

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH**

In the Matter of the Application of  
Dominion Energy Utah to Increase  
Distribution Rates and Charges and Make  
Tariff Modifications

Docket No. 19-057-02

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ANGC WITNESS  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

**ANGC EXHIBIT 1**

Phase 1

October 17, 2019

Testimony on Behalf of  
American Natural Gas Council

/s/Bruce R. Oliver



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>I. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>III. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>A. Review of Witness Hevert’s Cost of Equity Analyses.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>1. Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) Analysis .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>2. Risk Premium Analyses .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>3. Expected Earnings Analysis .....</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>4. Other Business Risk Considerations .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>5. Flotation Costs .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>B. ANGC Cost of Equity Analyses for DEU .....</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>C. DEU Capital Structure .....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>D. DEU Overall Cost of Capital and Revenue Requirements .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>IV. CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>49</b>

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

**LIST OF SCHEDULES AND ATTACHMENTS**

**ANGC Exhibit 1.01: Current 30-Year U.S. Treasury Bond Yields**

**ANGC Exhibit 1.02: Regulators' Adjustment Factor – Gas Utility Rate Cases**

**ANGC Exhibit 1.03: Correction of Hevert DCF Analysis**

**ANGC Exhibit 1.04: ANGC Cost of Equity Analyses**

**ANGC Exhibit 1.05: Revenue Impacts of Alternative Capital Structures and ROEs**

**Attachment A: Bruce R. Oliver Resume**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

**I. INTRODUCTION**

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**Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

A. My name is Bruce R. Oliver. My business address is 7103 Laketree Drive  
Fairfax Station, Virginia, 22039.

**Q. BY WHOM AND IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED?**

A. I am employed by Revilo Hill Associates, Inc., and serve as President of the firm,  
and I manage the firm's business and consulting activities. I direct the prepara-  
tion and presentation of economic, utility planning, and policy analyses for  
clients.

**Q. ON WHOSE BEHALF DO YOU APPEAR IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

A. I appear on behalf of the American Natural Gas Council ("ANGC").

**Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

A. This testimony addresses issues relating to return on equity ("ROE") analyses  
and recommendation presented in the Direct Testimony of Robert B. Hevert on  
behalf of Dominion Energy Utah.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**

*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

21 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS.**

22 A. I am an economist specializing in the areas of utility rates, energy, and regulatory  
23 policy matters. I have over 40 years of experience in the analysis of energy and  
24 utility policy issues. That experience includes employment in management posi-  
25 tions in the rate departments of two major utilities (the Pacific Gas and Electric  
26 Company and the Potomac Electric Power Company), as well as service in man-  
27 agement and senior staff positions for three firms engaged in energy, utility and  
28 public policy consulting. Those firms include: Revilo Hill Associates, Inc., the  
29 Resource Dynamics Corporation, and ICF Incorporated.

30 As a consultant, I have served a diverse group of clients on issues encom-  
31 passing a wide range of energy and utility related matters. My clients have in-  
32 cluded state regulatory commissions, utilities, state Attorneys General, consumer  
33 advocacy groups, municipal governments, federal agencies, commercial and  
34 industrial energy users, hospitals and universities, suppliers of equipment and  
35 services to utility markets, residential consumer intervenors, the Electric Power  
36 Research Institute (EPRI), and the World Bank. Projects for those clients have  
37 included work on gas, electric, water, and wastewater utility regulatory proceed-  
38 ings, as well as analyses and forecasts of supply, demand, and prices for utility  
39 and non-utility energy markets. I have also assisted a number of commercial and  
40 industrial energy users in the negotiation of energy service contracts, including  
41 contracts for the procurement of competitive electricity and natural gas services.

42 To date, I have filed nearly 500 separate pieces of testimony in more than  
43 300 proceedings before regulatory commissions in 24 jurisdictions. The regula-

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

44 tory jurisdictions in which I have testified include: the states of Arizona, California,  
45 Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New  
46 Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia,  
47 Vermont, South Dakota, and Wisconsin, as well as the District of Columbia,  
48 Guam, the Virgin Islands, the City of Philadelphia, the Province of Alberta,  
49 Canada, and the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). My  
50 testimonies in those jurisdictions have addressed such topics as industry  
51 restructuring, utility mergers and acquisitions, divestiture of generation assets,  
52 sighting of energy facilities, utility revenue requirements, costs of capital,  
53 jurisdictional and class cost of service allocations, rate design, revenue  
54 decoupling, incentive ratemaking, gas utility long-range supply planning, electric  
55 capacity planning, gas asset management, deployment of automated metering  
56 infrastructure (AMI), gas system expansion, energy efficiency, demand-side  
57 management, contracts for non-tariff services provided to large energy users,  
58 natural gas purchasing practices, gas transportation service, natural gas pro-  
59 cessing, competitive bidding, economic development rates, load research, load  
60 forecasting, weather normalization, metering, environmental remediation costs,  
61 fuel procurement, fuel pricing issues, and hedging strategies.

62

63 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY APPEARED BEFORE THIS COMMISSION?**

64 **A.** No, I have not.

