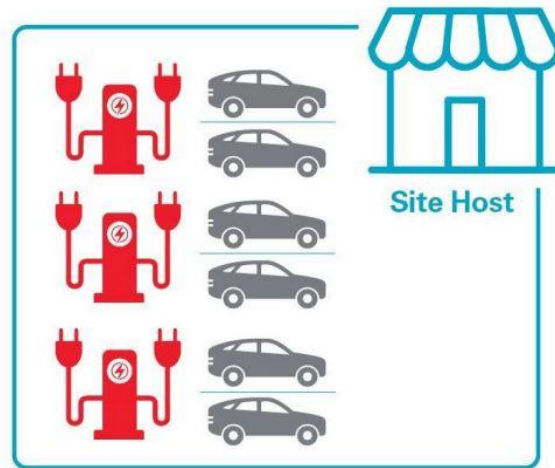
1 Commission approve its proposal to site public charging where it is needed across
2 the Company's service territory, without artificial buffers or geographic constraints,
3 and to adopt a market-based rate structure, to ensure equitable and affordable
4 access to public fast charging for customers and communities.

5 **Q. FOR BACKGROUND, WHAT ARE THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF A TYPICAL**
6 **EV CHARGING STATION?**

7 **A.** I use the term "charging station" throughout my testimony, generally in a broad
8 sense to refer to a group of chargers, their supporting equipment and the area in
9 the immediate vicinity of those chargers.² The basic components of a typical device
10 and location where a driver can charge an EV in public include the port, charger,
11 and hub. A "port" is a connector that can be plugged into an EV to charge the
12 vehicle. A "charger" is a piece of equipment providing energy at a given capacity
13 (also referred to as EV Supply Equipment or "EVSE"). A charger can have one or
14 more ports. Finally, a "hub" is an accessible location consisting of charging
15 equipment, including one or more chargers. Figure DEE-D-1, below, illustrates a
16 three-charger hub, where each charger has two ports.

² This is consistent with the definition of "charging station" per the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Standards and Requirements in 23 CFR 680.104, stating a charging station "means the area in the immediate vicinity of a group of chargers and includes the chargers, supporting equipment, parking areas adjacent to the chargers, and lanes for vehicle ingress and egress. A charging station could comprise only part of the property on which it is located." I note that for purposes of the report provided by Guidehouse, which I discuss later in my testimony, Guidehouse uses the term charging station to also refer to a charger. See Attachment JLJ-1 at D-16.

Figure DEE-D-1: Three Charger Hub with Two Ports Per Charge



A. The Role of Public Charging In Supporting the State’s Transportation Electrification Goals

Q. WHAT IS THE ROLE OF PUBLIC CHARGING IN ENSURING THAT THE STATE OF COLORADO IS POSITIONED TO MEET ITS EV ADOPTION GOALS?

A. Access to affordable and reliable public charging is frequently cited by drivers as a primary factor in their decision to purchase an EV.³ To meet the State’s goal to electrify 940,000 light-duty vehicles (“LDV”) by 2030,⁴ a rapid expansion of public charging is necessary not only to meet the charging demand of vehicles already purchased, but to decrease range anxiety among prospective EV purchasers and accelerate the adoption of EVs. Research has found that increases in the amount of installed public charging are associated with a statistically significant increase in

³ Consumer Reports, Battery Electric Vehicles and Low Carbon Fuel: A Nationally Representative Multi-Mode Survey, January/February 2022 Results, p. 4, available at https://article.images.consumerreports.org/prod/content/dam/surveys/Consumer_Reports_BEV_percent20AND_percent20LCF_percent20SURVEY_18_FEBRUARY_2022.

⁴ Attachment JW1-1 at 3.

1 the rate of EV adoption.⁵ According to modeling conducted by Guidehouse, which
2 forecasts EV adoption and charging needs and is discussed further below, the State
3 requires significant public fast charging build-out to support Colorado's EV adoption
4 target. Through continued direct investment in the Public Charging Acceleration
5 Network, the Company will increase access to public fast charging across our
6 service territory, increase consumer confidence in the viability of EVs, and help
7 Colorado achieve its transportation electrification goals.

8 **Q. HOW IS EXPANDED ACCESS TO PUBLIC CHARGING A KEY ELEMENT OF**
9 **INCREASED EV ADOPTION?**

10 **A.** Expanded access to convenient and affordable public charging is critical to address
11 a leading barrier to EV adoption: range anxiety. An EV driver, or prospective EV
12 driver, may fear becoming stranded during a trip or on a particular route if their EV
13 battery depletes its state of charge without sufficient access to a convenient and
14 reliable charging source.

15 As evidenced by numerous customer surveys, range anxiety is a top concern
16 among prospective EV purchasers.⁶ For example, a recent nationwide survey
17 conducted by Consumer Reports found that the top barrier cited by drivers

⁵ See Li et al, "The Market for Electric Vehicles: Indirect Network Effects and Policy Design," Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, March 2017, concluding that a 10 percent increase in EV chargers results on average in an 8.4 percent increase in EV adoption.

⁶ E.g., JD Power, *Majority of Electric Vehicle Owners Are Intent on Purchasing Another One in the Future* (January 21, 2021), available at <https://www.jdpower.com/business/press-releases/2021-us-electric-vehicle-experience-evx-ownership-study> (last visited March 24, 2023); Consumer Reports, *More Americans Would Buy an Electric Vehicle, and Some Consumer Would Use Low-Carbon Fuels*, Survey Shows, Jeff S. Barlett (July 7, 2022), available at <https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/hybrids-evs/interest-in-electric-vehicles-and-low-carbon-fuels-survey-a8457332578/> (last visited March 24, 2023); *Consumer Reports, Battery Electric Vehicles and Low Carbon Fuel: A Nationally Representative Multi-Mode Survey*, January/February 2022 Results, p. 4, available at https://article.images.consumerreports.org/prod/content/dam/surveys/Consumer_Reports_BEV%20AND%20LCF%20SURVEY_18_FEBRUARY_2022.

1 considering the purchase of an EV or that are opposed to doing so was charging
2 logistics (61 percent), with insufficient public charging and no place to charge at
3 home being the main concern.⁷ The second most selected concern among this
4 group was the number of miles a vehicle can travel between charges (55 percent).⁸
5 Both of these concerns were cited more frequently than vehicle price when
6 assessing barriers to EV adoption.⁹

7 Ensuring that our customers and communities have sufficient access to
8 convenient, reliable, and affordable public charging is a critical priority for the
9 Company as we work collaboratively with stakeholders to address customer
10 concerns and support the State's ambitious EV adoption and emission reduction
11 goals.

12 **Q. HOW DOES PUBLIC CHARGING AVAILABILITY INTERACT WITH HOME**
13 **CHARGING HABITS?**

14 **A.** The vast majority of today's EV drivers have access to home charging: 92 percent
15 of EV drivers responded to a Plug In America survey¹⁰ that they most often charge
16 at home; and roughly 80 percent of EV drivers report charging at home in a recent
17 Xcel Energy survey, included with my Direct Testimony as Attachment DEE-1.
18 Importantly, however, many customers do not live in a single-family home that can
19 accommodate home charging, so in reality many customers lack this option. Given
20 this reality and as EV adoption grows, more charging is expected to take place

⁷ Id.

⁸ Id.

⁹ Id.

¹⁰ Plug In America, *The Expanding EV Market: Observations in a year of growth* (February 2022), available at <https://pluginamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-PIA-Survey-Report.pdf> (last visited March 24, 2023); Attachment DEE-1 (Xcel customer survey), p. 13.

1 outside of the home.¹¹ Additional public charging solutions will be necessary to
2 accommodate this growing demand. As noted above, a lack of sufficient access to
3 convenient and reliable public charging often deters prospective EV drivers from
4 purchasing an EV, thus limiting the market to consumers with access to home
5 charging. To expand EV adoption to customers that may not have access to home
6 charging, such as residents in multifamily housing or drivers without access to a
7 garage, public charging needs to become more widely available and reliable.

8 **Q. HOW DOES PUBLIC CHARGING AVAILABILITY IMPACT THE**
9 **ELECTRIFICATION OF MEDIUM- AND HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLES?**

10 **A.** While the electrification of light-duty vehicles is well underway and continues to
11 accelerate, the electrification of MD and HD vehicles continues to lag. Vehicle
12 unavailability is one reason, and another reason for the lack of MD and HD EVs on
13 the road today is the high utilization of these vehicles and the charging certainty
14 necessary for fleet operators to commit to making an EV purchase. Public charging
15 networks can help provide the certainty necessary for fleets to make the switch to
16 EVs. Coordinated planning with fleet operators will be needed to ensure that public
17 charging stations are designed and sited to accommodate the unique requirements
18 of *en route* fueling for electrified MD and HD fleets. Publicly available charging for
19 MD and HD vehicles is a significant gap in current public charging investment plans,

¹¹ International Council of Clean Transportation, Charging Up America: Assessing the Growing Need for U.S. Charging Infrastructure through 2030, Gordan Bauer, Chih-Wei Hsu, Mike Nicolas, and Nic Lutsey (July 2021), p. 22, available at <https://theicct.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/charging-up-america-jul2021.pdf> (last visited April 24, 2023).

1 as evidenced by the State's stated goal of developing plans for this charging
2 infrastructure, and is necessary to support the electrification of these vehicles.¹²

3 **Q. IS THE PUBLIC FAST CHARGING BUILDOUT IN THE COMPANY'S SERVICE**
4 **AREA ON PACE TO MEET THE CHARGING NEEDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE**
5 **STATE'S EV ADOPTION GOALS?**

6 **A.** No. Public Service retained consultant Guidehouse to conduct an EV adoption
7 forecast under current market conditions and calculate the additional public fast
8 charging support Colorado will need to help the State reach its transportation
9 electrification goals. Guidehouse's report presenting the results of this study is filed
10 as Attachment JLJ-1 to the Direct Testimony of Jean-Baptiste Jouve. According to
11 Guidehouse, the statewide public fast charging infrastructure necessary to support
12 940,000 electric¹³ LDVs in Colorado by 2030 is 2,285 MW, with 1,403 MW (over 60
13 percent) of that public fast charging needed within the Company's service territory.
14 Considering there were 59,410 electric LDVs and only 44 MW of public fast
15 charging in the Company's service territory in 2022, the analysis indicates that
16 1,359 MW (or 96 percent) of additional public fast charging capacity is needed in
17 the Company's service territory in the next eight years.

18 Having forecasted the amount of additional public charging needed to meet
19 the State's 2030 goal, Guidehouse also conducted a second analysis to provide a
20 bottom-up market forecast as of September 2022. As explained in the Guidehouse
21 report, Attachment JLJ-1, the purpose of this analysis was to estimate the level of

¹² ICCT Working Paper 2021-08, *Colorado Charging Infrastructure Needs to Reach Electric Vehicle Goals*, p. 14, available at <https://theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/colorado-charging-infra-feb2021.pdf> (last visited May 1, 2023); Attachment JW1-1 (2023 Colorado EV Plan), p. 6, 9, 29, 36.

¹³ "Electric" includes plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV) and battery electric vehicles (BEV)

1 EV adoption expected in Colorado under market equilibrium conditions by 2030, as
2 achieving the State's 940,000 electric LDV adoption goal is not a foregone
3 conclusion. This forecast enables stakeholders to understand the likelihood of
4 Colorado achieving the State target, based on market conditions at the time of the
5 analysis. The Guidehouse forecast projects that under current market conditions
6 as of September 2022, Colorado is on track to have roughly 760,000 electric LDVs
7 on the road in 2030, *about 20 percent short of the State's goal*. This demonstrates
8 a need for increased Company investment to support widespread transportation
9 electrification, including in the public charging space.

10 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PUBLIC FAST CHARGING**
11 **MARKET IN COLORADO TODAY.**

12 **A.** According to the Alternative Fuels Data Center, as of March 2023, Colorado has
13 270 public fast charging locations across the State with 745 direct current fast
14 charging ("DCFC") ports available. Of those 745 ports, 324 are Tesla stations
15 currently available to Tesla drivers, meaning only 421 non-proprietary fast charging
16 ports are available statewide.

