

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

IN THE MATTER OF THE REQUEST OF  
DOMINION ENERGY UTAH FOR  
APPROVAL OF A VOLUNTARY  
RESOURCE DECISION TO CONSTRUCT  
AN LNG FACILITY

Docket No. 18-057-03

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL L. GILL**  
**FOR DOMINION ENERGY UTAH**

April 30, 2018

**DEU CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit 5.0**

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1

## I. INTRODUCTION

2 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

3 A. My name is Michael L. Gill. My business address is 1140 West 200 South, Salt Lake  
4 City, UT 84104.

5 **Q. By whom are you employed and what is your position?**

6 A. I am employed by Dominion Energy Utah (Dominion Energy, DEU, or Company) as the  
7 Manager of Engineering. I am responsible for the High-Pressure (HP) Engineering,  
8 Intermediate High-Pressure (IHP) Engineering, Integrity Management, Survey and  
9 Design Drafting Departments. I serve as Project Manager for evaluation of the  
10 Company's proposed Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility. My qualifications are  
11 included in DEU Exhibit 5.01.

12 **Q. Have you testified before this Commission before?**

13 A. No, although I have presented at technical conferences and workshops on multiple  
14 occasions.

15 **Q. Attached to your written testimony are DEU Exhibits 5.01 through 5.08. Were these  
16 prepared by you or under your direction?**

17 A. Yes.

18 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?**

19 A. The purpose of my direct testimony is to describe the proposed LNG facility and to  
20 discuss the methodology the Company used to evaluate and preliminarily design the  
21 proposed LNG facility. I will address the preliminary design, costs, contracting and  
22 construction schedule associated with the proposed LNG facility.

23

## II. THE PROPOSED LNG FACILITY

24 **Q. Please describe the facility that the Company proposes to build.**

25

26 A. The Company proposes to build an on-system LNG storage facility near Magna, Utah.  
27 The preliminary specification of the facility calls for construction of a 15 million gallon  
28 LNG storage tank, an amine gas-pretreatment process, a liquefaction cold box, and gas  
29 vaporization facilities. The proposed liquefaction rate is 8.2 MMcfd and the proposed  
30 vaporization rate is 150 MMcfd (approximately 150,000 Dth/day).

31 **III. LNG FACILITY DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS**

32 **Q. Did the Company utilize a consultant to conduct analysis and preliminary design**  
33 **activities related to the proposed LNG facility?**

34 A. Yes, in February 2016 DEU began preliminary analysis to determine if an on-system  
35 LNG facility was viable. It sent out a request for proposal (RFP) for engineering services  
36 to conduct a site evaluation in order to determine potential sites for the construction of an  
37 LNG facility, as well as preliminary engineering and design for an LNG facility. DEU  
38 received responses to this RFP from 16 companies.

39 After evaluating the responses, the Company contracted with HDR Incorporated (HDR)  
40 located in Pooler, GA to conduct a Site Evaluation. HDR was founded in 1917 and is  
41 headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska. Currently, HDR employs more than 10,000  
42 employees and has more than 225 locations worldwide. HDR has over 35 years of  
43 experience in providing design and construction services for LNG Facilities. The  
44 Company identified four potential sites for evaluation by HDR as part of the site  
45 evaluation study. Based on HDR's analysis, the Company identified a preferred site for a  
46 pre-Front End Engineering Design (FEED) study.

47 As discussed in greater detail below, the Company learned that the initial property was  
48 not available and tasked HDR with conducting a pre-FEED study on a second piece of  
49 property. The pre-FEED study revealed that the second location provided a viable option  
50 for the construction of an LNG facility. Then, in order to thoroughly evaluate the LNG  
51 facility as an option, the Company needed reliable information about the costs of such a  
52 facility. At the Company's request, HDR then conducted a FEED study for the selected  
53 site.