65

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

66 **Q. WERE THIS TESTIMONY AND ACCOMPANYING SCHEDULES PREPARED**  
67 **BY YOU OR UNDER YOUR DIRECT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL?**

68 A. Yes, they were.

69

70

**II. SUMMARY**

71

72 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR CONCLUSIONS REGARDING THE APPRO-**  
73 **PRIATE COST OF EQUITY AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE FOR DEU?**

74 A. My analyses suggest that the range of reasonableness for the Company's ROE  
75 is between 8.50% and 9.50%. The mid-point of that range is 9.00%.<sup>1</sup> However,  
76 just as commissions are encouraged to reflect gradualism in their adjustment for  
77 rates for utility customers, it would be reasonable for this Commission to reflect a  
78 measure of gradualism in its adjustment of DEU's ROE. Thus, even though a  
79 larger downward adjustment to DEU's ROE can be justified, my recommended  
80 ROE for the Company in this proceeding is 9.50%. That represents elimination  
81 of 35 basis points of the 85 basis point difference between DEU's last authorized  
82 ROE (i.e., 9.85% in Docket No. 13-057-05) and the mid-point of the range of  
83 reasonableness for DEU's ROE that I have identified. Although a larger down-  
84 ward adjustment to DEU's ROE could be justified by current market conditions,  
85 the more gradual adjustment proposed provides for greater continuity in regul-  
86 atory determinations and avoids a large one-time change.

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<sup>1</sup> This range and the identified mid-point reflect the influence of a 20 basis point downward adjustment to the results of the proxy group analyses (DCF, CAPM, and ECAPM) to recognize that those analyses are premised on data for holding companies, not gas distribution utilities.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

87           This testimony also submits that DEU's proposed capital structure  
88 includes an inappropriately large amount of common equity that places unneces-  
89 sary cost burdens on DEU ratepayers. For this reason, a more balanced debt to  
90 equity ratio in DEU's capital structure is recommended. As explained in Part A of  
91 my Discussion of Issues, I have attempted to remove some of the upward bias in  
92 the Cost of Equity and Capital Structure recommendations of DEU Witness  
93 Hevert. When properly assessed, DEU's overall cost of capital could be as low  
94 as 6.94% as opposed to the Company's requested 7.74% overall rate of return.  
95 Adjustment of the Company's requested ROE to a level that more reasonably  
96 reflects current market conditions and DEU's risk profile, apart from any change  
97 in capital structure, could yield more than a two-thirds reduction of DEU's  
98 requested revenue increase in this proceeding. By also adjusting downward the  
99 Common Equity percentage in DEU's proposed capital structure the Commission  
100 could essentially eliminate the Company's need for additional revenue without  
101 consideration of any other revenue requirements issues.<sup>2</sup> Clearly, necessary  
102 and appropriate adjustments to DEU's costs of capital have a significant impact  
103 on the magnitude of the Company's revenue increase request in this proceeding.

104           The ROE recommendation presented herein, which provides for a gradual  
105 approach to adjusting DEU's ROE, presumes that the Commission will reduce  
106 the common equity percentage in the Company's requested capital structure to

---

<sup>2</sup> Scenario 3 in ANGC Exhibit 1.05, page 2 of 4, shows that approval of a 9.50% ROE in combination with the Capital Structure accepted by the Commission in Docket No. 13-057-05 would lower DEU's revenue increase request (before consideration of any other ratemaking issues) to less than \$1.5 million. If the Commission adopts an ROE of not greater than 9.50% in combination with a balanced capital structure with 50% common equity and 50% long-term debt, DEU's revenue requirement would be \$-1.5 million (before consideration of any other ratemaking issues).

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

107 not more than the roughly 52% that was used in Docket No. 13-057-05. If the  
108 Commission accepts DEU's proposed capital structure that includes 55% com-  
109 mon equity, then I would reduce my ROE recommendation to not more than the  
110 mid-point of the ROE range of reasonableness I have identified (i.e., **9.00%**).

111

112 **Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY GENERAL OBSERVATIONS REGARDING THE ROE**  
113 **ANALYSES THAT DOMINION ENERGY UTAH HAS SUBMITTED IN THIS**  
114 **PROCEEDING IN SUPPORT OF ITS REVENUE INCREASE?**

115 A. I do. A presumption throughout the ROE analyses that DEU Witness Hevert  
116 presents is that the Company's risk profile is comparable to that of the risk profile  
117 of the proxy group companies that Witness Hevert employs in those analyses.  
118 However, that presumption is inaccurate. Witness Hevert's proxy group  
119 comprises utility holding companies with investment portfolios that often include  
120 significant non-utility and non-price regulated business activities. Represen-  
121 tations that the risks associated with those holding companies are comparable to  
122 the risks faced by DEU's gas distribution operations in Utah are inappropriate  
123 and unjustified.

124 In addition, this testimony documents Witness Hevert's established history  
125 of presenting ROE recommendations in state utility regulatory proceedings that  
126 are well above the ROE levels that regulators have ultimately found to be  
127 reasonable in the gas distribution utility cases in which he has offered specific  
128 ROE recommendations. Witness Hevert's analyses and recommendations are to  
129 a large extent a product of his judgmental determinations, and in that context, the

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

130 manner in which his judgments have differed from those of the regulators who  
131 have evaluated his ROE recommendations provides important perspective for  
132 the Commission.

