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

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF (  |                |   |
|--|----------------|---|
| PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO )   |                |   |
| FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING IT TO )       | DOCKET NO. 13L | G |
| INCREASE ITS CREDIT CARD CONVENIENCE ) |                |   |
| FEE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 21, 2013 UPON )   |                |   |
| LESS THAN STATUTORY NOTICE.            |                |   |

## AMENDED VERIFIED APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CREDIT CARD CONVENIENCE FEE INCREASE UPON LESS THAN STATUTORY NOTICE

Public Service hereby applies to the Colorado Public Utilities Commission ("Commission" or "CPUC") to increase the Credit Card Convenience Fee set forth on Tariff Sheet No. 12A, Colorado P.U.C No. 6 - Gas Tariff, effective August 21, 2013. The revised Credit Card Convenience Fee reflects the fact that the new vendor contracted to service credit card payments for the Company has not been able to meet its deadline and failed to begin servicing credit card payments on August 19, 2013 (as contemplated by the recent tariff reduction effectuated through Advice Letter No. 843).

Pursuant to C.R.S. §40-3-104(2), the Commission, for good cause shown, may allow changes to the gas tariffs on less than thirty (30) days notice. Under this statutory section, the Commission may specify the tariff changes to be made, the time that they shall take effect, and the manner by which the changes shall be published. As set forth in this Verified Application, there is good cause shown to grant this Application on less than thirty days notice. Public Service respectfully requests that the Commission approve the new rate to take effect August 21, 2013, without hearing.

In support, Public Service states:

1. Public Service's Gas Tariff, Sheet No. 12A, *beginning August 19, 2013*, provides as follows with respect to the Credit Card Convenience Fee:

To achieve payment from a customer who opts to pay his/her monthly gas bill with a credit or debit card, a per transaction convenience fee of \$3.45 shall be charged for any credit or debit card payment.

- 2. Public Service has been informed by our new vendor handling credit card payments, Fiserv, that it would not be able to begin servicing credit card payments for customers electing to pay their utility bills with a credit card as planned due to technical information technology issues with the Consumer Web Layout, a critical part of the implementation process. Fiserv now estimates it will not be able to provide these services to Public Service until September 11, 2013. Unfortunately, this information was not conveyed to the Public Service regulatory administration department until after the current tariff went into effect on August 19, 2013.
- 3. Accordingly, Public Service will need to continue to rely on its current vendor, NCO Financial Services, to process credit card payments until September 11, 2013. NCO Financial Services charges \$4.85 per customer payment transaction. This is the charge that was in place up until August 19, 2013. For the first seven months of 2013, there has been an average of 40,450 credit/debit payments made in Colorado each month.
- 4. Public Service will notify customers of this Verified Application and the proposed revisions to the Credit Card Convenience Fee in accordance with Commission Rules by publishing notice in the legal classified section of the Denver

Post. Public Service will also publish the proposed change on the Xcel Energy website.

5. Submitted with this Application are the following exhibits:

<u>Exhibit No.1</u> contains the proposed tariff sheets to restore the higher credit card charge.

<u>Exhibit No. 2</u> is the Company's legal notice that will be published in the <u>Denver Post</u>.

6. Pursuant to C.R.S. §40-3-104(2), the Commission, for good cause shown, may allow changes to gas tariffs on less than thirty (30) days notice. Public Service, through no fault of the Company, is unable to commence a lower-priced service with a new credit card payment vendor at the time originally contemplated in our contract with that vendor. There will be a slight delay, due to technical difficulties at Fiserv's end. In the interim, Public Service will be able to continue to use NCO Financial Services to process credit card payments but the charge per customer transaction will be higher. The assessment, billing and collection of the credit card payments are made directly through the credit card vendor and not by Public Service. Public Service respectfully requests that the Commission approve the increased Credit Card Convenience Fee rates to take effect August 21, 2013, without hearing.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY COMMISSION RULE 3002

7. Public Service Company of Colorado is an operating public utility subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission, engaged, <u>inter alia</u>, in the generation, transmission, distribution, and purchase of electricity and the sale and distribution of natural gas in various areas in the State of Colorado.

8. The name and address of the Applicant is:

Public Service Company of Colorado 1800 Larimer, Suite 1400 Denver, CO 80202-5533

Please send copies of all inquiries, notices, pleadings, correspondence, and other documents regarding this filing to:

Scott B. Brockett
Director, Regulatory Administration and Compliance
Xcel Energy Services Inc.
1800 Larimer, Suite 1400
Denver, CO 80202-5533
Tel: 303-294-2164

Fax: 303-294-2329

Email: scott.b.brockett@xcelenergy.com

and

Paula M. Connelly Managing Attorney Xcel Energy Services Inc. 1800 Larimer, Suite 1100 Denver, CO 80202-5533

Tel: 303-294-2222 Fax: 303-294-2988

Email: paula.connelly@xcelenergy.com

- 9. Public Service agrees to answer all questions propounded by the Commission or its Staff concerning this Application. The Commission or any member of its Staff may inspect Public Service's books and records as part of the investigation into this Application. Public Service understands that if any portion of this Application is found to be false or to contain material misrepresentations, any authorities granted pursuant to the Application may be revoked upon Commission order.
- 10. Public Service's existing operations and general service areas in Colorado are set forth in the Company's tariffs on file with the Commission.

- 11. Public Service requests that this Application be granted without hearing. However, if a hearing is held, Public Service requests that it be held in Denver, Colorado, as soon as possible to allow the rates to go into effect on April 1, 2013.
- 12. Public Service acknowledges that the Company has read and agrees to abide by the provisions of Rule 4002 (b) (XI) (A) through (C). Pursuant to 4002(c) of the Commission's Gas Rules, Public Service hereby incorporates by reference the following information, which is on file with the Commission in Docket No. 06M-525EG:
- a. A copy of Public Service's Amended Articles of Incorporation, which was last filed on October 3, 2006;
- b. The name, business address and title of each of Public Service's officers and directors, which was last filed on September 23, 2011;
- c. The names and addresses of affiliated companies that conduct business with Public Service, which was last filed on March 23, 2011;
- d. The name and address of Public Service's agent for service of process, which was last filed on October 3, 2006.
- e. A copy of Public Service's most recent audited balance sheet, income statement, and statement of retained earnings was last filed on April 11, 2013.

Wherefore Public Service Company of Colorado respectfully requests that the Commission, without formal hearing and based on this Verified Application, enter an order authorizing Public Service to file tariff sheets on not less than statutory notice on August 21, 2013 that increase the Credit Card Convenience Fee in accord with this Application.

Dated at Denver, Colorado this 20th day of August 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Paula M. Connelly #14451

Managing Attorney

Xcel Energy Services Inc. 1800 Larimer, Suite 1100 Denver, CO 80202-5533

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ATTORNEY FOR PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF COLORADO

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**VERIFICATION** 

STATE OF COLORADO ) ) SS: CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER )

I, David McGann, being duly sworn, do hereby depose and state that I am employed by Xcel Energy Services Inc. as an Assistant General Counsel and that I am authorized to make this verification on behalf of Public Service Company of Colorado I have read the foregoing Application and the facts set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

David W. McGann, #\$4521
Assistant General Counsel
Xcel Energy Services, Inc.
1800 Larimer Street, Suite 1100
Denver. Colorado 80202

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of August, 2013.

YRENE A NUÑEZ
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF COLORADO
NOTARY ID 19874149394
WY COMMISSION EXPIRES SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

My Commission expires: September 28, 2016

Notary Public