1

Table DEE-D-1: Statewide Charging Ports

Charging Network	Charging Ports
Blink Network	5
CHARGE LAB	1
ChargePoint Network	132
Electrify America	150
EV Connect	6
EV GATEWAY	4
EVgo Network	88
Non-Networked	24
Rivian Adventure	10
Tesla	324
Volta	1
Total	745

2 **Q. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATE OF PUBLIC FAST CHARGING AVAILABILITY**
3 **IN THE COMPANY'S SERVICE TERRITORY AND HOW DOES IT COMPARE TO**
4 **THE PROJECTED NEED?**

5 **A.** As of 2022, within the subset of the State that is the Company's service territory,
6 there were 246 non-proprietary charging ports with a combined charging capacity
7 of 44 MW. Based on Guidehouse's analysis, the current public fast charging
8 network will need to expand by a factor of 30 between now and 2030 to meet the
9 charging needs associated with the State's EV goals. The difference between the

1 fast charging network as it exists today and what is needed for the future will require
2 new investment in infrastructure to support EV drivers' travel needs. This enhanced
3 and accelerated investment will need to come from a diverse set of stakeholders,
4 requiring coordination between the utility and non-regulated entities to ensure that
5 public fast charging is available and affordable to all Public Service customers. A
6 notable element of Guidehouse's analysis illustrates that *the majority of the*
7 *charging needs in the State are located within the Company's service territory.*
8 Consequently, increased public fast charging investment within our service territory
9 will have an outsized impact on achieving the State's EV adoption goals. The table
10 below shows currently installed non-proprietary public fast charging ports and
11 capacity alongside what is needed in 2030 to support Colorado's goals, and the
12 resulting challenge for all to address.

1

Table DEE-D-2: 2030 Fast Charging Needs

2030 Fast Charging Needs	Statewide	PSCo Territory
Charging Capacity Today (MW)	71	44
Charging Capacity Needed (MW)	2,285	1,403
DC Fast Chargers Today (Ports)	421	246
DC Fast Chargers Needed (Ports)	10,271	6,313
Additional Charging Capacity Needed (MW) to Support 2030 Goal	2,214	1,359
Additional Charging Ports Needed to Support 2030 Goal	9,850	6,067

2 **Q. IS THIS CHARGING NEED ANALYSIS ARGUABLY CONSERVATIVE BASED**
3 **ON RECENT POLICY INITIATIVES?**

4 **A.** Yes. Guidehouse’s analysis does not factor in the potential for heightened growth
5 of charging needs due to more current and ongoing initiatives. For instance,
6 Guidehouse’s analysis does not consider the impact of the recently approved
7 Colorado Air Quality Control Commission (“AQCC”) Advanced Clean Trucks rule.
8 This rule requires manufacturers of trucks, buses, and vans to make a certain
9 percentage of new sales in Colorado zero-emission vehicles starting in 2026 for
10 model year 2027 vehicles.¹⁴ The rules are expected to significantly increase the
11 availability of affordable heavy- and medium-duty commercial EVs, which will drive

¹⁴ Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment, Colorado adopts new measures to increase availability of zero-emission trucks that offer lower operating and fuel costs (April 24, 2023), available at <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/press-release/colorado-adopts-new-measures-to-increase-availability-of-zero-emission-trucks-that>.

1 up demand for public charging.¹⁵ Similarly, the Guidehouse analysis does not
2 consider the impact associated with the AQCC's potential new rules to implement
3 an Advanced Clean Cars II standard,¹⁶ which will further increase charging needs
4 for zero-emissions cars.

5 These recent developments are not included in Guidehouse' analysis
6 because they were not final, legal requirements at the time of the analysis.

7 **Q. WHAT SOURCES OF FEDERAL FUNDING ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE**
8 **DEPLOYMENT OF PUBLIC FAST CHARGING?**

9 A. The recent federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA") included the
10 National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure ("NEVI") Formula Program that will distribute
11 funds to states to build public fast charging primarily along designated Alternative
12 Fuel Corridors ("AFCs"). Colorado is expected to receive \$57 million over the next
13 five years to support the buildout of a public fast charging network primarily along
14 AFCs. Additionally, the IIJA establishes a second, \$2.5 billion nationally
15 competitive grant program, known as the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure
16 ("CFI") Discretionary Grant Program, that is meant to complement the NEVI funds.
17 The program can support the adoption and use of alternative fuels, including but
18 not limited to electricity. This competitive funding has the potential to fund EV
19 charging in communities and along corridors other than AFCs and interstate
20 highways. However, unlike the NEVI Program, there is no specific amount of

¹⁵ ICCT White Paper, Near-Term Infrastructure Deployment to Support Zero-Emission Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles in the United States, Pierre-Louis Ragon, Sara Kelly, Nicole Egerstrom, Jerold Brito, Ben Sharpe, Charlie Allcock, Ray Minjares, and Felipe Rodríguez (May, 2023) at iii, available at <https://theicct.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/infrastructure-deployment-mhdv-may23.pdf>.

¹⁶ More information is available at: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/coloradocleancars>

1 funding set aside for projects in Colorado given its competitive nature. The Federal
2 Highway Administration on March 14, 2023, issued its first notice of a grant funding
3 opportunity under the CFI Discretionary Grant Program, offering an estimated total
4 of \$700 million for applications received by May 30, 2023.¹⁷ Eligible applicants
5 include local governments, transportation planning organizations, and tribal
6 governments.

7 **Q. IS THE FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATED TO COLORADO THROUGH THE**
8 **NEVI PROGRAM SUFFICIENT TO ADDRESS THE PUBLIC FAST CHARGING**
9 **NEEDS IDENTIFIED FOR 2030?**

10 **A.** No. Based on Guidehouse's analysis of the amount of charging necessary to meet
11 the State's 2030 goal, and budget assumptions included in this filing, the estimated
12 NEVI funding available in Colorado will cover only a small portion of the additional
13 public charging needed. By 2030, the State will need roughly 2,200 MW or 10,000
14 ports of additional public charging. This represents an investment of roughly \$2
15 billion in public fast charging. Assuming that Colorado provides about 60 percent
16 of the cost of a public charging station with NEVI funds, the estimated NEVI funding
17 will cover less than five percent of the public fast charging Colorado will need to
18 add by 2030. Significant investment above and beyond what is available through
19 the NEVI program is necessary to meet the State's electrification goals.

¹⁷ See Funding Opportunity Number 693JJ323NF00004, available at <https://www.grants.gov/>, last accessed April 15, 2023.

1 **Q. DOES THE STATE OF COLORADO HAVE OTHER INITIATIVES IN PLACE TO**
2 **SUPPORT PUBLIC FAST CHARGING DEPLOYMENTS?**

3 **A.** Yes. As further described in Colorado's 2023 EV Plan, Attachment JW1-1 to
4 Company witness Jack Ihle's Direct Testimony,¹⁸ the State and its agencies
5 administer multiple programs that are designed to advance the deployment of public
6 fast charging, including the Colorado Energy Office's ("CEO") Charge Ahead
7 Colorado program, CEO's DCFC Plazas program, CEO's EV Fast-Charging
8 Corridors program, and CEO's Fleet-ZERO Emission Resource Opportunity
9 ("Fleet-ZERO"). Table DEE-D-3 below provides an overview of these key
10 initiatives.

11 In addition to these initiatives, pursuant to Senate Bill 21-260, the State has
12 established multiple entities that are dedicated to promoting its transportation
13 electrification efforts, including the Community Access Enterprise ("CAE"), the
14 Clean Fleet Enterprise ("CFE"), and the Clean Transit Enterprise ("CTE"), and these
15 entities also work to support related efforts.¹⁹

¹⁸ Attachment JW1-1, p. 16-17.

¹⁹ The CAE is housed in the Colorado Energy Office ("CEO"), the CFE is housed in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment ("CDPHE"), and the CTE is housed in the Colorado Department of Transportation ("CDOT").

1 **Table DEE-D-3: Overview of State Programs that Support Public Charging**

Program	Description
Charge Ahead Colorado	Provides grants for community-based L2 and DCFC stations across the State. Since 2013, it has made awards for more than 2,000 EV charging stations. Provides funding for 80 percent of the cost of supported DCFC stations, up to \$35,000 for 50-99 kW DCFC stations and up to \$50,000 for higher-capacity DCFCs. ²⁰
DCFC Plazas	Increases access to high-speed charging in communities and along highway corridors across the State, funded through the federal NEVI program and the CAE. Per port incentives range from \$90,000 to \$140,000 depending on region, with enhanced incentives available for DI Communities/Disadvantaged Communities, and for sites with battery integrated and/or standalone storage components. ²¹
EV Fast-Charging Corridors	Partnership between CEO, ChargePoint, participating site hosts, utilities, and private companies to install fast charging stations at 34 sites across six corridors throughout the State comprising Interstate, State and U.S. Highways. ²²
Fleet-ZERO	Offers competitive grant funding to support charging for fleet owners and operators seeking to electrify their vehicles, as well as public and semi-public fleet charging sites and providers offering EV charging-as-a-service to fleets, with enhanced incentives for DI Communities and other eligible entities. Funds can cover costs directly associated with the purchase and installation of EV charging equipment and infrastructure for fleets, as well as costs associated with the five-year networking and five-year warranty requirements for the program. The maximum award per applicant, per round for standard applications is likely \$250,000-\$500,000. ²³

²⁰ CEO, Charge Ahead Colorado, <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/transportation/grants-incentives/charge-ahead-colorado>.

²¹ CEO, DCFC Plazas, <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/zero-emissions-vehicles/dcfc-plazas>.

²² CEO, EV Fast-Charging Corridors, <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/transportation/grants-incentives/ev-fast-charging-corridors>.

²³ CEO, Fleet-ZERO, <https://energyoffice.colorado.gov/fleet-zero>.

1 **Q. DOES THE COMPANY PROVIDE SUPPORT TO NON-REGULATED**
2 **COMPANIES TO DEVELOP PUBLIC CHARGING?**

3 A. Yes. Through its Commercial EV Supply Infrastructure (“EVSI”) program, charger
4 rebates for qualifying communities, and S-EV rate design, the Company currently
5 provides solutions to reduce the two primary barriers to third party public fast
6 charging implementation: high upfront costs and high operating costs, specifically
7 demand charges.

8 The EVSI program supports make-ready infrastructure, the charger rebates
9 help defray charging equipment costs for qualifying communities, and the S-EV rate
10 is specifically designed to meet the needs of public fast charging stations through
11 reduced demand charges.

12 **Q. WITH ALL OF THIS SUPPORT FROM FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING AND**
13 **THE COMPANY’S EVSI PROGRAM AND RATE DESIGN, CAN NON-**
14 **REGULATED MARKET ACTORS ALONE BE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE**
15 **SUFFICIENT, EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PUBLIC FAST CHARGING IN THE**
16 **COMPANY’S SERVICE TERRITORY TO SUPPORT THE STATE’S EV**
17 **ADOPTION GOALS?**

18 A. Respectfully, no. As shown in Table DEE-D-1, the vast majority of the public fast
19 charging stations in service today are operated by private charging network
20 providers. These are generally unregulated, private companies that in contrast to
21 a public utility, are not subject to Commission regulation or a duty to serve the
22 general public on just, reasonable, and transparent terms. Their economic interests
23 rationally drive their decision-making, particularly around the siting of charging

1 stations and the rate of charging station buildout. To maximize station profitability,
2 private firms are likely to prioritize areas with higher EV adoption and therefore
3 higher charger utilization. This dynamic predictably results in charging networks
4 that cater to existing demand and are typically clustered in areas that already have
5 a larger share of EVs on the road. This behavior by rational economic actors is
6 perfectly normal and responsive to demonstrated rising charging demand; however,
7 *it tends to lead to an inequitable distribution of charging availability.* As noted above,
8 to meaningfully accelerate EV adoption and address range anxiety, EV drivers need
9 to be able to readily access convenient, reliable, and affordable public charging
10 throughout our service territory. This means that to make a meaningful impact
11 towards advancing EV adoption, more public fast charging stations need to be built
12 and charging stations need be constructed in anticipation of demand, rather than in
13 response to it. Based on Guidehouse's bottom-up EV adoption market forecast
14 and the realities of non-regulated company business models, Public Service does
15 not expect that State and federal funding initiatives will be sufficient to spur the
16 private market to build the amount of public fast charging infrastructure at the pace
17 and in the locations needed to support equitable access to public fast charging and
18 achieve the State's 2030 EV adoption goals.

19 **B. The Public Charging Acceleration Network**

20 **Q. HOW DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE TO HELP ADDRESS COLORADO'S**
21 **PUBLIC FAST CHARGING NEEDS?**

22 **A.** The proposed Public Charging Acceleration Network will enable the Company to
23 do its part to support the State's EV adoption goals through expanding our existing

1 public fast charging program into its own stand-alone portfolio of investments in
2 public fast charging. This portfolio will build upon previous efforts and materially
3 increase the Company's focus on developing a network of public fast charging
4 stations that are built, owned, and operated by the Company across its service
5 territory. The Company's public charging network will continue addressing barriers
6 to implementation of public DCFC by offering turnkey solutions to site hosts,
7 affordable charging rates to drivers, and a reliable and efficient charging
8 experience. As noted earlier in my testimony, a significant amount of additional
9 investment in public DCFC is required to provide the public fast charging needed to
10 support and drive adoption at the rate necessary to electrify 940,000 LDVs
11 statewide by 2030. To support this goal, the Company is planning to invest
12 approximately \$120 million and deploy up to 460 chargers (roughly 580 ports)
13 across about 130 charging hubs.