133

134 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE KEY FINDINGS OF YOUR TESTIMONY**  
135 **REGARDING THE RETURN ON EQUITY REQUIRED BY DOMINION ENERGY**  
136 **UTAH?**

137 A. The following are key findings that have been derived from my review and  
138 analysis of the Direct Testimony of DEU Witness Hevert in this proceeding as  
139 well as from my own assessment of the Company's equity return requirements:

140

141 • Witness Hevert's ROE recommendation for DEU is a highly  
142 judgmental determination derived from an extremely wide range of  
143 ROE estimates. Yet, history shows that Witness Hevert's ROE  
144 judgments have been significantly different than those of regulators.

145

146 • Witness Hevert has a long-established history of presenting ROE  
147 recommendations that significantly overstate regulators' assess-  
148 ments of required equity return requirements for utilities.

149

150 • Witness Hevert's use of Value Line estimates of earnings growth  
151 for his proxy group companies introduces a significant upward bias  
152 in his DCF estimates.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

- 153           •     Witness Hevert's proxy group which comprises utility holding  
154                     companies with investment portfolios that incorporate more risky  
155                     non-regulated business activities reflects greater risk and higher  
156                     return requirements than DEU's gas distribution utility operations.  
157
- 158           •     Witness Hevert's representations of yields on 30-year U.S.  
159                     Treasury Bonds (i.e., his measures of the risk-free rate) overstate  
160                     current market requirements, as well as current expectations of  
161                     future market requirements.  
162
- 163           •     It is difficult to rationalize or justify a proposed ROE for DEU that is  
164                     above Witness Hevert's projected ROE for Dominion Energy, Inc.  
165                     based on Bloomberg earnings growth projections.  
166
- 167           •     Contrary to Witness Hevert's representations, his Expected  
168                     Earnings Analysis does not provide confirmation or validation of the  
169                     ROE range that he recommends in this proceeding.  
170
- 171           •     A capital structure for DEU that contains significantly greater equity  
172                     than the capital structure of its ultimate parent company, Dominion  
173                     Energy, Inc., cannot be justified. As of June 30, 2019, **Dominion**  
174                     **Energy, Inc.** had a capital structure that contained **less than**  
175                     **43.6%** common equity.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

176 **Q. WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS DO YOU OFFER WITH RESPECT TO DEU'S**  
177 **REQUIRED RETURN ON EQUITY IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

178 A. The following presents a summary of recommendations that I offer for the  
179 Commission's consideration in this proceeding. These recommendations are  
180 based on the findings discussed above and the discussion of issues and  
181 supporting analyses contained in the remainder of this testimony as well as the  
182 accompanying attachments and schedules.

183

184 1. The Commission should find that an authorized ROE of 9.50% is  
185 reasonable and appropriate for DEU.

186

187 2. The Commission should reject Witness Hevert's arguments for a  
188 flotation cost adjustment to the Company's authorized ROE.

189

190 3. The Commission should find that DEU's proposed capital structure  
191 contains an inappropriately high percentage of Common Equity  
192 which unnecessarily increases the Company's weighted average  
193 cost of capital.

194

195 4. The Commission should establish a capital structure for DEU For  
196 ratemaking purposes that contains not more than 52% equity.

197

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

198

**III. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES**

199

200 **Q. HOW IS YOUR DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO DEU'S DIRECT**  
201 **TESTIMONY AND SCHEDULES IN THIS PROCEEDING ORGANIZED?**

202 A. The discussion of issues in this testimony is presented in four sections. Section  
203 A presents my review and critique of Witness Hevert's cost of equity analyses.  
204 Section B describes the cost of equity analyses that I present for the Commis-  
205 sion's consideration in this proceeding. Included in the review of Witness  
206 Hevert's cost of equity presentation are examinations of his DCF, Risk Premium  
207 and Expected Earnings analyses, as well as his positions regarding business  
208 risks, regulatory mechanisms, and the need for a flotation cost adjustment.  
209 Section C response to Witness Hevert's position regarding an appropriate Capital  
210 Structure for DEU, and Section D explains the impacts of adjustments to DEU's  
211 requested ROE and proposed Capital Structure on the Company's required  
212 overall rate of return and computed revenue deficiency (i.e., revenue increase  
213 request) in this proceeding.

214

215 **A. Witness Hevert's Cost of Equity Analyses**

216

217 **Q. WHAT RATE OF RETURN ON COMMON EQUITY ("ROE") DOES DEU**  
218 **WITNESS HEVERT RECOMMEND IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

219 A. Witness Hevert's Direct Testimony recommends that the Commission approve  
220 an ROE of **10.50%**.<sup>3</sup> His recommendation is based on his assessment the  
221 Company's ROE should fall with a range between 9.90% to 10.75%.<sup>4</sup>

222

223 **Q. IS WITNESS HEVERT'S RECOMMENDED ROE FOR DEU IN THIS PRO-**  
224 **CEEDING REASONABLE?**

225 A. No. His recommended ROE significantly overstates the ROE required of  
226 investments with risk comparable to the risk of DEU's gas distribution utility  
227 operations in Utah.

228

229 **Q. IS IT UNUSUAL FOR WITNESS HEVERT'S ROE RECOMMENDATIONS TO**  
230 **BE NOTICEABLY ABOVE THE ROE LEVELS THAT COMMISSIONS FIND TO**  
231 **BE APPROPRIATE?**

232 A. No. I demonstrate that Witness Hevert's recommended ROEs in gas utility rate  
233 proceedings have overstated the ROEs ultimately authorized by the utility  
234 regulatory commission to which he presented those recommendations by an  
235 average of 78 basis points. That substantial upward bias reflects the differences  
236 between Witness Hevert's recommended ROEs and regulatory commission  
237 determinations in decided cases in which Witness Hevert has testified over the  
238 last three years. **ANGC Exhibit 1.01** shows that over the past three years  
239 Witness Hevert's recommendations in gas utility proceedings have on average  
240 been **78 basis points above** the levels that regulators ultimately found

---

<sup>3</sup> DEU Witness Hevert, Direct Testimony, page 2 of 65, lines 37-40.