54 **Q. Has the Company selected a site for the proposed LNG facility?**

55 A. Yes. As I mentioned above, once DEU had information from HDR related to site  
56 requirements, DEU's System Planning and Analysis group worked with HDR to identify  
57 sites for evaluation. The initial analysis resulted in four possible sites for the facility,  
58 based on each site's proximity to DEU HP facilities, as well as its ability to meet code  
59 requirements for vapor dispersion, thermal radiation and proximity to airport runways.  
60 HDR utilized a grading system to rank the sites. Based on this ranking, the Company  
61 began conducting diligence on two of the four properties to determine the extent of the  
62 investment that would be required to acquire them. Each site was approximately 160  
63 acres in size. The first and highest graded site was located in the southwest corner of the  
64 Salt Lake valley near Butterfield Canyon. However, the property owner made clear that  
65 the land was not available for purchase. While the Company could have considered the  
66 option of condemning the property, it instead approached the owner of the second site.  
67 The second site is near Magna, Utah and is available for purchase from [REDACTED]  
68 [REDACTED] After it became clear that the property would be available, the Company  
69 commissioned HDR and completed a FEED study for this site.

70 **Q. What were the main deliverables of the FEED study?**

71 A. The primary objective of the FEED study was to produce sufficient project definition so  
72 that concise engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract documents could  
73 be developed. The scope included preliminary sizing of all equipment and piping,  
74 development of process plans, preliminary site and grading plans, preliminary permitting,  
75 and preliminary site utility plans. By having concise documents and eliminating the  
76 unknowns from the project, the Company was able to develop a refined cost estimate and  
77 prepare the project for bidding.

78 **Q. What is the role of the EPC contractor?**

79 A. The EPC contractor is responsible for the final engineering of the project, the  
80 procurement of all materials associated with the facility and the construction of the  
81 facility. The final engineering documents are developed using the specifications and

82 processes detailed in the FEED study. A copy of the FEED study is attached as DEU  
83 Confidential Exhibit 5.02, without appendices.

84 **Q. What size of LNG facility did the Company analyze with the FEED study?**

85 A. After consultation with HDR and internal discussions with DEU's Gas Supply and  
86 System Planning and Analysis groups, the Company selected the following LNG facility  
87 sizing parameters for the FEED study evaluation:

88 Liquefaction Rate: 8.2 MMcfd (approximately 8,200 Dth/day)

89 Storage Capacity: 15 Million Gallons

90 Vaporization Capacity: 150 MMcfd (approximately 150,000 Dth/day)

91 The vaporization capacity of the facility was determined by DEU's Gas Supply and  
92 System Planning and Analysis Department. System Planning analyzed how much could  
93 reasonably be taken onto the Company's system at the specified sites, and determined  
94 that 150 MMcfd is the maximum volume that the system can effectively utilize at that  
95 location. The chosen rate of vaporization coincides with the curtailed volumes of recent  
96 supply shortfalls. The tank size was chosen both to achieve the capacity described above,  
97 and to minimize costs. The selected tank size is typical for a project of this nature.  
98 Larger or custom tanks would cost significantly more than the selected tank. The  
99 liquefaction rate was based on utilizing "standard" equipment sizing for a project of this  
100 nature as well as determining the rate in which the tank could be filled. Based on the  
101 selected liquefaction rate of 8.2 MMcfd, it would take approximately 100 days to  
102 completely fill the proposed LNG storage tank.

103 **Q. Please describe liquefaction.**

104 A. Natural gas can be converted into a liquid by cooling it to -260 degrees Fahrenheit.  
105 Before the gas enters the cooling process however, impurities and heavy hydro-carbons  
106 must be removed. The design presented in the FEED study contemplates utilizing an  
107 amine pre-treatment system to purify the gas. The FEED design has also specified the  
108 use of a liquid nitrogen refrigeration system. The "liquefaction process" describes the  
109 entire process of cleaning, compressing, and cooling the gas into a liquid form. At the  
110 end of this process the liquefied gas stored in the tank is essentially 100% methane.

111 **Q. How is LNG “vaporized”?**

112 A. LNG is converted back into a gaseous form by pumping LNG from the storage tank and  
113 heating the natural gas by passing it through a series of heat exchangers. Prior to putting  
114 the vaporized natural gas back into the distribution system it must be re-odorized. The  
115 “vaporization process” describes the entire process of pumping LNG from the storage  
116 tank, heating it and converting it back to a gaseous form, and re-odorizing it.