14 **Q. HOW MUCH OF COLORADO'S PUBLIC FAST CHARGING NEED WILL BE MET**
15 **BY THIS INVESTMENT?**

16 **A.** The Company expects that an investment of approximately \$120 million will enable
17 the development of roughly 580 ports, representing less than 10 percent of the
18 6,067 additional fast charging ports necessary to support the State's 2030 goal in
19 our service territory. That leaves more than 90 percent of the additional fast
20 charging need in our service territory to be met by other efforts, including by the
21 non-regulated market. The Company has designed the Public Charging
22 Acceleration Network portfolio to help jumpstart the step change in investments
23 necessary to support the State's transportation electrification goals, providing

1 increased certainty that the State will have the fast charging infrastructure it needs,
2 while leaving ample room for other investors to continue to remain active in this
3 space.

4 **Q. HOW WILL THIS PROPOSAL IMPACT THE ADOPTION OF MEDIUM- AND**
5 **HEAVY-DUTY VEHICLES?**

6 A. Through efficient siting, affordable charging rates and providing pull-through
7 charging at certain locations, the Company's public fast charging network will
8 provide convenient and efficient MD/HD vehicle charging away from fleet depots.
9 This availability is crucial to the adoption of MD and HD electric vehicles as these
10 often have higher duty cycles (meaning vehicle utilization or miles driven) than
11 LDVs and require charging availability beyond traditional depot charging. Certainty
12 around the price and timing of vehicle fueling is an essential component of fleet
13 management and a necessity for a fleet manager to commit to vehicle
14 electrification. By providing convenient charging locations that can accommodate
15 fleet vehicles at a stable and affordable rate, the Company believes that its public
16 charging network will help provide that certainty and encourage the adoption of MD
17 and HD EVs.

18 **Q. HOW WILL THE COMPANY'S PUBLIC CHARGING PLAN AFFECT PUBLIC**
19 **FAST CHARGING MARKET DYNAMICS?**

20 A. The proposed Public Charging Acceleration Network will increase customer choice,
21 drive EV adoption, increase competition, enhance customers' confidence in a
22 growing market, and benefit the non-regulated market in the long-term. With the
23 goals of addressing public fast charging needs and driving EV adoption, the

1 Company's public charging network will induce incremental EV adoption, thereby
2 increasing public fast charging demand long-term across the Company's service
3 territory. The Company's unique ability to build to induce and support future
4 demand rather than react to existing demand will support an environment where an
5 EV purchase is viable for a larger portion of prospective drivers who are concerned
6 about range anxiety. By addressing range anxiety and accelerating adoption in
7 areas where some public fast charging is currently available, the Company's public
8 charging network will facilitate future investment by the non-regulated market by
9 increasing demand for public fast charging throughout the Company's service
10 territory. The Company's public charging network will increase charging options for
11 customers, instill confidence that charging will be available when needed and create
12 a positive feedback loop accelerating EV adoption. Plus, as the Commission retains
13 jurisdiction and oversight, this will help reduce significant risks that the State will fall
14 short of the public fast charging infrastructure it needs to support EV adoption goals
15 and lack equitable access to public fast charging.

16 **Q. HOW IS THE COMPANY UNIQUELY POSITIONED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE,**
17 **EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PUBLIC FAST CHARGING THROUGH ITS PUBLIC**
18 **CHARGING ACCELERATION NETWORK?**

19 **A.** Due to the regulated nature of this program, the Company recognizes it has the
20 ability to build charging stations in various locations, including areas of our service
21 territory that risk being neglected by non-regulated charging entities. As I noted
22 earlier, non-regulated charging companies acting in their own rational economic
23 interest will build charging stations in areas of higher utilization and therefore higher

1 profitability. While this dynamic tends to support public fast charging installation in
2 areas of high adoption, it also tends to leave large geographic areas with
3 inadequate public fast charging infrastructure, which discourages adoption in these
4 locations. The Company has forecasted charging needs across all parts of its
5 service territory, as described in more detail later in my testimony, in an effort to
6 build charging stations that will not just meet the demand of EV adopters but also
7 reduce range anxiety of hesitant potential EV buyers and encourage vehicle
8 electrification statewide.

9 **C. Public Charging Acceleration Network Operational Plan**

10 **Q. WHAT TYPES OF CHARGING HUBS IS THE COMPANY PROPOSING TO**
11 **BUILD?**

12 **A.** The Company is proposing to continue to implement its Market and Connector
13 Charging Hub concepts, with modifications to siting parameters discussed later, but
14 will update the site designs to accommodate an increase in charging demand and
15 more diverse charging needs. The current program consists of Market and
16 Connector Hubs, with Market Hubs meant to provide fast charging at destinations
17 within an urban setting and Connector Hubs meant to provide fast charging in rural
18 communities or along major travel corridors to enable long distance travel. Under
19 the current program, a uniform site design of two dual-port chargers is being
20 implemented across most sites regardless of site type. The Company is
21 modernizing its site designs for future installations to address the unique needs of
22 drivers at each location type.

1 Market Hubs will prioritize accessibility and amenities and are anticipated to
2 consist of four to six chargers between 150 kW and 180 kW. These will be located
3 at destinations such as retail stores, grocery stores, and restaurants in urban
4 settings and allow drivers to charge while conducting other business. Connector
5 Hubs will prioritize efficiency and convenience. They are anticipated to consist of
6 two to four high-capacity (e.g., 350 kW) chargers and will be located along major
7 highways and in rural areas to facilitate long distance travel and meet rural charging
8 needs. Connector Hubs will also be equipped with pull-through charging where
9 possible and will strive to accommodate medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. Market
10 Hubs will also use pull-through site designs to the extent feasible, depending on
11 site specific considerations. These site designs will be used where possible in an
12 attempt to standardize the deployment process and provide a uniform experience
13 across charging sites. The designs are also subject to change based on individual
14 site characteristics such as space or capacity availability.

15 **Q. HOW WILL PUBLIC CHARGING SITES BE SELECTED?**

16 **A.** The Company will seek to partner with site hosts wherever feasible with access to
17 amenities that can provide a convenient charging experience for drivers. The
18 Company may also use Company-owned property or acquire land rights in locations
19 where charging is needed and there is not a site host match. Public Service will
20 actively recruit site hosts in tandem with open application periods that will be open
21 to all Public Service commercial customers. Potential sites will be scored based on
22 the following criteria with a focus on ensuring adequate access to public fast

1 charging across our service territory and meeting customer's charging
2 expectations:²⁴

- 3 • Charging need met (as quantified by the Guidehouse analysis filed as
4 Attachment JLJ-1 to Company witness Jean-Baptiste Jouve's Direct
5 Testimony and updated with each TEP)
- 6 • Interconnection costs and capacity availability
- 7 • Site readiness
- 8 • Equitable access to charging
- 9 • Access to amenities
- 10 • Practical considerations such as space availability, overall site layout,
11 access to 3-phase power, etc.

12 In determining where to develop public fast charging, Public Service will
13 prioritize the highest areas of need based on forecasted EV charging needs.

14 Other considerations in the site selection process center around cost and
15 customer experience. Based on direct customer research, which is included with
16 my Direct Testimony as Attachment DEE-1, the top site-related factors that inform
17 customer charging decisions beyond charging speed and costs are convenient
18 locations, site safety, and nearby amenities.²⁵ The Company will seek to locate
19 charging stations in well-lit locations that have access to amenities. Ideal
20 businesses for fast charging as identified by surveyed customers are grocery
21 stores, retail stores or shopping malls and at rest areas or gas stations along

²⁴ In addition to the survey conducted by Xcel Energy, included with my Direct Testimony as Attachment DEE-1, customers' charging expectations have been explored through multiple studies. See e.g., PlugIn America, *The Expanding EV Market: Observations in a year of growth* (February 2022), p. 14, available at <https://pluginamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-PIA-Survey-Report.pdf> (last visited April 11, 2023).

²⁵ See also, e.g., Plug In America, *The Expanding EV Market: Observations in a year of growth* (February 2022), p. 14, available at <https://pluginamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-PIA-Survey-Report.pdf> (last visited April 11, 2023).

1 interstates or highways.²⁶ The Company will prioritize these types of locations to
2 meet customer expectations and create a positive charging experience.

3 **Q. DOES PUBLIC SERVICE PROPOSE TO OWN, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN THE**
4 **CHARGING STATIONS?**

5 **A.** Yes. Based on customer surveys conducted by the Company, there is a strong
6 interest amongst commercial customers in hosting EV charging on their premises.²⁷
7 However, many of these customers are unsure of the maintenance responsibilities
8 and costs associated with operating EV charging stations, while others do not have
9 the upfront capital for charger installations or budget available for charger upkeep.²⁸
10 The Company's Public Charging Acceleration Network can help customers
11 overcome these barriers through the Company building, owning, and maintaining
12 DCFC hubs on the site host premise at no cost to them for the infrastructure and
13 infrastructure maintenance. Site hosts will receive the benefit of increased foot
14 traffic to their locations, while being able to offer their patrons an important,
15 additional service in addition to their normal operations. Site hosts will not be
16 responsible for day-to-day operations of the charging stations or maintenance costs
17 associated with them. While Public Service will own, operate, and maintain the
18 public charging stations, site hosts will be required to provide 24/7 access to the
19 charging stations, ensure that the spaces are used exclusively for EV charging and
20 not for general parking, and conduct basic site maintenance such as snow removal
21 and vegetation management to ensure safe accessibility.

²⁶ Attachment DEE-1 at p. 17.

²⁷ Attachment DEE-2, Martec Commercial EV Charging Quantitative Research prepared for Xcel Energy (January 2023).

²⁸ *Id.*

Q. WHAT ADDITIONAL DESIGN ELEMENTS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN DEVELOPING PUBLIC CHARGING SITES?

A. The Company will design charging stations with the goals of increasing accessibility and reliability of public fast charging. Drivers have consistently cited charging speed as the most important characteristic of an EV charging station.²⁹ The Company's charging sites are anticipated to consist of chargers with a capacity of 150 kW and higher with a preference for higher output chargers where practical. The Company's preferred site designs will primarily offer single port charging to accommodate higher charging output more cost effectively; however, dual port charging will be installed as needed based on space limitations and/or site host preference. All charging locations will be designed to provide charging that complies with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") to ensure accessibility. When feasible, and especially for Connector Hubs, charging will be designed to accommodate pull-through charging, meaning vehicles can pull alongside the charger rather than pulling into a parking space. This will enable the charging of MD and HD vehicles as well as LDVs with towing capabilities.

Q. HOW WILL THE COMPANY OPERATE THE CHARGING STATIONS?

A. The Company will operate and maintain the chargers throughout the lifetime of the charging stations through a partnership with its Charging Network Provider ("CNP"). The Company will use a Request for Proposal ("RFP") process for charger hardware, software, construction and maintenance services that will support its public charging stations. A single vendor may provide all these services, or the

²⁹ See e.g., Attachment DEE-1 at p. 8.

1 Company may partner with a variety of vendors depending on cost effectiveness
2 and operational efficiency. The CNP will supply the Company with charger
3 monitoring software and customer-facing digital tools to allow for site monitoring
4 and maintenance, customer payments, and payment processing. This same entity
5 may also provide maintenance services, although charger maintenance services
6 may be contracted out to a separate provider, depending on the results of the RFP.
7 The Company will monitor utilization, charger uptime, and other operations data
8 through the charger monitoring software and work with its CNP and maintenance
9 providers to conduct preventative maintenance and dispatch repair crews when
10 necessary. Site hosts and EV drivers will be provided with Company and/or CNP
11 contact information to report outages and address questions regarding the
12 Company's public charging stations. Multiple secure payment options will be made
13 available to customers, as applicable and available. These payments will be
14 processed by the CNP and transferred to the Company as revenues that will offset
15 costs of the charging network.

16 **Q. HOW WILL EV DRIVERS LOCATE CHARGERS AND PAY FOR CHARGING**
17 **SERVICES?**

18 **A.** EV drivers can find the Company's charging stations through the mobile application
19 that will be provided by the CNP as well as other third-party EV charger applications
20 (e.g., PlugShare). This mobile application will show charger locations, prices, and
21 availability. Each charging hub in the Public Charging Acceleration Network will be
22 clearly identified through site signage and charger wrapping identifying it as a
23 Company-owned charging site.