<sup>4</sup> DEU Witness Hevert, Direct Testimony at page 2 of 65, lines 35-37.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

241 reasonable in the cases in which he has presented a specific ROE recom-  
242 mendation.<sup>5</sup>

243

244 **Q. IS YOUR COMPUTATION OF A REGULATORS' ADJUSTMENT FACTOR**  
245 **INTENDED TO SUGGEST THAT REGULATORS SHOULD MAKE ROE**  
246 **DETERMINATIONS BY SIMPLY APPLYING A DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENT**  
247 **TO WITNESS HEVERT'S ROE RECOMMENDATIONS?**

248 A. No. Witness Hevert presents ROE estimates that display a wide range of ROE  
249 results. He then applies substantial judgment to those results to arrive at his  
250 ROE recommendation. My presentation of the Regulators' Adjustment Factor is  
251 intended to illustrate the extent to which Witness Hevert's judgments regarding  
252 the selection of appropriate ROEs for gas utilities have differed from regulators'  
253 evaluations of appropriate ROEs in the proceedings in which he has presented  
254 ROE recommendations. Nothing in my presentation is intended to suggest that  
255 any commission has relied, or should rely, solely on differences between Witness  
256 Hevert's recommendations in past proceedings and regulatory commissions'  
257 ultimate ROE determinations in past proceedings as the basis for assessing an  
258 appropriate ROE for any utility.

259

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<sup>5</sup> This does not include a pending determination in a Washington Gas Light Company proceeding in Virginia (i.e., Case No. PUR-2018-00080 in which an associate of Witness Hevert at Scott Madden recommended a 10.30% ROE and the proposed Hearing Examiner's Order in that case concludes that a 9.20% ROE is reasonable. It should also be noted that Witness Hevert's ROE recommendations in electric utility regulatory proceedings have incorporated a similar upward bias.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

260 **Q. WHAT SUPPORT DOES WITNESS HEVERT OFFER FOR THE COMPANY'S**  
261 **REQUESTED 10.50% COST OF EQUITY?**

262 A. Witness Hevert presents cost of equity analyses that are developed using four  
263 equity cost estimation methods. Those methods include: (1) a constant growth  
264 discounted cash-flow ("DCF") model; (2) a traditional Capital Asset Pricing Model  
265 ("CAPM"); (3) an ECAPM variant on the CAPM methodology ("ECAPM"); and (4)  
266 a Bond Yield Risk Premium Model ("RPM").<sup>6</sup> After his presentation of the results  
267 of those models, Witness Hevert also discusses an Expected Earnings Analysis  
268 which he portrays as corroboration of his recommended ROE range of 9.90% to  
269 10.75%. In addition, Witness Hevert argues for an upward adjustment to his  
270 ROE results to reflect flotation costs.

271

272 **Q. WHAT IS THE RANGE OF ROE ESTIMATES THAT WITNESS HEVERT**  
273 **PRESENTS?**

274 A. Before adjustment for flotation costs, the ROE estimates that Witness Hevert  
275 computes range from a low of 7.47% to high of 13.55%.<sup>7</sup> That is an extremely  
276 wide range which provides little insight regarding DEU's actual required return on  
277 equity.

278

---

<sup>6</sup> Witness Hevert refers to his CAPM, ECAPM, and Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium analyses collectively as "Risk Premium Results." See Witness Hevert's Direct Testimony, Table 7, at page 24 of his Direct Testimony.

<sup>7</sup> Witness Hevert computes Mean Low, Mean, and Mean High constant growth DCF estimates for his selected proxy Group that range from 7.47% to 13.55%. His CAPM and ECAPM results range from 8.94% to 12.28%, and his Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium analyses yield ROE estimates that range from 9.87% to 10.11%. He also presents an Expected Earnings Analysis that yields median and average ROE estimates of 10.41% and 10.73% respectively.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

279 **Q. DOES WITNESS HEVERT CONSISTENTLY APPLY THE STANDARDS**  
280 **ESTABLISHED FOR ROE DETERMINATIONS IN *HOPE AND BLUEFIELD*?**

281 A. No. Although he asserts that his analyses and recommendations consider “*the*  
282 *Company’s business risk relative to the proxy group...*” the continuation of that  
283 sentence states that the proxy group is comprised of “*comparable companies.*”  
284 Yet, that is not accurate. The differences in risk between the utility holding  
285 companies that comprise his selected proxy group and the risk of DEU’s  
286 regulated utility operations are significant and must not be ignored. However,  
287 Witness Hevert’s cost of equity analyses are premised on an assumption that  
288 DEU’s distribution utility risk is comparable to the risk for the holding companies  
289 included in his selected proxy group.

