

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

P.O. Box 840  
Denver, CO 80201-0840

Original \_\_\_\_\_ Sheet No. 116  
Colo. PUC No. 8 Cancels \_\_\_\_\_  
Colo. PUC No. 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Cancels \_\_\_\_\_  
Sheet No. \_\_\_\_\_

ELECTRIC RATES

ELECTRIC AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM (EAP)

AVAILABILITY

The Electric Affordability Program (Program) is available to residential Customers who have been qualified for and receive assistance from the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) during the federal fiscal Year (Program Year). Further, such Customers must agree to be placed on the Company's Average Monthly Payment Plan (AMPP) and must also agree to a payment schedule as described below to be considered a Qualified Customer. Only Customers receiving a financial benefit as set forth herein shall be considered a Qualified Customer.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND BILL IMPACT FOR QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS

The Program has two components: 1) Affordability and, 2) Arrearage Forgiveness. The Company will review a Customer's billing and consumption information for the most recent twelve (12) Month period, or estimate usage for Qualified Customers with no usage history, approved LEAP benefits and household income information as submitted to the Company to determine a Qualified Customer's financial benefit and payment schedule amount under the AMPP. A Qualified Customer's payment schedule shall include both payment of their current Month's bill after inclusion of the affordability bill credit, and payment of a portion of the Qualified Customer's pre-Program arrears, if any.

Affordability Options

- a) The Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) Affordability option consists of a bill credit determined as one-twelfth of the difference between the Company's estimate of the Qualified Customer's annual electric bill and three percent (3%) of the Qualified Customer's annual household income as provided by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Low Income Energy Assistance to Company. This bill credit is a Program cost that will be included in the Tracker Account. Any LEAP benefit shall not be considered in the calculation of the PIPP affordability credit. Any LEAP benefit shall be applied to that portion of the Qualified Customer's full annual bill that exceeds the Qualified Customer's affordable percentage of income payment. Any LEAP benefit not applied to the Qualified Customer's current bill will be applied to a Qualified Customer's arrears. No portion of any LEAP benefit provided to a Qualified Customer may be applied to the account of a Customer other than the Qualified Customer to whom the LEAP benefit was rendered.

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ADVICE LETTER NUMBER 1731

ISSUE DATE December 8, 2016

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P.O. Box 840  
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ELECTRIC RATES

ELECTRIC AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM (EAP)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND BILL IMPACT FOR QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS – Cont'd

Affordability Options – Cont'd

b) The Step Bill Discount (SBD) Affordability option discounts the Qualified Customer's bill at standard residential rates at twenty percent (20%) or twenty-five percent (25%). The SBD Affordability component is available to Qualified Customers whose bills as a percentage of income are less than the three percent (3%) of income required by the PIPP Affordability option. The SBD option is offered to Customers with a household income at or below 185 percent of the current federal poverty level and who otherwise meet the eligibility criteria set forth in rules of the Colorado Department of Human Services adopted pursuant to § 40-8.5-105, C.R.S.

LEAP Benefits may not be considered in the calculation of the SBD affordability credit. Any LEAP benefit not applied to a Qualified Customer's current bill will be applied to a Qualified Customer's arrears. This SBD bill credit is a Program cost that will be included in the Tracker Account.

c) Qualified Customers who report a monthly income of zero dollars (\$0.00) shall pay ten dollars (\$10.00) each month towards their current bill and must re-verify their income every four (4) Months to continue in the Program. In the event that a Qualified Customer fails to re-verify their income they shall be suspended from the Program until the earlier of the date that the Company receives a re-verification or the expiration of the Program Year. If a re-verification is not received before the expiration of the Program Year the Qualified Customer will be removed from the Program.

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(Continued on Sheet No. 116B)

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

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Original \_\_\_\_\_ Sheet No. 116B  
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**ELECTRIC RATES**

**ELECTRIC AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM (EAP)**

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND BILL IMPACT FOR QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS – Cont'd**

Affordability Options – Cont'd

- d) The minimum benefit under each of these options shall not be less than five dollars (\$5.00) per Month.