1 **Q. HOW WILL THE COMPANY OVERCOME RELIABILITY AND DRIVER**
2 **EXPERIENCE CONCERNS PREVALENT IN THE INDUSTRY TODAY?**

3 A. Charger downtime and unsatisfactory driver experience are major challenges
4 impacting the public charging industry today³⁰ that the Company plans to help
5 remedy through a strong partnership and service level agreements (“SLAs”) with its
6 CNP. While some of these challenges are inevitable due to the maturity of the
7 industry, Public Service will not only have SLAs with the CNP, but will look for
8 innovative avenues to leverage utility expertise and assets, where appropriate and
9 relevant. The network provider and/or the Company’s maintenance provider will be
10 responsible for all charger maintenance, with regularly scheduled preventative
11 maintenance as well as repairs. The CNP will provide the Company with charger
12 monitoring software that the Company will utilize to monitor charger utilization and
13 faults and dispatch maintenance crews when necessary. The site host will also be
14 provided with contact information to report any issues or repair needs with the
15 charging stations. Through these measures and multiple reporting sources to
16 identify charging station issues, the Company believes it will be able to effectively
17 identify and respond to issues and deliver a charging network supported by SLAs
18 requiring at least 97 percent uptime. With this being a regulated program, charger
19 performance and uptime data will be regularly reported by the Company providing
20 a level of transparency not provided by the non-regulated market today.

³⁰ American Public Power Association, Study Finds Electric Vehicle Owners Are Frustrated By Charging Station Reliability, Sept. 8, 2022, available at: <https://www.publicpower.org/periodical/article/study-finds-electric-vehicle-owners-are-frustrated-charging-station-reliability>.

1 **III. Key Learnings From Current Public Charging Program**

2 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT COMPANY-OWNED**
3 **PUBLIC CHARGING PROGRAM, SITE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, AND**
4 **DCFC CHARGING RATES.**

5 **A.** Under the 2021-2023 TEP, the Company received Commission approval to invest
6 a maximum of \$5 million to develop up to 25 Company-owned public fast chargers
7 in underserved areas of our service territory.³¹ Underserved in this context was
8 determined to be areas that lack access to public fast charging. The Company
9 worked with stakeholders to specifically define underserved communities and
10 locations where the program's charging stations could be built. Through
11 stakeholder workshops, parameters were established for the Company's DCFC
12 program relating to proximity to other DCFC stations and to establish geographic
13 limitations that varied by hub type. More specifically, in the context of the feedback
14 and given the Company's knowledge at the time, for the 2021-2023 TEP the
15 Company agreed to develop Market Hubs at least one-half mile away from existing
16 DCFC stations and to strive to maintain a two-mile buffer for those sites, and
17 Connector Hubs would not be built within 10 miles of an existing DCFC station. In
18 response to a 2022 petition for declaratory judgment initiated by a public charging
19 provider, the Commission subsequently ordered that only five of the chargers could
20 be built as part of Market Hubs, while the remaining 20 chargers would need to be
21 built as part of Connector Hubs during the 2021-2023 TEP.³²

³¹ Commission Decision No. C21-0117 (mailed Mar. 2, 2021), ¶ 39 in Proceeding No. 20A-0204E.

³² Commission Decision No. C22-0255 (mailed April 26, 2022), Ordering ¶ 2 in Proceeding No. 22D-0069E.

1 In 2022, the Commission also determined the rates that EV drivers will pay
2 to use the Company's public fast charging stations through Proceeding No. 21AL-
3 0494E. Through that proceeding, the Commission approved a time varying rate
4 based on a stipulation by certain intervenors, which Public Service argued against
5 as substantially above-market.³³

6 The rates charged to customers at Company owned DCFC hubs are
7 currently \$0.55 per kWh during peak times, defined as 4 pm to 10 pm on non-
8 holiday weekdays, and \$0.42 per kWh during off peak times.

9 **Q. WHAT HAS THE COMPANY LEARNED THROUGH ITS IMPLEMENTATION OF**
10 **THE COMPANY-OWNED PUBLIC CHARGING PROGRAM APPROVED IN THE**
11 **2021-2023 TEP?**

12 **A.** Implementation of the Company-owned public charging program has provided
13 many insights and learnings in a short period due to a number of factors, some tied
14 to the challenging siting requirements and above-market rate discussed above and
15 some due to supply chain constraints and other factors. The Company currently
16 has sites selected and in design for the approved charging stations. Depending on
17 final design, the capital funds approved for the program are expected to support six
18 or seven locations and a total of 14 to 16 chargers. While the program is on track
19 to complete construction of these approved charging stations by the end of the year,
20 finding viable site hosts willing to participate has proven difficult. This difficulty is
21 primarily due to the geographic constraints of the hubs and the rates charged to
22 drivers, which are not in line with the current market need. With the vast majority

³³ Decision No. R22-0378 (mailed June 24, 2022), ¶¶ 112-123 in Proceeding No. 21AL-0494E.

1 of chargers required to be at Connector hubs, and a 10-mile buffer requirement for
2 those hubs, the Company had to exclude locations that otherwise better aligned
3 with site host objectives, community goals, customer expectations, and the
4 Company's site selection criteria.

5 These geographic constraints also operate as a barrier to the development
6 of public fast charging in communities of need, undermining the program's ability to
7 advance State equity objectives. This result runs counter to the policies advanced
8 in Colorado's enacted Environmental Justice Act (HB 21-1266), which provides that
9 regulated utility programs should "ensure that low-income customers and
10 disproportionately impacted communities will have at least proportionate access to
11 the benefits of such programs, incentives, and investments."

12 Site hosts have been hesitant to offer charging on their premises at above-
13 market rates, with multiple potential hosts expressing concerns when the charging
14 rates were communicated to them. In order to expand the Company's public
15 charging network and meaningfully increase access to affordable, reliable, and
16 convenient public fast charging for drivers throughout our service territory, it is
17 important for the Commission to evaluate and modify the siting restrictions that have
18 proven to significantly limit the program's ability to serve its intended purpose and
19 adjust the rates to reflect the current charging market.

20 Finally, as referenced above, the Company has learned that the time it takes
21 to build out public fast charging hubs can be longer than previously expected for a
22 variety of reasons, including supply chain and labor challenges, the time it takes to

1 negotiate and execute site host agreements, as well as the potential for a
2 construction delay due to permitting delays or other factors.

3 **Q. HOW DO CURRENT GEOGRAPHIC RESTRICTIONS ON SITING LIMIT THE**
4 **COMPANY'S ABILITY TO ADDRESS PUBLIC FAST CHARGING NEEDS**
5 **WITHIN ITS SERVICE TERRITORY?**

6 A. The geographic restrictions imposed on the Company's public fast charging
7 program have had a negative impact to the program's stated intent to leverage the
8 Company's unique business model to develop public fast charging in underserved
9 areas, an approach which aligns with the legislative declaration in SB 19-077 calling
10 for public utilities to "increase access to electricity as a transportation fuel, including
11 for low- and moderate-income and underserved communities."³⁴ The Company
12 identified public fast charging needs across its service territory; however, sites with
13 a clear need were disqualified due to an existing charging station being available
14 within miles of the interested site. While expedient, using a simple mileage radius
15 around existing infrastructure to define communities as being with or without
16 sufficient access to public fast charging does not accurately identify where charging
17 is most needed.

18 A hypothetical example based on the Company's experience is a mountain
19 town with a single fast charging port available, but significant demand for EV
20 charging from residents and tourists passing through. In this example, EV charging
21 demand clearly outstrips availability, and a need for additional public fast charging
22 exists. However, under the program's currently applicable siting restrictions, this

³⁴ SB19-077 legislative declaration (d).

1 community would be deemed “adequately served” and to have no need for
2 additional public fast charging. The Company believes that public fast charging
3 needs should be identified based, in part, on the supply of fast charging and the
4 demand for EV charging within a given area, rather than a simple mileage buffer
5 around existing infrastructure.

6 **Q. CONSIDERING THE AMOUNT OF LEAD TIME THAT CAN BE REQUIRED TO**
7 **DEVELOP THESE INVESTMENTS, DOES PUBLIC SERVICE ANTICIPATE**
8 **THAT IT WILL BE ABLE TO CONSTRUCT ALL OF ITS PLANNED PUBLIC**
9 **CHARGING STATIONS BY THE END OF 2026?**

10 **A.** This result is the Company’s intent, but it will not necessarily occur due to multiple
11 factors, including those reasonably outside of the Company’s control. Given the
12 need to educate potential site hosts about this opportunity, identify appropriate
13 locations, and complete necessary processes related to contracting, design,
14 engineering, land rights, construction, and interconnection processes, Public
15 Service anticipates that it may not be practicable to complete construction of all the
16 hubs contemplated in this proposal before the end of 2026. Fortunately, the
17 structure of the TEP, with annual budget updates for the Transportation
18 Electrification Programs Adjustment (“TEPA”) rider coupled with the requirement to
19 bring forward a TEP every three years provides a structure that supports ambitious
20 long-term plans and provides the flexibility to adjust those plans year to year, and
21 to update them with each TEP.

22 Because the Company believes its planned public charging hub investment
23 is appropriately sized to support the State’s policy goals in the near term and the

1 Company needs sufficient regulatory certainty to adequately plan for these
2 investments, Public Service requests that the Commission approve the full scope
3 of its proposed public fast charging investment and authorize the Company to
4 continue the buildout of public fast charging approved through this proceeding into
5 future TEPs to the extent Public Service does not construct all approved public fast
6 charging during the 2024-2026 TEP period. In this manner, in future TEPs, the
7 Commission will continue to be able to consider the Company's status in
8 developing, and the implications associated with, the Public Charging Acceleration
9 Network. At the same time, the Company will have direction to engage its
10 resources to efficiently develop the network, with confidence that it can engage in
11 the often long-lead time necessary to develop public fast charging stations.

12 **Q. WHY IS THIS REQUEST REASONABLE?**

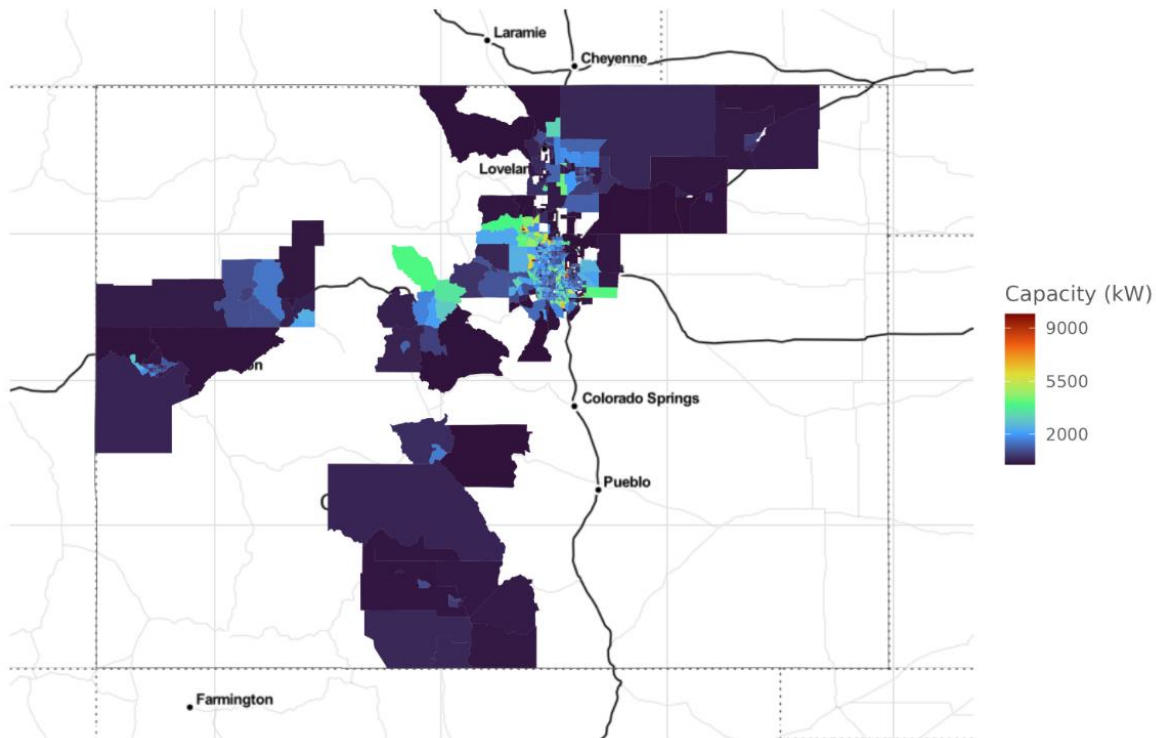
13 **A.** As discussed above, many of the potential circumstances that may lead to delay in
14 the full buildout of the Public Charging Acceleration Network are outside of the
15 Company's reasonable control, and these considerations do not warrant limiting
16 Public Service's ability to support the market need based on a statutory triennial
17 filing deadline. Public Service asserts that supporting the State of Colorado's ability
18 to meet its 2030 EV adoption goals in a thoughtful and efficient way that best meets
19 the needs of our customers and communities justifies the potential extension of its
20 investments beyond the three-year period of this TEP proceeding.