290           Witness Hevert also does not consider the impacts of changes in industry  
291 structure and regulatory policies over time on gas distribution utility risk and ROE  
292 requirements. For this reason, the Commission should be cautioned that when  
293 reading Witness Hevert’s “*Summary of Issues Surrounding Cost of Equity*  
294 *Estimation in Regulatory Proceeding.*”<sup>8</sup> His use of the phrase “*the firm*” in that  
295 discussion is misleading. Witness Hevert states “*investors will only provide funds*  
296 *to a firm if the return they expect is equal to, or greater than, the return they*  
297 *require to accept the risk of providing funds to the firm.*”<sup>9</sup> However, there is now  
298 only one investor in DEU. That is Dominion Energy, Inc., and equity investors in  
299 Dominion Energy Inc. base their investment decisions on the risks and returns  
300 offered more broadly by Dominion Energy, Inc., not DEU’s gas distribution utility

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<sup>8</sup> The Direct Testimony of DEU Witness Hevert, page 8 of 65, starting at line 142.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, lines 147-149.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

301 operations. Moreover, as Moody's has noted, one of the credit challenges for  
302 DEU is that is a "*highly leveraged parent that carries higher credit risk.*"<sup>10</sup> In fact,  
303 there are numerous examples of the financial community recognition of greater  
304 business and financial risk in utility holding companies than in their distribution  
305 utility subsidiaries. Thus, assessments of equity return requirements must not be  
306 premised on either proxy groups comprised primarily, if not exclusively, of  
307 holding companies and/or broad measure of industry equity return requirements  
308 that do not differentiate the requirements of distribution utilities and those of their  
309 parent companies. The Commission must further recognize that the comparable  
310 risk standards set forth in the *Hope* and *Bluefield* decisions are not satisfied  
311 when differences in risk between utility holding companies and their distribution  
312 utility subsidiaries are not explicitly addressed in regulatory cost of equity  
313 determinations for distribution utilities.

314

315 **Q. DOES THE FINANCIAL COMMUNITY RECOGNIZE ANY OTHER DIFFER-**  
316 **ENCES IN THE RISKS FACED BY DISTRIBUTION UTILITIES, SUCH AS DEU,**  
317 **AND THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOLDING COMPANIES THAT**  
318 **NOW OWN THOSE DISTRIBUTION UTILITY OPERATIONS?**

319 **A.** Yes. There are a number of rating agency reports and regulatory commission  
320 decisions that have explicitly addressed those differences and concluded that  
321 regulated distribution utility operations are less risky than those of their parent  
322 companies. For example, those differences in risk are the basis for numerous

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<sup>10</sup> DEU Exhibit 1.05, page 2 of 10.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

323 recent efforts to ring-fence acquired distribution utilities from the finances of their  
324 holding company parents and/or the effects of bankruptcies in other subsidiaries  
325 of the parent company.<sup>11</sup>

326

327 **Q. CAN THE EFFECTS OF DIFFERENCES IN RISK BETWEEN DISTRIBUTION**  
328 **UTILITIES AND THEIR HOLDING COMPANY PARENTS BE EASILY**  
329 **QUANTIFIED?**

330 A. Unfortunately, with most gas distribution utilities now owned by holding com-  
331 panies, there is little, if any, current market data on which to assess gas distri-  
332 bution utility equity investment risk and costs of equity. Moreover, there are no  
333 models that have been developed to date that reliably quantify differences in  
334 equity risk for distribution utilities and their holding company parents. However,  
335 as discussed above, we can make observations that demonstrate the existence  
336 of such differences.

337

338 **Q. IS IT REASONABLE TO ASSESS THAT DEU'S ROE REQUIREMENTS ARE**  
339 **GREATER THAN THOSE OF ITS PARENT, DOMINION RESOURCES?**

340 A. No, it is not. Yet, the analysis upon which Witness Hevert relies to develop his  
341 Bloomberg-Derived Market Risk Premium (that is detailed in DEU Exhibit 2.03  
342 and used in his CAPM and ECAPM analyses in DEU Exhibit 2.05) shows a  
343 **projected** DCF ROE for Dominion Energy, Inc. of **10.13%**. By contrast, Witness  
344 Hevert's recommended ROE for DEU's gas distribution operations in this

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<sup>11</sup> Unlike their distribution utility subsidiaries, utility holding companies and their non-utility business ventures have no on-going public service obligations.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

345 proceeding is **10.50%**. These results are, at best, difficult to reconcile. DEU's  
346 lower risk distribution utility operations should not require a ROE that is greater  
347 than that for its parent company's overall business operations (which includes  
348 non-utility business ventures).

349

350 **1. DCF Analyses**

351

352 **Q. ARE WITNESS HEVERT'S CONSTANT GROWTH DCF ANALYSES REASON-**  
353 **ABLE?**

354 **A.** Only in part. An examination of the detail of Witness Hevert's DCF analysis in  
355 DEU Exhibit 2.10 finds that in each scenario (i.e., 30-day, 90-day and 180-day  
356 average stock prices) the Value Line Earnings Growth estimates that he shows  
357 (in Column [7] for each scenario) reflect significantly different projections of  
358 earnings than the earnings growth projections offered by Zacks and First Call.  
359 This is particularly true for Northwest Natural Holding Company (NWN). For  
360 NWN, Witness Hevert shows an earnings growth estimate from Value Line of  
361 **25.50%**. Neither Zacks nor First Call estimates earnings growth for any of  
362 Witness Hevert's proxy group companies at a rate greater than **7.20%**.  
363 Moreover, for all of the proxy group companies, the Value Line estimates of  
364 earnings growth that Witness Hevert uses differ significantly from the earnings  
365 estimates for the same companies from Zacks and First Call. As shown in DEU  
366 Exhibit 2.01, the mean earnings growth for Witness Hevert's proxy group  
367 companies based on Zacks earnings growth estimates is 5.89%. The mean

