

➤ **60-Day Notice: Income Qualified/Disproportionately Impacted Community Program Incentives**

The following 60-Day Notice (“Notice”) pertains to Public Service Company of Colorado’s (“Public Service” or “the Company”) updates regarding the Company’s processing of program applications for income-qualified (“IQ”) and disproportionately impacted (“DI”) communities as part of the 2022-25 Renewable Energy Standard Compliance Plan (“RES Plan” or “RE Plan”), Proceeding No. 21A-0625EG. This 60-Day Notice is issued in compliance with Decision No. C22-0678 in Proceeding No. 21A-0625EG and is posted on the Company’s website.

The Company is including the following website links with this Notice:

- A link to the EnviroScreen tool hosted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (“CDPHE”).

https://teeo-cdphe.shinyapps.io/COEnviroScreen_English/

- A link to an interactive map showing census block groups within the Company’s Colorado service territory that was created by the Company in Proceeding No. 22M-0171ALL. This map was created using data obtained from CDPHE that is used in the EnviroScreen tool.

[Xcel Energy - EnviroScreen \(arcgis.com\)](#)

A copy of this notice will be available on the Company’s website at the following location.

[Renewable Energy Plans & Reports | Xcel Energy](#)

A. Description

In Decision No. C22-0678, the Commission approved the Unopposed Comprehensive Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Agreement”) with additions and clarifications of the Company’s 2022-25 RE Plan in Proceeding No. 21A-0625EG. The Settlement Agreement directs the Company to move forward with its IQ/DI programming using CDPHE’s EnviroScreen tool and provides the Company with flexibility and discretion in how it implements EnviroScreen. In addition, the Settlement Agreement directs the Company to inform stakeholders of developments with the mapping and identification processes as the EnviroScreen tool continues to develop. The Company anticipates there will be future developments as part of the Commission’s current and subsequent proceedings that implement Colorado Senate Bill 21-272.

This 60-Day Notice provides further process and additional criteria that will be used to determine if program applications will be considered for enhanced IQ/DI-Community program incentives. This 60-Day Notice pertains to the Solar*Rewards IQ/DI-Community and Solar*Rewards Commercial & Industrial (“C&I”) IQ/DI-Community programs. There are no modifications to these programs in terms of project or program capacities or the incentives that will be offered. Additional processes not contemplated in this Notice processes will be informed by the IQ/DI

Community Engagement and Outreach Plan per the Settlement Agreement in Proceeding No. 21A-0625EG.

1. Solar*Rewards Residential IQ/DI-Community Incentives

a. IQ Approval Process

IQ (a.k.a. “Low Income”) means meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- Median household income less than or equal to two hundred percent of the federal poverty guideline;
- Median household income less than or equal to eighty percent of area median income; or,
- Qualification under income guidelines adopted by the Department of Human Services, pursuant to Section 40-8.5-105, C.R.S.

The Company will deem an application to be IQ-qualified if it meets one of the following criteria:

- Completed verification from an authorized third-party non-profit or governmental entity. Authorized third parties include Energy Outreach Colorado (“EOC”), Grid Alternatives, the Colorado Energy Office (“CEO”), or a designated housing authority.
- Company verification of customer participation in a Company administered IQ program during the past 24 months. Program examples include electric or natural gas bill assistance, IQ Demand-Side Management programs, or IQ programming as part of the Company’s Transportation Electrification Plan.
- Participation in federal or state programs such as SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families).¹

The Company and the Commission shall have the ability to audit verifications that have been completed by authorized third parties. Authorized third parties performing verification or collecting self-attestations will be eligible for compensation using the outreach/budget flexibility spending budget that was approved in the RE Plan.

b. DI-Community Process

Self-attestation forms shall be used for customers seeking incentives by qualifying as a Disproportionately Impacted customer and will be available in English, Spanish, and other languages upon customer request. The form will ask the customer to attest that they meet one or more of the following criteria:

¹ Other federal and state programs may include, but not limited to, Colorado Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (“LEAP”), Supplemental Security Income (“SSI”), Aid to the Needy Disabled (“State AND”), Title IV or Title XVI of the Social Security Act (“SSA”).