A. Key Changes for Company-Owned Public Charging in 2024 and Beyond

Q. HOW DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE TO QUANTIFY CHARGING NEEDS WHEN ASSESSING POTENTIAL SITES FOR THE PUBLIC CHARGING ACCELERATION NETWORK SUPPORTED BY THIS TEP?

A. Public Service proposes to use a supply and demand approach and the State's 2030 LDV adoption goal to identify areas of charging need, as reflected in Guidehouse's analysis and described further in Attachment JLJ-1. Specifically, the Company has quantified the additional public charging needed at the census tract level by forecasting the projected EV adoption and traffic within each tract for 2030 at the State's desired EV adoption scenario. This quantification allows the Company to identify the fast charging needed in the future as compared to today's infrastructure. The difference in port counts and/or charging capacity between the necessary public fast charging buildout and installed infrastructure today within each census tract shows the geographic areas of quantified public fast charging need across the Company's service territory. Figure DEE-D-2 shows the additional fast charging capacity that is needed to support the State's LDV target in 2030 within each census tract served by the Company. As shown, a material amount of additional public fast charging is needed in every census tract within the Company's service territory to support the state's LDV adoption goal.

Figure DEE-D-2: Additional DCFC Charging Needed to Support CO 2030 Goal



Q. WHAT CHANGES IS THE COMPANY PROPOSING TO THE CURRENT DISTANCE RESTRICTIONS?

A. The Company proposes to remove all geographic restrictions from the program, and to allow the Public Charging Acceleration Network to be built across the entirety of the Company's service territory regardless of proximity to other fast charging stations. As shown in Figure DEE-D-2, the fast charging need is in fact most prominent in urban settings due to the much higher expected rate of EV traffic in those areas. As it currently stands, these areas are not on pace to build fast charging at the rate necessary to support the State's EV adoption goals. Under current program requirements, the Company is severely restricted from building Company-owned public fast charging in both urban and rural population centers,

1 which would likely leave the State without sufficient public fast charging to support
2 its ambitious transportation electrification goals. To position the State to achieve
3 its goals and expand access to public fast charging for our customers and
4 communities in a way that both meets and increases market demand, the
5 Company-owned public fast charging stations must be both allowed and
6 encouraged in all areas served by Public Service.

7 While the overall magnitude of charging need in rural areas is not as large
8 as that identified in urban areas, the Company does recognize its unique ability to
9 offer charging in locations that are not being pursued by non-regulated entities.
10 Because of this, and the Company's goal of driving EV adoption in all areas of its
11 service territory, the Company will continue to prioritize rural locations with a lack
12 of access to public fast charging in the site selection process, as described
13 previously.

14 **Q. HOW DO THE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS WITH THE MOST PUBLIC CHARGING**
15 **NEEDS OVERLAP WITH TEP EQUITY-ELIGIBLE COMMUNITIES?**

16 **A.** Public Service estimates that approximately 48 percent of the Company's
17 residential customers meet the Company's revised equity eligibility criteria,
18 discussed by Company witness Nadia El Mallakh. Public Service expects that its
19 DCFC siting approach could reasonably result in up to 50 percent of its planned
20 charging hubs being located in equity-eligible communities. This estimate is based
21 on the geographic charging needs analysis shown in Figure DEE-D-2. By
22 prioritizing areas with a high charging need as quantified through the methodology

1 outlined in my testimony, the Company will also be prioritizing equity-eligible
2 communities and providing public fast charging investment in these areas.

3 **Q. HOW IS THE COMPANY PLANNING TO OVERCOME SITE HOST**
4 **RECRUITMENT BARRIERS RESULTING FROM ABOVE MARKET DCFC**
5 **CHARGING RATES?**

6 **A.** To expand the Company's public charging network, meet site host expectations,
7 and ensure affordable charging options, the Company proposes to bring its driver-
8 facing rates in line with those offered by other charging providers. Specifically, the
9 Company proposes a time of use ("TOU") rate structure applicable to all EV drivers
10 utilizing Company public fast charging stations under which the blended rate
11 equivalent is equal to the average rate charged by other public fast charging
12 providers in Colorado. By bringing charging rates in line with the market, site hosts
13 will not be disincentivized from hosting the Company's public fast charging hubs,
14 and the Company will be able to expand its public charging network to support the
15 State's vehicle electrification goals. The Company will maintain the existing time
16 varied approach to these rates to encourage customers to charge off-peak and
17 continue to send managed charging price signals across all charging use-cases.
18 Table DEE-D-4 shows the proposed charging rate.

Table DEE-D-4: Proposed Public Charging Acceleration Network Rates

Time Period	Driver-Facing Rate
On-Peak ³⁵	\$0.44/kWh
Off-Peak ³⁶	\$0.33/kWh

Q. HOW DOES THE COMPANY PLAN TO ADDRESS AFFORDABILITY OF ITS PUBLIC CHARGING ACCELERATION NETWORK FOR INCOME QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS?

A. The Company recognizes the need to provide public charging solutions that benefit all customers, especially its IQ customers. A key goal of this proposal is to equitably increase charging access and do so in a way that provides affordable public fast charging options to all customers. The Company is working to identify ways to reduce the financial burden of using public fast charging for its IQ customers. The Company plans to engage directly with its customers and stakeholders to understand the needs of IQ customers related to public fast charging, identify specific barriers for IQ customers, and identify potential solutions to those barriers. The Company plans to conduct this outreach as part of the IQ/DI Community Engagement and Outreach Plan discussed by Company Witness Jack Ihle.

³⁵ This period applies to 4 pm. – 10 p.m., and non-holiday weekdays.

³⁶ This period applies to all times that are not on-peak hours.

1 **Q. DOES COLORADO LAW ADDRESS THE RATES THAT SHOULD BE**
2 **INCLUDED IN TEPs?**

3 A. Yes. Colorado Senate Bill 19-077, as codified in § 40-5-107(b)(III), C.R.S. provides
4 that TEPs may include “rate designs, or programs, that encourage vehicle charging
5 that supports the operation of the electric grid.” This provision expressly
6 contemplates that TEP rates should not focus solely on cost causation principles,
7 but also on the policy of supporting the operation of the electric grid.

8 Section 40-5-107(2)(b), C.R.S., further provides that the Commission should
9 consider TEP alignment with a number of additional policy goals, including
10 *increasing access to transportation electrification*, contributing to air quality
11 standards, stimulating innovation and customer choice, promoting transparency,
12 and *providing reasonable access for low-income customers*. This provision’s focus
13 applies in its totality to the Company’s TEP rate design proposals and is critical to
14 make charging more accessible for customers that do not have in-home charging
15 options.

16 **Q. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT PUBLIC CHARGING RATES ALSO AFFECT PUBLIC**
17 **SERVICE’S ABILITY TO ADVANCE THESE POLICIES?**

18 A. Yes. Above-market rates at the Company’s public fast charging stations both can
19 discourage EV charging generally and impair the development of adequate
20 convenient and affordable public charging. The Company’s current above-market
21 rates are not reasonably targeted to support any of these key policy goals. A
22 regulated, transparent utility-provided public fast charging option, with an affordable
23 charging rate, will support customer choice and promote the beneficial operation of

1 the grid by encouraging and supporting EV adoption. Further, time-varying rates in
2 line with current market conditions support the efficient operation of the grid by
3 ensuring that customers can receive and respond to appropriate price signals in
4 charging their vehicles, rather than incentivizing customers to avoid the Company's
5 charging stations altogether because they are overpriced. Public Service is also
6 concerned that charging hubs with above-market rates do not provide sufficient
7 access to affordable public fast charging for its customers and communities.
8 Therefore, in line with the policy objectives of SB 19-077, it is appropriate to adjust
9 the rate that applies to the Company's public fast charging stations to ensure that
10 its TEP can support equitable access to convenient, affordable, and reliable public
11 charging throughout the Company's service territory in support of the State's
12 transportation electrification goals.

13 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF HOW THE COMPANY DETERMINED**
14 **THE REVISED RATE.**

15 **A.** Average market rates were determined based on an analysis conducted by
16 Guidehouse that compiled all the publicly available fast charging rates in Colorado
17 as of February 2023. Across all fast-charging stations, the average volumetric price
18 was \$0.36 per kWh. The Company then analyzed meter data from public fast
19 charging stations in its service territory to determine the split between on- and off-
20 peak charging. This data was then applied to the average Colorado volumetric
21 price to determine the on- and off-peak rates. Attachment DEE-3 provides support
22 for how the revised rate was determined.

1 **Q. DOES THE REVISED RATE SUPPORT THE PUBLIC INTEREST?**

2 A. Yes. Our experiences thus far indicate that the current above-market rate at the
3 Company's public fast charging stations is limiting our ability to support widespread
4 transportation electrification and provide the affordable charging that our customers
5 need. The revised rate reflects current market prices, which balances competition
6 concerns with non-regulated entities. In addition, as the revised rate is
7 implemented, the Commission will retain its jurisdiction and authority to make
8 further revisions, as necessary, to ensure the public interest is best served and
9 widespread transportation electrification continues to take place. The Company
10 requests the Commission approve the revised rate as part of our comprehensive
11 proposals to ensure the State develops the EV charging infrastructure that is
12 consistent with the 2030 EV goal.

13 **B. Public Charging Acceleration Network Budget**

14 **Q. WHAT ARE THE FORECASTED CAPITAL AND OPERATIONS AND**
15 **MAINTENANCE ("O&M") EXPENSES FOR THE PUBLIC CHARGING**
16 **NETWORK?**

17 A. Program capital expenses will cover the costs of EVSI, charging equipment or EV
18 Supply Equipment ("EVSE") and all site design, permitting, land acquisition (as
19 applicable) and construction costs. Program O&M will be spent on education and
20 awareness, infrastructure maintenance, Information Technology ("IT"), and
21 program administration costs.

1 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CAPITAL EXPENSES FOR THE PUBLIC CHARGING**
2 **ACCELERATION NETWORK.**

3 A. Capital expenses include two primary categories: EVSI and EVSE. EVSE
4 expenses represent the costs of the charging equipment to be installed. EVSI
5 covers all supply infrastructure equipment such as conduit, wire, meter boxes, and
6 switchgear as well as all other design, permitting, and construction costs associated
7 with DCFC hubs.

8 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE O&M EXPENSES FOR THE PUBLIC CHARGING**
9 **ACCELERATION NETWORK.**

10 A. O&M expenses will cover all costs necessary for program implementation and
11 infrastructure maintenance. Infrastructure maintenance includes all costs
12 associated with ongoing maintenance and monitoring of the charging stations and
13 EVSI. This includes software subscription fees, preventative maintenance, and
14 repairs, etc. Program administration costs primarily cover internal staff time
15 necessary to implement and manage the program. IT expenses will include costs
16 associated with customer payment processing and systems integrations.
17 Education and awareness costs include outreach efforts to attract potential site
18 hosts.

19 **Q. WILL PUBLIC SERVICE USE STATE OR FEDERAL FUNDING TO DEVELOP**
20 **ITS PUBLIC FAST CHARGING NETWORK?**

21 A. The Company plans to pursue external competitive funding opportunities where it
22 is eligible for funding, when it aligns with project needs, including timing and terms
23 and conditions that are consistent with Company requirements and policies, and

1 where it sees an opportunity to submit a compelling, competitive proposal. To the
2 extent the Company is successful in securing these funds, outside funding sources
3 can potentially reduce the costs of the Company's public fast charging network and
4 minimize customer bill impacts.

5 **Q. IS IT THEREFORE POSSIBLE THAT FEDERAL FUNDING COULD AFFECT THE**
6 **ACTUAL COSTS OF THE COMPANY'S PUBLIC FAST CHARGING STATIONS?**

7 **A.** Yes, and Public Service plans to pursue these potential opportunities to support its
8 public charging investments as noted above. Company witness Jack Ihle discusses
9 that to the extent the Company receives grants, tax credits, and/or support from
10 other funding opportunities that decrease the amount the Company ultimately
11 needs to spend on these investments, such funding will accordingly decrease the
12 costs otherwise recovered from customers through the TEPA rider. The Company's
13 annual updates to the TEPA rider will reflect and show the cost mitigation
14 associated with any IRA, IIJA, or similar funding received by the Company.