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

368 earnings growth for Witness Hevert's proxy group companies based on First Call  
369 earnings growth estimates is 5.31%. By comparison, the Value Line mean  
370 earnings growth for Witness Hevert's proxy group companies is 9.63%. The  
371 significantly higher mean earnings growth estimate from Value Line directly  
372 impacts both Witness Hevert's Mean ROE and Mean High ROE results.<sup>12</sup>

373

374 **Q. OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT THE VALUE LINE ESTIMATES OF**  
375 **EARNINGS GROWTH DIFFER FROM THOSE FROM OTHER SOURCES,**  
376 **WHY SHOULD THE VALUE LINE EARNINGS GROWTH ESTIMATES BE**  
377 **DISREGARDED?**

378 **A.** There are two elements of my considerations relating to the Value Line earnings  
379 growth estimates on which Witness Hevert has relied.

380 First, it appears that Value Line's earnings growth estimates have not  
381 been computed in a manner that eliminates consideration of abnormal or one-  
382 time adjustments for earnings. For example, for NWN Value Line's earnings  
383 growth is distorted by a significant one-time loss on non-utility gas storage  
384 operations. In 2017 Northwest Natural Gas recorded a \$192 million loss on its  
385 gas storage operations. Although Northwest Natural's regulated utility operations  
386 represent the largest component of the holding company's overall business  
387 activities, its utilities have generated annual earnings over the last several years

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<sup>12</sup> When presenting a summary of his findings, Witness Hevert essentially discards the "mean low" ROE estimates from his DCF analyses claiming that those results are below any authorized ROE for a natural gas utility since at least 1980 and more than 200 basis points below DEU's currently authorized ROE. I offer a different perspective on those results. The "mean low" ROE results from Witness Hevert's analyses are driven to an extremely low level by the questionable measures of earnings growth that he derives from Value Line.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

388 in the range of \$50 million to \$60 million per year. In other words, NWN's loss on  
389 its gas storage operations equated to the equivalent of more than **three years** of  
390 utility earnings. In our assessment, Value Line's **25.50%** earnings growth  
391 estimate primarily reflects a return of the holding company's earnings to more  
392 normalized earnings levels.<sup>13</sup> Such a one-time adjustment to earnings for non-  
393 utility operations should have no role in ROE determinations for DEU in this  
394 proceeding.

395 Second, in Rebuttal Testimony in a currently pending gas distribution  
396 utility rate case in Maryland, Witness Hevert provided the following data as  
397 demonstration that analysts growth rates for his proxy companies "*are within,*  
398 *even toward the lower end or below, the long-term growth ranges provided by the*  
399 *companies' management teams.*"<sup>14</sup> As all four of the companies included in  
400 Witness Hevert's comparison of earnings growth estimates are also included in  
401 his selected proxy group in this proceeding, his rebuttal comparison from the  
402 referenced Maryland proceeding is also relevant to this case.

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<sup>13</sup> Although Northwest Natural has also undergone the transition to a holding company structure within the last few years, it does not appear that its transition to a holding company structure has had a significant impact on its projected earnings growth. Moreover, even if that transition to a holding company has impacted its earnings growth, there is no evidence that the transition to a holding company structure has impacted or is anticipated to significantly impact its expected growth in earnings from regulated utility operations.

<sup>14</sup> Maryland Public Service Commission, Case No. 9605, Rebuttal Testimony of Witness Robert Hevert for Washington Gas Light Company, August 8, 2019, pages 26-27.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

**Table 1**  
Analysts' Earnings Growth Projections  
Relative to Management Presentations<sup>15</sup>

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Company	Ticker	Zacks Earnings Growth	First Call Earnings Growth	Investor Presentation Earnings Growth Range
New Jersey Resources	NJR	7.00%	6.00%	6.00% - 8.00%
Northwest Natural Holdings	NWN	4.50%	4.00%	3.00% - 5.00%
ONE Gas	OGS	5.90%	5.00%	6.00% - 8.00%
South Jersey Industries	SJI	7.20%	5.50%	6.00% - 8.00%

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Table 2 repeats the information presented in Table 1 but adds the Value Line earnings growth estimates that Witness Hevert has used in this proceeding. As shown in Table 2, none of the Value Line earnings growth estimates that Witness Hevert has used in his DCF analyses for this proceeding fall within the range of the earnings growth estimates the listed companies have offered in their investor presentations. For three of the four companies (i.e., NWN, OGS, and SJI) listed, the Value Line earnings growth estimates are above the upper end of the range each company has presented to investors. On the other hand, the Value Line earnings growth estimate for NJR is less than half the value for the low end of the range the NJR has presented to investors.