117 **Q. In addition to capacity evaluation, did the FEED study evaluate different processes**  
118 **for the LNG facility?**

119 A. Yes. The FEED study evaluated and recommended options for pre-treatment,  
120 liquefaction and storage of LNG at the Magna location. This included examining gas  
121 pre-treatment systems (amine vs. mol-sieve), liquefaction methods (nitrogen vs. mixed-  
122 refrigerant), and tank type (full containment vs. single containment). The Company and  
123 HDR worked together to analyze each of these criteria to determine the best solution for  
124 the project.

125 **Q. What diameter size, pressure and length of pipeline would serve the proposed**  
126 **Magna LNG facility?**

127 A. The Company has determined that it would be best for the Magna facility to be tied to the  
128 Company’s high pressure (HP) system via a 14-inch diameter HP line. This line would  
129 be approximately [REDACTED]

130 [REDACTED]  
131 [REDACTED] A schematic of the proposed piping layout is shown in DEU Confidential Exhibit  
132 5.03.

133 **Q. Ms. Faust and Mr. Platt have testified that other options to address supply shortfalls**  
134 **are vulnerable to force majeure and other disruptive events. Has the Company**  
135 **addressed such reliability concerns in the design of the LNG facility?**

136 A. Yes, the Company and HDR have worked to design a facility that minimizes exposure to  
137 outages. All key components on the vaporization cycle (i.e. pumps, generators,  
138 compressors) have N+1 redundancy. N +1 redundancy refers to having capacity and  
139 functionality backup for critical systems within the facility. If, for example, a pump fails,

140 an identical back up pump is available and ready to be placed into service. In addition,  
141 the plant buildings and tank will be built to the latest seismic codes and designed to  
142 withstand potential liquefaction of the supporting soils. Lastly, the Company will design  
143 the inlet piping and metering to withstand major seismic events.

144 **Q. Has the Company begun to obtain necessary permitting for the proposed LNG**  
145 **facility?**

146 A. Yes. HDR has been assisting the Company in preliminary permitting of the project.  
147 HDR and Company representatives have had discussions with the Salt Lake County  
148 Planning Department relating to conditional use requirements, as well as the State  
149 Department of Environmental Quality relating to air emissions permitting. In addition,  
150 DEU had consultants prepare environmental Phase I and Phase II studies to evaluate the  
151 site for possible contaminants (there are no contaminants that would prevent DEU from  
152 purchasing the property). HDR has evaluated and cleared the project for impacts to  
153 threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, and waters of the U.S.

154 **Q. What is the status of the property acquisition?**

155 A. The Company and [REDACTED] have reached agreement to the  
156 primary terms of an Option Agreement whereby the Company could purchase the Magna  
157 parcel. The Option Agreement provides that the Company will make a payment of  
158 [REDACTED]  
159 [REDACTED]  
160 [REDACTED] if the Commission approves the Application in this docket. The draft  
161 contract documents are voluminous, but the FEED study (DEU Confidential Exhibit  
162 5.02) contains a detailed description of the facilities to be constructed and DEU  
163 Confidential Exhibits 5.04 and 5.05 contain cost estimates.

164 **Q. What is the status of the EPC contract development?**

165 A. The Company and HDR have developed contract documents that are ready for bid release  
166 when the project is approved. These include separate Scope of Work and contract  
167 documents for the construction of the facility as well as the construction of the LNG  
168 storage tank. The Scope of Work documents provide the EPC contractors with the



169 technical documentation of the project, while the contract documents outline the  
170 anticipated commercial terms.