15 **Q. HOW DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE TO ADDRESS SOURCES OF**
16 **UNCERTAINTY IN THE ACTUAL COST OF DEVELOPING AND OPERATING**
17 **THE PUBLIC CHARGING ACCELERATION NETWORK?**

18 **A.** While the Company has made best efforts to forecast the costs associated with
19 building and operating a public fast charging network, it acknowledges that there is
20 some uncertainty associated with both the capital and O&M costs forecasted in this
21 filing. As evidenced through current program implementation, as well as third party
22 charging installation efforts, DCFC installation costs vary significantly by site and

1 are heavily dependent on site-specific factors.³⁷ While the costs associated with
2 these investments will not exceed the Company's proposed budget and flexibility
3 provisions, until sites are selected and designed, the true cost of each individual
4 charging hub installation is unknown. Through active recruitment and pre-
5 screening, the Company will manage costs by selecting sites that can support
6 preferred design characteristics and those that will involve minimal distribution
7 modifications. Moreover, by developing and managing a broad portfolio of public
8 fast charging sites, the Company can achieve its goals to support public fast
9 charging throughout its service territory, while also staying within approved annual
10 budgets. The Company currently forecasts that the filed budget will deploy roughly
11 460 chargers across about 130 charging hubs. These numbers may vary depending
12 on the viability of the sites selected and actual material and labor costs.

13 **C. Evaluation and Reporting**

14 **Q. WHAT DATA DOES THE COMPANY PLAN TO COLLECT AND REPORT ON**
15 **REGARDING THE PUBLIC CHARGING ACCELERATION NETWORK?**

16 **A.** Through its monitoring software, the Company will track the total number of unique
17 charging sessions, average charging session duration, average kWh used for
18 charging sessions, and average session costs billed to drivers. The Company and
19 stakeholders will be able to use this data to better understand where there is
20 relatively greater need for public charging within its service area, including by
21 comparing information across a variety of locations and various site design types.

³⁷ Case Studies on Transport Policy, Vol. 11, *The costs and challenges of installing corridor DC Fast Chargers in California*, Tisura Garmage, Gil Tal, and Alan T. Jenn (March 2023), available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2213624X23000238> (last visited April 28, 2023).

1 The Company will also monitor the amount of charging that occurs on- and off-peak
2 to better understand the extent to which demand for public fast charging may be
3 responsive to price signals. The Company will include this data in its annual TEP
4 report as discussed in the testimony of Company witness Huma Seth and will
5 provide program updates to stakeholders during its quarterly TEP stakeholder
6 meetings.

7 Additionally, charger uptime will be monitored through the Company's
8 backend monitoring software provided by its CNP. The Company may also contract
9 with a separate Maintenance or Measurement and Verification ("M&V") provider.
10 The Company plans to include information regarding charger uptime in its TEP
11 annual report.

12 **Q. ARE THERE OTHER INSIGHTS THE COMPANY EXPECTS TO GAIN FROM ITS**
13 **PUBLIC FAST CHARGING NETWORK?**

14 **A.** Through operation of its public fast charging network, the Company will gain insight
15 into driver charging patterns and the utilization patterns of public fast charging and
16 how it relates to other charging use cases. This information will inform the
17 Company's efforts to support transportation electrification in subsequent TEP
18 filings. Operation of the Company's public fast charging network will also provide
19 the Company insight into the difficulties facing the EV charging industry today
20 around reliability and customer experience, providing valuable hands-on
21 experience to inform how utilities and non-regulated entities can work together to
22 overcome these barriers.

IV. CLEAN VEHICLES PORTFOLIO

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. In this section, I present the Company's Clean Vehicles portfolio. This portfolio is designed to mitigate cost-related barriers that prevent customers from choosing and acquiring EVs. Through this portfolio, Public Service will expand the breadth of the Company's ability to assist customers in addressing the high upfront costs associated with acquiring EVs.

Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY REGARDING THE COMPANY'S CLEAN VEHICLE PROGRAMS.

A. Through implementing our inaugural TEP, Public Service has learned that many of its customers and communities still face significant barriers to EV adoption. While the current TEP limits EV rebates to residential IQ customers, in the 2024-2026 TEP, the Company is expanding residential EV rebate access to all residential customers who qualify as equity eligible, including those residing in equity-eligible communities. Expansions to the Residential EV Rebate program will enable customers and communities that face heightened barriers to EV adoption to equitably share in the benefits of Colorado's clean transportation transition. New rebates for TNC and DNC vehicles through the TNC and DNC High-Mileage Rebate Program and the TNC Rental Fleet Electrification Program will support drivers that often confront heightened financial and logistical barriers in transitioning to an EV, while further leveraging the outsized emissions reduction benefits associated with electrifying high-mileage and heavily utilized vehicles. Additionally, a new Governmental EV Rebate program will empower the Company's State and local

1 government entities to lead by example in the clean energy transition and
2 accelerate the attainment of their emissions reduction goals. Finally, the Company
3 is removing restrictions from its EV rebate programs that would limit the ability of
4 customers to receive other State incentives. In this manner, the Company's EV
5 rebates are stackable with other available incentives.

6 **Q. WHY IS IT APPROPRIATE TO ALLOW CUSTOMERS TO STACK EV REBATES**
7 **WITH STATE AND FEDERAL TAX CREDITS?**

8 A. In implementing the Residential EV Rebate Program under the 2021-2023 TEP, the
9 Company found that its EV rebate alone is not sufficient to financially motivate or
10 enable many customers to choose an EV without the availability of additional
11 financial incentives. Making the Company's EV rebates stackable with other State
12 incentives also helps avoid the potential for customer confusion regarding the
13 incentives that are or are not available (to date, they have only been stackable with
14 federal incentives). Based on this experience, the Company's programs will now
15 allow eligible customers to stack their Company EV rebates with all available tax
16 credits to help maximize the benefits these incentives can provide and make EV
17 adoption financially accessible.

18 **Q. DOES THE GUIDEHOUSE FORECAST YOU DESCRIBE IN THE SECTION**
19 **ABOVE ALSO SUPPORT THESE PROPOSALS?**

20 A. Yes. As noted above, Guidehouse's bottom-up market forecast projects that under
21 current market conditions as of September 2022, Colorado is on track to have
22 roughly 760,000 electric LDVs on the road in 2030, about 20 percent short of the

1 State's goal. This demonstrates a need for increased Company support to reduce
2 the upfront costs of vehicles.

3 **Q. DOES THIS FORECAST CONSIDER RECENTLY PASSED COLORADO**
4 **LEGISLATION THAT WILL EXPAND UPON CURRENTLY AVAILABLE TAX**
5 **CREDITS FOR PURCHASING AN EV?**

6 **A.** It does not, due to the timing of Guidehouse's analysis. However, Public Service
7 does not expect this very recent change to Colorado law to fully address this EV
8 adoption gap, as explained further below.

9 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE SOME BACKGROUND ON THE RECENTLY SIGNED LAW.**

10 **A.** Through House Bill 23-1272, which was recently passed by the General Assembly
11 and signed into law by Governor Polis on May 11, 2023, Colorado will extend the
12 current \$2,000 state tax credit that applies to LDVs and make it worth up to \$5,000
13 through 2024, after which point it would ramp down to \$500 in 2028 and increase
14 available state tax credits for MD and HD EVs, which are currently \$4,000 and
15 \$8,000, respectively, to \$12,000 for both through 2025. This law will also increase
16 tax credits for the purchase or lease of an EV costing less than \$35,000 by an
17 additional \$2,500.

18 **Q. HOW DOES PUBLIC SERVICE EXPECT THAT THESE PROPOSED**
19 **ENHANCEMENTS TO COLORADO TAX CREDITS FOR EVS WILL IMPACT**
20 **AFFORDABILITY OF EVS?**

21 **A.** While the Company expects that increased tax credits will potentially help support
22 and incentivize a broader subset of its customers to electrify their vehicles than
23 would be the case in the absence of such support, Public Service anticipates that

1 these adjustments are needed to address significant inflationary pressures and
2 supply chain challenges that have impacted the EV market.³⁸ These increased tax
3 credits will still not be sufficient to make EVs a more affordable option for customers
4 than ICE vehicles considering the average \$18,000 price difference that has been
5 reported between EVs and ICE vehicles as of July 2022.³⁹

6 **Q. WHAT IS THE TOTAL BUDGET FOR THE CLEAN VEHICLES PORTFOLIO?**

7 **A.** As presented by Mr. Jouve, the portfolio budget is a three-year cost of \$35 million.
8 Of that budget, the Company has not yet made any assumptions regarding O&M
9 costs, but instead is representing the \$35 million as capital expenses. The
10 Company has not yet made any O&M assumptions, as it is continuing to partner
11 and work with TNCs and DNCs to finalize program proposals, including on the
12 reasonable O&M costs. The Company will continue to refine its O&M cost
13 assumption for the Clean Vehicles portfolio, and it likely will be able to provide an
14 updated estimate during the course of this proceeding. That said, for purposes of
15 budget consideration, the Company commits that it will manage overall TEP O&M
16 costs such that it will not increase the overall TEP O&M budget proposal, regardless
17 of O&M costs for the Clean Vehicles portfolio.

³⁸ CNBC, Raw material costs for electric vehicles have doubled during the pandemic, Michael Wayland (June 22, 2022), available at <https://www.cnbc.com/2022/06/22/electric-vehicle-raw-material-costs-doubled-during-pandemic.html> (last visited April 24, 2023).

³⁹ U.S. News and World Report, Why Are Electric Cars So Expensive?: Electric cars were supposed to be cheaper by now, but they aren't. Here are some reasons why EVs are actually becoming more expensive, Cherise Threewitt (Nov. 3, 2022), available at <https://cars.usnews.com/cars-trucks/advice/why-are-electric-cars-so-expensive> (last visited April 24, 2023).

1 **Q. HOW IS THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION OF YOUR TESTIMONY**
2 **ORGANIZED?**

3 A. I begin by discussing our expansion of the Residential EV Rebate program, as
4 supported by our enhanced efforts to promote equity. Next, I address the new High-
5 Mileage Rideshare Vehicle Rebate program. I then discuss the new TNC Rental
6 Fleet Electrification program. Lastly, I address the new Governmental EV Purchase
7 and Lease Rebate program.

8 **A. Expansion of the Residential EV Rebate Program**

9 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PART OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

10 A. The purpose of this section of my testimony is to support the Company's plan to
11 enhance and expand the current Residential EV Rebate Program to all residential
12 customers that are equity eligible. As explained by Company witness Ms. El
13 Mallakh, our proposed equity eligibility criteria move beyond traditional IQ eligibility
14 to also encompass customers in DI Communities and Tribes.

15 **Q. HOW DOES THE CURRENT RESIDENTIAL EV REBATE PROGRAM WORK?**

16 A. The current Residential EV Rebate Program provides a rebate of \$5,500 for
17 purchasing or leasing a new EV and \$3,000 for purchasing or leasing a used EV,
18 with rebates available for vehicles with a manufacturer suggested retail price
19 ("MSRP") up to \$50,000. These rebates cover roughly 10 percent of the average
20 cost of a new or used EV. Under current program rules, the EV rebate is only
21 available to residential IQ customers. To receive the rebate, qualifying customers
22 must purchase or lease a new or used EV and complete an income verification
23 process to establish that they are eligible for the program. Under current program

1 rules, customers who receive a Residential EV Rebate from the Company are not
2 permitted to also claim State tax credits for purchasing an EV.

3 **Q. HOW MANY IQ CUSTOMERS HAVE RECEIVED A VEHICLE PURCHASE OR**
4 **LEASE REBATE?**

5 A. As of March 1, 2023, the Company has issued 103 rebates for new EVs and 37
6 rebates for used EVs.⁴⁰

7 **Q. HOW DOES PUBLIC SERVICE PLAN TO EXPAND THE RESIDENTIAL EV**
8 **REBATE PROGRAM?**

9 A. Public Service will make EV rebates available to all residential customers meeting
10 the equity eligibility criteria for the Clean Vehicles portfolio, as defined in Section
11 2.B. of the 2024-2026 TEP (Attachment HS-1), which includes customers in equity
12 eligible communities. Expanding eligibility in this manner will help to increase EV
13 adoption throughout the Company's service territory and provide support to the
14 State in achieving its emissions reductions and transportation electrification goals.
15 Public Service proposes to maintain the same rebate amounts currently offered.