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<sup>15</sup> Ibid., page 27.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

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**Table 2**  
 Analysts' Earnings Growth Projections  
 Relative to Management Presentations  
 And Value Line Earnings Growth Estimates

Company	Ticker	Zacks Earnings Growth	First Call Earnings Growth	Investor Presentation Earnings Growth Range	Value Line Earnings Growth <sup>16</sup>
New Jersey Resources	NJR	7.00%	6.00%	6.00% - 8.00%	2.50%
Northwest Natural Holdings	NWN	4.50%	4.00%	3.00% - 5.00%	25.50%
ONE Gas	OGS	5.90%	5.00%	6.00% - 8.00%	9.00%
South Jersey Industries	SJI	7.20%	5.50%	6.00% - 8.00%	9.50%

443 **Q. WOULD THE EXCLUSION OF VALUE LINE EARNINGS GROWTH**  
 444 **ESTIMATES FROM WITNESS HEVERT'S DCF ANALYSIS SIGNIFICANTLY**  
 445 **ALTER HIS DCF RESULTS?**

446 A. Yes. As shown in Table 3 below, Witness Hevert's use of earnings growth  
 447 estimates from Value Line data leads to a substantial inflation of his DCF-based  
 448 ROE estimates for his proxy group companies. With consideration of Value  
 449 Line-derived earnings growth estimates Witness Hevert assesses the proxy  
 450 group ROE to be between 7.47% and 13.55%. With the more extreme Value  
 451 Line earnings growth estimates excluded, the range of mean ROE estimates for  
 452 Witness Hevert's proxy group is narrowed substantially and depicts a range from  
 453 **7.91% to 8.62%**. Thus, when the impact of Witness Hevert's Value Line  
 454 earnings growth estimates is quantified, the significance of the bias that the  
 455 Value Line estimates introduce is readily observed. The "without Value Line"

<sup>16</sup> From DEU Exhibit 2.01, Column [7], page 1 of 3 through 3 of 3.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

456 ROE estimates<sup>17</sup> presented in Table 3 show noticeably lower “Mean” ROE  
 457 estimates and dramatically lower “High” ROE estimates under all scenarios. The  
 458 “without Value Line” ROE estimates also yield higher “Low” ROE estimates for  
 459 each scenario, and thereby, reduce the differential between Witness Hevert’s  
 460 “Low” ROE and “High” ROE estimates.

**Table 3**  
**Comparison of Hevert Constant Growth ROE Determinations**  
**with and without Consideration of**  
**Value Line Earnings Growth Estimates**

	<u>With Value Line</u>			<u>Without Value Line</u>		
	Low	Mean	High	Low	Mean	High
	ROE	ROE	ROE	ROE	ROE	ROE
470 30-Day Avg Stock Price	7.47%	9.66%	13.45%	<b>7.91%</b>	<b>8.22%</b>	<b>8.52%</b>
471 90-Day Avg Stock Price	7.54%	9.73%	13.52%	<b>7.98%</b>	<b>8.29%</b>	<b>8.60%</b>
472 180-Day Avg Stock Price	7.57%	9.75%	13.55%	<b>8.01%</b>	<b>8.32%</b>	<b>8.62%</b>

474 Without the influence of comparatively extreme Value Line-derived  
 475 earnings growth estimates, both the upper end and the lower end of Witness  
 476 Hevert’s Constant Growth DCF estimates would be more reasonable. A  
 477 corrected version of Witness Hevert’s DCF analyses that excludes Value Line  
 478 earnings growth estimates, as well as Witness Hevert’s retention growth  
 479 estimates that are developed from the same Value Line data, is presented in  
 480 ANGC Exhibit 1.03.

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<sup>17</sup> Note [1] to DEU Exhibit 2.02 indicates that Witness Hevert’s “Retention Growth Estimates” are also developed from Value Line earnings growth projections. For that reason, the “without Value Line” results presented in Table 3 also exclude without consideration of Witness Hevert’s “Retention Growth Estimates.”



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

482 **Q. WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF WITNESS HEVERT'S DISCUSSION OF**  
483 **HIS "MEAN LOW" DCF RESULTS?**

484 A. As demonstrated in ANGC Exhibit 1.03, the extreme low levels of those results  
485 are a function of his own approach to presenting DCF results, and the data inputs  
486 on which he has chosen to rely.<sup>18</sup> However, given the format of his presentation,  
487 I would discount the value of both his "mean low" and "mean high" DCF results.  
488 Moreover, the Commission should also question why Witness Hevert offers such  
489 an assessment of his "mean low" DCF results without presenting a similar  
490 assessment of his "mean high" DCF results. His "mean high" results are all in  
491 the range of 13.50%, and those results are more than **350 basis points** above  
492 DEU's most recently authorized ROE. They also exceed any ROE authorized for  
493 a gas distribution utility in the US since the last decade.

494

495 **Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS REGARDING THE AVERAGE STOCK**  
496 **PRICE DATA THAT WITNESS HEVERT EMPLOYS IN HIS DCF ANALYSES?**

497 A. I do. The Commission should understand that the 30-day, 90-day, and 180-day  
498 stock price averages that Witness Hevert employs do **NOT** reflect standard  
499 calendar month periods. Rather, those averages refer to the numbers of "trading  
500 days" for which prices are averaged. His 30-day stock price average actually  
501 averages stock price data over roughly a six-week period. His 90-day average

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<sup>18</sup> The calculation of "mean low" and "mean high" DCF results is not a common practice of cost of equity witnesses other than Witness Hevert. Most analysts use proxy group analyses to identify the central tendencies of the group rather than to bring focus to extreme low or extreme high results. Witness Hevert's use of Value Line earnings growth estimates was not dictated by any outside force. That was his analytic choice. If his choice of data inputs yields extreme "mean low" and "mean high" results, he should change the format of his presentation and/or choose different sources for the earnings growth estimates on which he relies.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

502 uses stock price data for trading days covering a period of about four and a half  
503 months. His 180-day period averages stock prices over roughly nine months.  
504 These are not broadly used measures of average stock prices.

