

Line Extension and Photovoltaic Cost Evaluation:**Summary:**

This ruling by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission requires utilities to provide a cost benefit analysis comparing the cost of line extension to remote customers and the cost of installation of a stand alone, on-site photovoltaic system. This analysis is required in cases where the ratio of monthly kWh consumption to distance in miles is less than or equal to 1,000. That is, if a customer lives a half mile (.5) from the nearest power line and they consume less than 500 kWh per month, then the utility is required to assess the relative costs of extending the power lines and installing a photovoltaic power system on-site. Because Colorado's only regulated utility, Public Service Company, is primarily urban, this ruling is rarely invoked.

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