

COLORADO PUBLIC UTILTIES COMMISSION NARUC-NASEO TASK FORCE ON COMPREHENSIVE ELECTRICITY PLANNING TASK FORCE FEBRUARY 2021 ANNOUNCEMENT

Over the past five years, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission has opened numerous nonadjudicatory investigatory dockets focused on the rapid changes in the energy industry. These proceedings include thousands of public comments, stakeholder and utility input, Commissioner Information Meetings, and research from state, regional, national and international sources. Many of these investigations laid the foundation for the PUC to undertake a number of rulemakings in order to better align Commission rules and practices with the resulting gain in forward-thinking knowledge and further updates to respond to evolving market conditions, legislative changes, and Colorado State policy.

In addition to these investigations and rulemakings, the Colorado PUC and the Colorado Energy Office participated in the nationwide Task Force on Comprehensive Electricity Planning, a joint effort by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO).

As a result of these efforts, the Colorado PUC is in a strong position to align its electric resource planning with transmission planning, distribution system planning, and a number of customer-focused programs including Demand Side Management, Transportation Electrification Plans, Community Solar Gardens and Distributed Energy Resources.

The Colorado PUC is launching a new investigatory docket to support the Commission's strategic planning, known as the PUC Modernization Plan. The proceeding will solicit input from stakeholders and legal counsel on how the Commission can take a broader look at the topics and issues that relate to multiple future proceedings and to determine the merits of potentially altering the agency's traditional approach of deciding cases individually "in silos," identifying the necessary changes to statutes and rules.

As part of this effort, the Commission will explore the electric and natural gas utility systems required by Colorado in the future, examining electricity storage, beneficial electrification, and GHG emissions reductions for the purpose of proactively applying consistent policy directives across various dockets in accordance with the Commission's strategic plan.



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