16 **Q. WHY DOES PUBLIC SERVICE PLAN TO EXPAND ELIGIBILITY FOR THE EV**
17 **PURCHASE AND LEASE REBATES?**

18 A. The Company plans to broaden eligibility for residential EV purchase and lease
19 rebates for multiple reasons. First, the current program has not been able to have
20 a significant impact on EV adoption. By broadening eligibility and by allowing the
21 rebates to be stacked with State and federal incentives, the Company can seek to

⁴⁰ See the Company's April 2023 Semi-Annual TEP Report filed with the Commission in Proceeding No. 20A-0204E.

1 greatly grow EV adoption. Second, this proposal also aligns with the policies
2 advanced through the Colorado Environmental Justice Act. As addressed by Ms.
3 El Mallakh, this act establishes public policy goals for supporting DI Communities
4 and recognizes that DI communities require enhanced support and consideration
5 to provide equitable access to the benefits of utility programs. Third, it is important
6 to recognize that the benefits of EV adoption are not limited to the customers that
7 directly acquire EVs. The Company's plan to expand eligibility for its EV rebate
8 program is designed to ensure that equity-eligible communities where many of our
9 customers have experienced historical inequities and the burden of living in an area
10 with high levels of pollution also have equitable access to the public health and
11 environmental benefits associated with reduced emissions.

12 **Q. DOES PUBLIC SERVICE PROPOSE ANY OTHER CHANGES TO THE EV**
13 **REBATE PROGRAM?**

14 **A.** Yes. The Company also proposes increasing the eligible vehicle MSRP caps for
15 this TEP from the \$50,000 cap approved in the first TEP to \$55,000 for new
16 passenger vehicles and \$80,000 for new sport utility vehicles ("SUVs"), vans, and
17 pick-up trucks, and \$50,000 for previously-owned LDVs. This proposal aligns with
18 the vehicle MSRP caps in the IRA.

19 **B. TNC and DNC High-Mileage Rebate Program**

20 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PART OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

21 **A.** The purpose of this section of my testimony is to introduce and describe the
22 Company's new vehicle rebate for high-mileage drivers working for TNCs and
23 DNCs.

1 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CUSTOMER CHALLENGES THE COMPANY HAS**
2 **IDENTIFIED THAT LED TO THIS PROGRAM.**

3 A. Rideshare drivers can encounter heightened financial barriers to EV adoption
4 compared to an average residential customer. TNC and DNC drivers in Colorado
5 tend to earn a relatively low income compared to other residential customers in our
6 service territory, and purchasing or leasing an EV can be more costly than either
7 maintaining one's own ICE vehicle or purchasing a new or used ICE vehicle.⁴¹ Even
8 despite the lower maintenance and fuel costs associated with EVs, the up-front
9 costs associated with purchasing or leasing an EV still keeps them out of reach,
10 especially as many customers are not familiar with these benefits.

11 Concerns about range anxiety and the logistics associated with EV charging
12 may also loom larger for TNC and DNC drivers than the average residential
13 customer considering the relatively more frequent need to fuel their vehicles *en*
14 *route* rather than primarily relying on home charging. TNC and DNC drivers can
15 also face additional perceived financial risks in adopting EVs, as they often rely on
16 personal vehicles to earn a living, and therefore, may be hesitant to make significant
17 changes to their driving routine to accommodate charging.

18 **Q. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE HIGH-MILEAGE RIDESHARE VEHICLE REBATE**
19 **PROGRAM GOALS.**

20 A. This new rebate aims to make EVs the more economically beneficial vehicle choice
21 for high-mileage TNC and DNC drivers—those that log more than 25,000 miles per

⁴¹ Colorado Jobs with Justice, the Gig Gap: The Reality of Denver Gig Workers 2022 Report, Eric Leverage and Samantha Dalal (October 2022), available at

1 year. By helping these high-mileage TNC and DNC drivers choose EVs, the
2 program will in turn deliver disproportionately large greenhouse gas emissions
3 reductions and air quality benefits to the public, as compared to the impact of
4 switching an average personal vehicle to an EV.

5 **Q. HOW WILL THE HIGH-MILEAGE RIDESHARE REBATE WORK?**

6 A. The Company plans to work directly with TNCs and DNCs, who will identify high-
7 mileage drivers on their platforms in the Company's service territory and notify them
8 of eligibility. Drivers will then apply for the rebate through the Company's website
9 and be given a unique code to be used at a Colorado Auto Dealers Association
10 ("CADA") dealership in Colorado for a time-of-purchase rebate for an EV. The
11 Company proposes a new vehicle rebate amount of \$6,500 and a used vehicle
12 rebate amount of \$3,500.

13 **Q. WHY SHOULD THE TEP INCLUDE A PROGRAM FOCUSED ON HIGH-**
14 **MILEAGE RIDESHARE DRIVERS?**

15 A. High mileage DNC and TNC drivers, traveling at least 25,000 miles per year,
16 account for a disproportionate number of vehicle miles driven compared to the
17 average passenger vehicle. The EPA estimates that a typical passenger vehicle
18 traveling 11,500 miles annually emits about 4.6 tons of carbon dioxide per year.⁴²
19 Based on this estimate, a typical high mileage rideshare ICE vehicle, which travels
20 at least 25,000 per year, emits 10 tons of carbon dioxide per year, more than double

⁴² EPA, Greenhouse Gas Emissions from an Average Passenger Vehicle, available at: <https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/greenhouse-gas-emissions-typical-passenger-vehicle#:~:text=typical,percent20passenger,percent20vehicle,percent3F-,A,percent20typical,percent20passenger,percent20vehicle,percent20emits,percent20about,percent204.6,percent20metric,percent20tons,percent20of,8,percent20C887,percent20grams,percent20of,percent20CO2>.

1 the typical driver. By providing a targeted rebate to high mileage rideshare drivers,
2 the Company can address driver cost barriers and deliver significant greenhouse
3 gas reductions to our customers. I am also providing in Attachment DEE-4 letters
4 of support from two TNCs, Lyft and Uber, on the Company's TEP, including support
5 for this program.

6 **Q. WHY IS PUBLIC SERVICE PROPOSING GREATER REBATE AMOUNTS**
7 **UNDER THIS PROGRAM THAN THOSE THAT APPLY UNDER THE**
8 **RESIDENTIAL EV REBATE PROGRAM?**

9 A. The Company proposes larger rebates for high-mileage TNC and retail delivery
10 drivers due to the larger emissions and air pollution reduction benefits and
11 associated barriers these drivers can encounter in adopting an EV.

12 **C. TNC Rental Fleet Electrification Program**

13 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PART OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

14 A. The purpose of this section of my testimony is to present a TNC rental fleet
15 electrification program, which will defray the costs to rideshare drivers renting EVs.

16 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE TNC RENTAL FLEET ELECTRIFICATION**
17 **PROGRAM.**

18 A. This program includes a new \$5,500 midstream vehicle rebate available to TNC
19 rental car partners (e.g., Hertz, Flexdrive) that will allow rental car companies to
20 acquire new EVs and in turn lease them to TNC drivers at ten percent lower weekly
21 rental rates than comparable hybrid or ICE vehicles, for a term of three years.

1 **Q. WHY IS PUBLIC SERVICE PROPOSING THIS PROGRAM?**

2 **A.** Rental vehicles dedicated to TNCs will experience relatively high utilization rates,
3 in the range of 80 percent, and they also log relatively high mileage compared to
4 typical rental vehicles.⁴³ The average rideshare driver drives 140 to 200 miles per
5 day, compared to 35 miles driven each day by the average American.⁴⁴ Due to
6 their high mileage and utilization, supporting TNC rental fleet electrification has the
7 potential to yield large greenhouse gas reductions to customers.

8 **Q. WHAT MARKET BARRIERS DOES THIS PROGRAM SEEK TO ADDRESS?**

9 **A.** TNC drivers that rent vehicles to provide rideshare services may be reluctant to rent
10 EVs because they can have higher weekly rental costs than comparable hybrid or
11 ICE vehicles. The TNC Rental Fleet Electrification Rebate will make electric rental
12 vehicles the lower-cost option for TNC drivers as compared to hybrid or ICE rental
13 vehicles. By addressing upfront cost barriers for both vehicle rental companies and
14 drivers, the program will both grow the number of electric rental vehicles available
15 and boost electric rental vehicle utilization rates. The Company anticipates that this
16 program has the potential to support the deployment of hundreds more electric
17 rental vehicles in its service territory.

⁴³ See e.g., Auto Rental News, Understanding Hertz's First-Mover Advantages with EV Rentals, Chris Brown (May 6, 2022), available at: (last visited April 7, 2023).

⁴⁴ Lyft, Rideshare Drivers are Saving the Sedan, Carl Franzen (Feb. 3, 2023), available at <https://www.lyft.com/rev/posts/rideshare-drivers-are-saving-the-sedan> (last visited April 7, 2023).

1 **Q. IS THE COMPANY AWARE OF ANY SIMILAR INITIATIVES AROUND THE**
2 **COUNTRY TO ADDRESS THESE BARRIERS?**

3 A. Yes. Several other utility providers—including Peninsula Clean Energy, Baltimore
4 Gas and Electric, and DTE Energy—have successfully supported this sector
5 through similar programs.⁴⁵ Notably, in March 2022, Peninsula Clean Energy, in
6 San Mateo County, California, launched a successful TNC rental vehicle program
7 in partnership with Lyft to lower electric rental vehicles' weekly costs for TNC drivers
8 below comparable hybrid or ICE rental vehicles' weekly costs. The program's 100
9 vehicles have supported more than 200 driver partners that have logged more than
10 2,000,000 EV miles traveled and completed more than 130,000 rides.

11 **Q. IN ADDITION TO ADDRESSING THE COST MARKET BARRIER, DOES PUBLIC**
12 **SERVICE ANTICIPATE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS?**

13 A. This rebate will yield benefits beyond driver savings by expanding access to the
14 benefits of transportation electrification to passengers of such vehicles who may
15 not directly purchase, lease, or rent an EV. Also applicable to our proposed TNC
16 and DNC High-Mileage Rebate Program, converting TNC drivers to EVs will also
17 help promote EV adoption and address information-related barriers by giving
18 potentially thousands of Coloradan rideshare customers an opportunity to
19 participate in Colorado's clean transportation transition as passengers of supported

⁴⁵ Lyft, Peninsula Clean Energy Launch Electric Vehicle Ride-Hailing Program, <https://www.peninsulacleanenergy.com/lyft-peninsula-clean-energy-launch-electric-vehicle-ride-hailing-program/> (last visited April 3, 2023); BGE launches an EV ride-hailing program with Lyft - BGE Now, (last visited April 3, 2023); DTE, Hertz and Uber team up to bring more electric vehicles to Michigan - Empowering Michigan, <https://empoweringmichigan.com/dte-hertz-and-uber-team-up/> (last visited April 3, 2023).

1 vehicles.⁴⁶ Finally, considering Lyft's recent statistic that the average rideshare
2 driver travels 140 to 200 of vehicle miles per day compared to 35 miles driven by
3 the average American, the emissions reductions that will result from converting
4 TNC drivers to EVs will also yield outsized environmental and public health benefits
5 for the communities where these vehicles traverse.⁴⁷

6 **Q. HOW WILL THE TNC RENTAL FLEET ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM WORK?**

7 **A.** TNC rental car partners will receive a rebate of \$5,500 when they purchase or lease
8 new EVs and make them available for use solely by TNC drivers for a term of three
9 years per vehicle. The Company will limit eligibility to new EVs, and include MSRP
10 caps of \$55,000 for passenger cars and \$80,000 for SUVs and light-duty trucks.
11 These MSRP caps are consistent with the MSRP caps that apply to EV tax credits
12 under the IRA.

13 **A.** As described further in the TEP, to ensure that benefits of the program flow to the
14 TNC drivers, the rental car companies must pass 100 percent of the rebate value
15 through to TNC drivers in the form of a discount on the weekly rental rate for EVs,
16 anticipated to be about a 10 percent discount as compared to the rental rate for
17 hybrid or ICE vehicles. The amount of the rebate is consistent with the rebate
18 available for new vehicles under the Company's Residential EV Rebate Program.⁴⁸

⁴⁶ The Gender Earnings Gap in the Gig Economy: Evidence from Over a Million Rideshare Drivers, John A. List and Paul Oyer, p. 11 (May 2020), available at <https://web.stanford.edu/~diamondr/UberPayGap.pdf> (last visited April 25, 2023) (a recent showing that Uber drivers averaged approximately 30 rides per week, which translates to more than 1,500 rides annually).

