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State of Utah
Department of Commerce
Division of Public Utilities

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ACTION REQUEST RESPONSE

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Division of Public Utilities
Chris Parker, Director
Artie Powell, Manager, Energy Section
Doug Wheelwright, Technical Consultant
Carolyn Roll, Utility Analyst

Date: August 22, 2014

Subject: Docket No. 13-057-14, 2013 ThermWise Builder Rebates Program expenditures to date.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Division recommends that the Commission acknowledge the letter as meeting the requirement established by the Commission in Docket No. 09-057-15¹ and that no further action by the Commission is necessary.

ISSUE:

On July 23, 2014, Questar Gas Company (QGC) filed with the Public Service Commission of Utah (Commission) a letter reporting that in the month of May 2014 the 2014 Energy Efficiency (EE) ThermWise Builder Rebate program surpassed fifty percent of the 2014 EE budget that was approved in Docket No. 13-057-14. On August 1, 2014 the Commission issued an Action Request to the Division regarding this matter. This is the Division's response to the Action Request.

¹ See page 1 in Docket No. 09-057-15 issued January 12, 2010.

DISCUSSION:

As explained in the letter submitted by QGC, the 2014 ThermWise Builder Rebate Program reached 55% of its 2014 budget by the end of May 2014 due in large part higher than expected customer participation in the 95% efficiency furnace measure for both single and multi-family units. If this rate of spending continues through the remainder of 2014, the total spending in the Builder program could reach 137% of budget. The Company has analyzed building activity in its Utah service territory and has found a downward trend for building permits issued in both the single and multi-family market segments. If this trend continues the Builder Rebate Program will not exceed the 2014 budget.

The Division believes that, based on the projections provided by the Company in their July 23, 2014 letter and accompanying Exhibit 1, no further action by the Commission is needed at this time. Questar Gas will continue to monitor customer participation and actual program spending compared to budget and report to the Division on a quarterly basis.

Cc: Barrie McKay, Questar Gas Company.

Mike Orton, Questar Gas Company.

Michele Beck, Office of Consumer Services