- The account address is located in a DI-Community, as identified in the Company's (EnviroScreen) map.²
- The account address is located in a community where multiple factors, including socioeconomic stressors, disproportionate environmental burdens, vulnerability to environmental degradation, and lack of public participation, may act cumulatively to affect health and the environment and contribute to persistent disparities.³ As recommended by the Environmental Justice Action ("EJA") Task Force⁴, one way of demonstrating this cumulative impact factor is to use EnviroScreen. As such, the Company recommends that the applicant may attest to the fact that the address is located in a census block group with an EnviroScreen score in the top 20 percent, as identified in the Company's (EnviroScreen) map, to demonstrate this factor.⁵
- The account owner is part of a community that has a history of environmental racism perpetuated through redlining, anti-Indigenous, anti-immigrant, anti-Hispanic, or anti-Black laws.⁶

Self-attestation forms shall be collected by authorized third-party entities and shall report designated customers to the Company. Authorized third parties performing verification or collecting self-attestations will be eligible for compensation using the outreach/budget flexibility spending budget that was approved in the RE Plan. The Company and Commission shall have the ability to audit verifications and self-attestation forms.

2. Solar*Rewards C&I IQ/DI-Community Incentives

a. IQ Approval Process

C&I customers not located in a DI-designated community are only eligible for the additional IQ incentive if they are a non-profit corporation or governmental entity, or multifamily affordable housing provider that is able to demonstrate that it provides essential services including, but not limited to, food, clothing, workforce training, housing, or medical services primarily to IQ recipients who meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the rules of the Colorado Department of Human Services adopted, pursuant to § 40-8.5-105, C.R.S.

b. DI-Community Process

C&I customers are eligible for the DI-Community incentives if they are located in a DI Community and are one or more of the qualifying entity types: public libraries, community centers, public recreation centers, nonprofit organizations, licensed early childcare facilities providing services to or scholarships for IQ households, public pre-Kindergarten through grade 12 schools,

² <https://xeago.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=61a64d6f56d9445b979a7b0b6bff6b1b>

³ See §40-2-108(3)(d)(II)(B).

⁴ See Environmental Justice Action Task Force Recommendations, page 31.

⁵ CDPHE has stated that communities with EnviroScreen scores at or above the 80th percentile are communities that meet the requirements of 40-2-108(3)(d)(II)(B)

⁶ See §40-2-108(3)(d)(II)(A).

governmental entities, places of worship, locally-owned⁷ commercial businesses that are not a franchise,⁸ a franchise or chain with less than five locations in Colorado,⁹ or a multifamily housing income-qualified eligible organization.

Customers that are not a qualifying entity type may petition the Company for DI-Community incentive eligibility by providing a description, below, of their organization and explaining how they serve the DI community where they are located. The Company will approve such requests on a case-by-case basis.

Customer eligibility that is considered through a petition shall be contingent upon approval by the Company and the Company may seek input from Commission Staff, the CEO, and the Utility Consumer Advocate (“UCA”).

⁷ A business is considered to be locally owned if the business receiving the incentive is located inside of a DI Community eligible area as defined in 1b above, and the primary business owner completes an attestation form confirming that they also are located inside of an eligible DI Community.

⁸ Excluding marijuana and liquor sales, manufacturing, or distribution.

⁹ Excluding marijuana and liquor sales, manufacturing, or distribution. Larger franchises may petition for eligibility via petition. Within the petition, larger franchises should explain what special programs and services they offer to the community that are unique to the location in a disproportionately impacted community or explain how they would reinvest savings from the enhanced incentive into higher wages, lower prices, or benefits to the community.