⁴⁷ Lyft, Rideshare drivers are saving the sedan, Carl Franzen (Feb. 3, 2023), <https://www.lyft.com/rev/posts/rideshare-drivers-are-saving-the-sedan> (last visited April 25, 2023).

⁴⁸ The Company is assuming an average cost of \$51,765 for new EVs. See JD Power EV Index Average MSRP for New EV Cars (Sedans) under \$55K and Average MSRP for New EV SUV/Trucks under \$80K, from J.D. Power Information Network, January-February 2023

D. Governmental EV Purchase and Lease Rebate

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PART OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. In this section of my testimony, I support Public Service's plan to offer a new Governmental EV Rebate Program for State and local government entities to purchase or lease new EVs.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE PUBLIC SERVICE'S PLAN TO OFFER EV PURCHASE AND LEASE REBATES FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CUSTOMERS.

A. Public Service will offer a new \$6,500 rebate for State and local governmental customers to purchase or lease new EVs. The Company estimates this rebate will cover approximately 10 percent of the average cost of a new LDV for a government entity.⁴⁹ Under the program, State and local government entities can receive rebates for up to a maximum of 20 new EVs between 2024-2026 with no restrictions on vehicle classes eligible for the rebate. This program aligns with State energy policies reflected in Governor Jared Polis' 2022 Executive Order. That executive order directed State agencies and departments to ensure that EVs are the default vehicle type for all LDVs for future vehicle purchases, and to work to select MD and HD zero emissions vehicles for agency and/or department fleets where they are cost-effective, meet operational needs, and are available in the marketplace.⁵⁰

⁴⁹ The Company is assuming an average cost of \$67,300 per LDV for government entities See JD Power EV Index Average MSRP for All New EV Cars (Sedans), from J.D. Power Information Network, January-February 2023

⁵⁰ Executive Order D 2022 016, p. 6 (April 22, 2022), available at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ip_uhAXPAJYmZ9zGysJLR0ZIFJO8ynlA/view.

1 **Q. WHY DID PUBLIC SERVICE DEVELOP THIS PROGRAM?**

2 **A.** Public Service developed this program to incentivize State and local government
3 entities to accelerate their transportation electrification efforts and to help address
4 heightened financial barriers that State and local government customers can
5 encounter in electrifying their vehicles. As tax-exempt entities, State and local
6 governmental customers can face a higher financial barrier in electrifying their
7 vehicles than other commercial fleets, since they cannot utilize certain incentives,
8 including the Colorado Electric Vehicle Tax Credit, and may only be able to access
9 certain federal clean vehicle credits (30D and 45W) in limited circumstances.

10 The Governmental EV Rebate will make vehicle electrification a more
11 affordable option for State and local governmental customers and expedite
12 achievement of decarbonization goals, which will result in environmental and public
13 health benefits for communities throughout the Company's service territory.

14 **Q. DOES PUBLIC SERVICE ANTICIPATE ANY ADDITIONAL BENEFITS THAT**
15 **WILL RESULT FROM THIS PROGRAM?**

16 **A.** Yes. In addition to the emissions reduction, environmental and public health
17 benefits associated with electrifying State and government fleets, and addressing
18 financial barriers, this program will help achieve education and awareness
19 objectives of the TEP by helping state and local government entities lead by
20 example with EV adoption.

V. CONTINUATION OF THE EQUITY PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

A. In this section of my testimony, I support Public Service's plan to continue the Equity Performance Incentive Mechanism ("PIM"), which was previously approved by the Commission.

Q. WHAT IS THE PUBLIC POLICY RATIONALE BEHIND PIMS?

A. PIMs are a solution to a misalignment of societal goals and utility financial goals under the traditional cost of service recovery model. Traditional utility regulation ties utility revenue to costs and a return on capital expenses, while PIMs link utility compensation to a specific performance target. Well-designed PIMs can provide utilities with the motivation to use their specialized experience and capabilities to help achieve complex public policy goals. SB 19-077 provides that the rates and charges for services provided by a TEP may allow performance-based incentive returns or similar investment incentives.

Q. WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE EQUITY PIM?

A. The objective of the Equity PIM is to incentivize Public Service to prioritize participation in TEP equity-based programs consistent with the State's goal of ensuring that low/moderate-income and underserved communities have equitable access to the benefits of transportation electrification.⁵¹

⁵¹ See Hearing Exhibit 102, Direct Testimony of Jason J. Peuquet, in Proceeding No. 21AL-0494E at 28:14 through 29:2.

Q. HOW DOES THE EQUITY PIM WORK?

A. The Commission approved the Equity PIM, which applies under the Company's current TEP, in Proceeding No. 21AL-0494E. Under the Equity PIM, Public Service earns a set award for each port installed, or non-port-associated rebate issued, through TEP equity-based programs, to the extent participation in the program exceeds five percent of the program's targeted participation level. Incentives under the current TEP are subject to a cap of 150 percent of the targeted participation level for each program and a total award limit of \$1.5 million. The targeted customer participation level under the PIM is based on the initial participation estimates reflected in the approved TEP's annual budget.

Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE PUBLIC SERVICE'S CURRENT PROGRESS TOWARDS EQUITY PROGRAM PARTICIPATION TARGETS.

A. Public Service is eligible for but has not yet received any rewards from the Equity PIM. As of March 1, 2023, the Company supported 117 L2 ports, four DCFC ports, and delivered 250 rebates through our TEP Equity programs.

Q. WHY DOES THE COMPANY PROPOSE TO CONTINUE THE EQUITY PIM?

A. The Company proposes continuation of the Equity PIM because it appropriately incentivizes Public Service to prioritize increased customer enrollment in TEP equity supporting programs in line with Colorado energy policies reflected in SB 19-077 and the more recently enacted Environmental Justice Act, House Bill 21-1266. Driving increased enrollment in these programs will be critical to ensure an equitable and affordable clean transportation transition for all our customers. In the absence of an Equity PIM, there may potentially be more of a financial incentive for

1 Public Service to focus resources on pursuing lower-hanging fruit (*i.e.*, programs
2 for which it is easier to drive enrollment based on lower customer and/or community
3 barriers to EV adoption).

4 **Q. DOES PUBLIC SERVICE BELIEVE THE EQUITY PIM SHOULD APPLY**
5 **ACROSS ALL TEP EQUITY REBATE PROGRAMS?**

6 **A.** Generally, yes. During the 2021-2023 TEP, Public Service temporarily suspended
7 application of the Equity PIM to the Income Qualified Multifamily Housing Shared
8 Parking Program based on its mid-course adjustment to raise the rebate amount
9 for that program. The Company agreed to do so in response to intervenor concerns
10 about the magnitude of the mid-course rebate increase in the absence of a fully
11 litigated Commission proceeding.⁵² While the Company is proposing increased
12 rebate amounts for certain TEP equity programs, it has carefully designed all
13 proposed rebate amounts to establish the level of support needed to incentivize
14 meaningful levels of participation and maximize the benefits associated with each
15 program.

⁵² See the Company's Nov. 4, 2022 60-Day Notice, available at https://www.xcelenergy.com/company/rates_and_regulations/filings/transportation_electrification_plan. In that notice the Company provided the following explanation: "The Company also proposes to waive the additional per-port incentives for qualifying MFH rebates or ports that would be made available to the Company through the Equity Performance Incentive Mechanism ("PIM"), as recently approved by the Commission in Proceeding No. 21AL-0494E. The Company proposes this as a result of principled discussions with some stakeholders regarding the interaction between specific rebate levels in the TEP and incentives provided via the Equity PIM, as contemplated at the time the Equity PIM was approved. The Company and all stakeholders can revisit the topic of rebate levels and any equity-focused PIMs more generally in the next three-year TEP, to be filed in 2023."

1 **Q. DOES PUBLIC SERVICE BELIEVE THE AWARD LIMIT FOR THE EQUITY PIM**
2 **SHOULD REMAIN THE SAME FOR THE 2024-2026 TEP?**

3 **A.** Yes. The amount of award limit for the 2024-2026 TEP should remain the same as
4 what was established for the 2021-2023 TEP. The Company is proposing a direct
5 continuation of the Equity PIM including maintaining the five percent minimum
6 participation threshold required before an incentive can be earned, the award
7 amount per port/rebate in each category, the maximum incentive amount allowed
8 in each category to be set at 150 percent of the participation target, and a total
9 incentive not to exceed \$1.5 million.

10 **Q. PLEASE PROVIDE AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE EQUITY PIM AS APPLICABLE**
11 **TO THE 2024-2026 TEP.**

12 **A.** In the below table, I provide the Equity PIM for the 2024-2026 TEP, as updated with
13 the Company's revised programming and targeted participation levels. As is
14 observable from the below table, the total PIM allowed amount of \$1.5 million is
15 smaller than the sum of the individual program caps.⁵³ While it is possible to
16 conclude that the total PIM allowed amount should increase to match the individual
17 program caps, the Company is continuing the total PIM cap of \$1.5 million, so as to
18 attempt to limit controversy in this proceeding on the need to raise the total PIM cap
19 amount.

⁵³ Note that other equity-supportive programs could also arguably be included in the below table, such as the TNC and DNC High-Mileage Rebate program, but to promote simplicity the Company has excluded other programs.

1

Table DEE-D-5: 2024-2026 EQUITY PIM

Program	Target	5% of Target Eligibility	150% of Target Cap	Award per Port or Rebate	Program Incentive Cap
Residential	3043	152	4565	\$200/port	\$913,000
IQ Multifamily Housing (Rebate)	141	7	212	\$1,050/port	\$222,600
Commercial EVSI (L2)	499	25	749	\$300/port	\$224,700
EV Purchase/Lease Rebates	1181	59	1772	\$500/rebate	\$886,000
Total PIM Cap					\$1,500,000

VI. CONCLUSION

Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS.

A. I recommend that the Commission:

- Approve Public Service's Clean Vehicles and Public Charging Acceleration Network portfolios, as described in my Direct Testimony and in Public Service's proposed TEP;
- Approve Public Service's revised rate for Company-owned public fast charging stations and direct Public Service to implement this rate through a compliance advice letter filed within 15 business days of final Commission decision in this proceeding;
- Approve Public Service's request that the Commission authorize the buildout of Company-owned public fast charging on a rolling basis beyond the 2026 plan year, to the extent not all authorized public fast charging is constructed during the 2024-2026 TEP; and
- Approve continuation of the Equity PIM, as applies under the 2021-2023 TEP, throughout the 2024-2026 TEP.

Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

A. Yes, it does.

Statement of Qualifications

Deborah E. Erwin

Director, Clean Transportation Policy and Planning

Ms. Deborah Erwin is the Director, Clean Transportation Policy and Planning at Xcel Energy Service, Inc., and is responsible for supporting Xcel Energy's clean transportation policy positions, regulatory proceedings and stakeholder engagement, and conducting clean transportation program planning for all of Xcel Energy's four operating companies. Prior to this role, from 2014-2021, Ms. Erwin was Manager, Regulatory Policy for Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation, in the areas of regulatory strategy related to economic and environmental regulation, industry structure, customer programs, and management and operational planning and requirements in Wisconsin and Michigan.

Ms. Erwin previously worked in energy policy and regulation at the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin from 2008-2014, where she advised the Commission and stakeholders on a variety of matters including renewable energy, distributed generation, interconnection and regional energy markets.

In 2006-2008, Ms. Erwin was an Associate Attorney with Jeffery C. Paulson & Associates, Ltd., in the area of renewable energy law, representing wind project owners, developers and landowners. Ms. Erwin holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Law degree from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Ms. Erwin was admitted to the Minnesota State Bar Association in October 2006.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER OF IN THE MATTER OF)
THE APPLICATION OF PUBLIC)
SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO)
FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2024-2026) PROCEEDING NO. 23A-____E
TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION)
PLAN.)

AFFIDAVIT OF DEBORAH E. ERWIN
ON BEHALF OF
PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

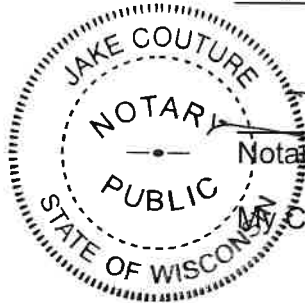
I, Deborah E. Erwin, being duly sworn, state that the Direct Testimony and attachments were prepared by me or under my supervision, control, and direction; that the Direct Testimony and attachments are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge and belief; and that I would give the same testimony orally and would present the same attachments if asked under oath.

Dated at Lake Mills, Wisconsin, this 12th day of May, 2023.



Deborah E. Erwin
Director, Clean Transportation Policy and
Planning

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12TH day of MAY, 2023.



Notary Public

My Commission expires 07-14-2025