171 **Q. Why didn't the Company bid the project before filing a pre-approval application**  
172 **with the Utah Public Service Commission (PSC)?**

173 A. There are several reasons the Company chose not to proceed with the bid prior to  
174 requesting approval. First, the Company prefers to obtain Commission approval in this  
175 docket before bidding the project. The Company recognizes that bidding on projects like  
176 this one can be very expensive for the bidders. Preparation of these submittals can take  
177 months and cost in excess of \$50,000 per contractor. The Company did not want to  
178 subject potential bidders to that cost risk if the project had not yet received Commission  
179 approval. In addition, DEU wanted to bid the project with a defined construction  
180 schedule. Bidding the project without Commission pre-approval would mean that a  
181 construction schedule could not be clearly defined. Because bidders would not know  
182 specifically whether the project would be approved and, if so, what the schedule would  
183 be, this uncertainty would likely lead to more expensive bids and may impact the quality  
184 of construction teams the EPC contractors would provide for the project. As a result, in  
185 lieu of obtaining bids, the Company obtained cost estimates that assume a specified  
186 schedule.

187 **Q. How much will the LNG facility cost?**

188 A. The total estimated cost for the LNG project is [REDACTED] including the cost of the  
189 EPC contractors, materials, real property, and the Company's internal costs (Labor,  
190 Overhead, AFUDC, and inflation). These costs are summarized in the table below.

191

Cost Category	Amount
Materials and Construction	[REDACTED]
Land	[REDACTED]

Internal Labor	\$5,835,000
Allowance for Funds used during construction (AFUDC)	██████████
Inflation	██████████

192

193 **Q. How did the Company determine the project cost?**

194 A. The Company used two processes to estimate the final cost of the LNG project. First the  
195 Company engaged HDR to prepare an estimate based on the results of the FEED study.  
196 This estimate utilized estimated costs from suppliers and vendors, as well as the  
197 Company's in-house engineering and estimating expertise. That estimate is attached as  
198 DEU Confidential Exhibit 5.04. The Company also hired EPC contractor Northstar  
199 Energy (Northstar) to prepare an estimate based on the statement of work (SOW) and  
200 contract documents prepared as part of the FEED study. Northstar was created in 1996  
201 by former natural gas utility engineers and industry managers. They are headquartered in  
202 Methuen, MA. Northstar provides turnkey EPC services to natural gas customers across  
203 the country and has extensive LNG experience. The Northstar Energy estimate is  
204 attached as DEU Confidential Exhibit 5.05. A comparison of the two estimates shows  
205 that the HDR estimate of ██████████ and the Northstar estimate of ██████████ are  
206 very close. In an effort to be conservative, the Company chose the higher HDR amount  
207 of ██████████ for its cost estimate. Also, as I discussed above, the price for purchasing  
208 the real property has been negotiated as ██████████ Mr. Mendenhall discusses the  
209 remaining elements of the total project cost in his direct testimony.

210 **Q. Please explain how labor and overhead were calculated?**

211 A. This project will require contributions from employees in engineering, right of way,  
212 legal, construction support and IT. DEU 5.06 provides an estimate of the capitalized  
213 labor and associated labor overhead for the employees that are anticipated to work on this  
214 project. The total for labor and labor overhead amounts to approximately \$5,835,000.

215 **Q. If the Commission approves this project, what is the anticipated schedule for**  
216 **construction?**

217 A. The project would come online for the 2022 winter heating season. If the Company  
218 receives Commission pre-approval of the project, the schedule would likely be as  
219 follows:

220 Bid Project: 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2019

221 Award Project: 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2020

222 Finalize Property Purchase: 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2020

223 Construct Project: 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2020-2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2022

224 **IV. OTHER OPTIONS**

225 **Q. Have you prepared cost estimates for any of the other options?**

226 A. Yes. As Ms. Faust mentioned, Magnum Energy provided options that require the  
227 construction of interconnect facilities. I have included estimates for costs of the  
228 interconnect facilities as DEU Exhibit 5.07 and DEU Exhibit 5.08, respectively.

229 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**


230 A. Yes.

State of Utah )  
 ) ss.  
County of Salt Lake )

I, Michael L. Gill, being first duly sworn on oath, state that the answers in the foregoing written testimony are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Except as stated in the testimony, the exhibits attached to the testimony were prepared by me or under my direction and supervision, and they are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Any exhibits not prepared by me or under my direction and supervision are true and correct copies of the documents they purport to be.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael L. Gill

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