Arrearage Forgiveness Component

- a) The PIPP Arrearage Forgiveness Component consists of a Monthly credit that will be applied each Month after receipt of the Qualified Customer's payment. Payments under the PIPP Arrearage Forgiveness Component shall not exceed one percent (1%) of the Qualified Customer's annual income. The credit will be designed to retire pre-Program arrears over a period of twelve (12) months for Qualified Customers with arrears of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or less and twenty-four (24) months for Qualified Customers with arrears of more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). This PIPP arrearage forgiveness credit is a Program cost that will be included in the Tracker Account.
- b) The SBD Arrearage Forgiveness component consists of a one-time credit of up to two hundred dollars (\$200.00) that will be applied to the Qualified Customer's arrears. SBD participants are not required to repay this SBD arrearage credit. This SBD arrearage forgiveness credit is a Program cost that will be included in the Tracker Account.

**CONDITIONS OF SERVICE**

- a) There is no specific Enrollment Period. Qualified Customers may submit an application to participate in the Program at any time.
- b) Enrollment participation is limited to a first-come, first-served basis until the Company determines that the annual Hard Budget Cap is reached.
- c) Qualified Customers approved to receive a PIPP or SBD benefit must agree to have their dwelling weatherized if contacted by a state-authorized weatherization agency. Failure to permit or complete weatherization may result in the denial of PIPP or SBD benefits for the following Year, subject to the following exceptions:



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ELECTRIC RATES

ELECTRIC AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM (EAP)

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE – Cont'd

- 1) Households containing a member(s) whose mental or physical health could be jeopardized because of weatherization shall be exempt from this requirement. Such participants must provide a certificate of medical hardship, which shall be in writing, sent to the utility from the office of a licensed physician and show clearly the name of the participant or individual whose health is at issue; the Colorado medical identification number, phone number, name, and signature of the physician or health care practitioner acting under a physician's authority certifying the medical hardship.
- 2) A household whose landlord refuses to allow weatherization shall not have benefits denied.
- 3) A household shall not have benefits denied for failure to provide matching funds for weatherization.
- d) Regardless of arrears balances, the Company agrees to maintain service and suspend collection activities under the Discontinuance of Service by Company section to Qualified Customers if they maintain their payment schedule hereunder.
- e) With respect to payment default provisions, a single missed, partial or late payment within any Program Year shall not result in the automatic removal of a Qualified Customer from the Program. However, two (2) or more missed, partial or late payments within any Program Year will result in the Company initiating its regular collection and Discontinuance of Service process.
- f) Qualified Customers must maintain an active Company account for electric service in said Customer's name at their permanent primary residence only to be eligible for the Program. In the event the Qualified Customer resides at a primary residence, wherein such Qualified Customer is not the Customer of record, and conditioned upon the residence being qualified under LEAP, the Company will allow such a Customer to be eligible for the Program.

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**ELECTRIC RATES**

**ELECTRIC AFFORDABILITY PROGRAM (EAP)**

**CONDITIONS OF SERVICE** – Cont’d

- g) Qualified Customers agree to notify the Company of any change of address. Such a change may result in revisions to the Qualified Customer’s payment amounts and schedules or removal from the Program, as determined by Company. Additionally, Qualified Customers who do not continue to qualify under the provisions herein may be removed from the Program by the Company.

**CUSTOMER REQUEST FOR REMOVAL FROM PROGRAM**

In the event a Qualified Customer desires to be removed from the Program, the Qualified Customer must make such request to the Company in writing. Upon receipt of a written request from a Qualified Customer, the Company will remove the Customer as of the date of the request. Once a Customer is removed from the Program, such Customer may not re-enter the Program for one (1) Year after the date of the removal request.

**COMPANY PROGRAM FUNDING**

- a) Program costs shall not exceed the annual Hard Budget Cap. However, if there is an over-recovered balance in the Tracker Account at the end of a Year, the over-recovered balance may be rolled over to the subsequent Year and can be used to supplement benefits in the subsequent Year unless the Commission orders otherwise.
- b) The Company shall include as a part of the Service and Facility Charge for all rate schedules, or as a part of the Monthly Rate for rate schedules without Service and Facility Charge, an amount as approved by the Commission to recover the costs associated with the Company’s EAP. The Company shall revise the Service and Facility Charge or the Monthly rate, for all rate schedules as applicable based on the costs incurred and revenue collected for the Program.

A permanent tracking mechanism (Tracker Account) will be established to provide for tracking the amounts recovered to fund the Program as compared to the actual Program expenditures. The Tracker Account balance (positive or negative) shall be provided to the Commission on an annual basis. The Company may petition the Commission to adjust its Service and Facilities Charges in order to adjust the Tracker Account balance as part of a Phase II rate case proceeding or by filing a verified application.



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