505 More commonly, average stock prices are computed by averaging the  
506 highest and lowest reported closing prices for a stock over a twelve-month  
507 period. Data for the high and low stock prices over the last year (i.e., 52-week  
508 high and 52-week low prices or 52-week range) are readily available to investors  
509 on a number of financial websites (e.g., Yahoo Finance, MSN Money, Google  
510 Finance), as well as numerous on-line stock trading platforms. The Commission  
511 should also note in the Expected Earnings Analysis that Witness Hevert presents  
512 in DEU Exhibit 2.07, he employs the more common “2019 High Price,” 2019 Low  
513 Price,” and “2019 Price Mid-Point” (average price). This discussion is not  
514 intended to suggest that Witness Hevert’s 30-day, 90-day, and 180-day stock  
515 price averages are incorrectly computed. Rather, those stock price measures  
516 are simply not commonly used by investors. Moreover, the differences in DCF  
517 estimates that result from those scenarios are not material,<sup>19</sup> and thus, his use of  
518 three different stock price measures adds little of value to his ROE presentation  
519 except, perhaps, the appearance of additional analytic effort.

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<sup>19</sup> As indicated by a comparison of the mean ROE estimates presented in columns [10], [11], and [12] on the pages of DEU Exhibit 2.01, in no case do the differences between the Proxy Group Mean ROE estimates for his three stock price scenarios account for more than 10 basis points.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

521                   **2. Risk Premium Analyses**

522

523   **Q.   HOW SHOULD THE COMMISSION ASSESS THE RISK PREMIUM**  
524   **ANALYSES THAT WITNESS HEVERT PRESENTS ON BEHALF OF DEU?**

525   **A.**   As summarized in Table 7 on page 24 of Witness Hevert's Direct Testimony, he  
526   offers a number of scenarios for the CAPM, Empirical CAPM ("ECAPM"), and  
527   Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium analyses. All are premised on 30-year U.S.  
528   Treasury Bond yields that significantly overstate now current risk-free yield  
529   requirements. Witness Hevert uses a current 30-year U.S. Treasury Bond yield  
530   of 2.92%. However, since the preparation of his Direct Testimony, 30-year U.S.  
531   Treasury Bond yields have fallen sharply. The 30-year U.S. Treasury Bond yield  
532   as of September 30, 2019 was 2.16%. The average U.S. Treasury Bond yield for  
533   the month September 2019 was 2.16%.<sup>20</sup> That is **75 basis points below** the  
534   "current" U.S. Treasury Bond yield used by Witness Hevert in the preparation of  
535   the risk premium analyses presented in his Direct Testimony. It also suggests  
536   that the projections of near-term 30-year U.S. Treasury Bond yields on which he  
537   has relied are not reliable.

538

539   **Q.   WHAT WEIGHT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO WITNESS HEVERT'S USE OF**  
540   **LONG-TERM PROJECTED 30-YEAR U.S. TREASURY BOND YIELDS IN HIS**  
541   **BOND YIELD PLUS RISK PREMIUM ANALYSES?**

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<sup>20</sup> See ANGC Exhibit 1.01.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

542 A. None. The long-term projections of 30-year U.S. Treasury Bond yields on which  
543 Witness Hevert relies are premised on projections for periods as long as 10  
544 years into the future. The likelihood that the rates approved by the Commission  
545 in this proceeding will remain in effect through even half of that projected time  
546 period is extremely low. Therefore, the Commission's examination of risk  
547 premium analyses should focus on current and near-term project yields. When  
548 even the near-term "consensus" forecasts have been subject to significant  
549 downward adjustments within the last several months, the value of using long-  
550 term projections of U.S. 30-year Treasury bond yields must be questioned.

551

552 **Q. HAS WITNESS HEVERT RECOGNIZED THE DECLINE IN U.S. 30-YEAR**  
553 **TREASURY BOND RATES IN OTHER RECENT TESTIMONY?**

554 A. Yes. On August 6, 2019, Witness Hevert filed rebuttal testimony in Case No.  
555 9605 before the Maryland Public Service Commission. In that testimony he  
556 presented updated ROE analyses including updated current and projected U.S.  
557 30-year Treasury Bond yields. Table 4 provides a comparison of the bond yields  
558 Witness Hevert used in that Maryland testimony with the current and projected  
559 U.S. 30-year Treasury Bond yields he used in testimony filed a little more than  
560 one month earlier in this proceeding.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

**Table 4**  
**Comparison of Current and Projected**  
**30-Year U.S. Treasury Bond Yields**

	30-Year U.S. Treasury Bond Yields	Utah Docket No. 19-057-02	Maryland Case No. 9605
	<i>Date of Testimony</i>	<i>Jul 1, 2019</i>	<i>Aug 6, 2019</i>
	Current	2.92%	2.63%
	Near-Term	3.08%	2.70%
	Long-Term	4.05%	3.70%

573 **Q. ARE THERE OTHER PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH WITNESS HEVERT'S**  
574 **CAPM AND ECAPM ANALYSES?**

575 A. Yes. There are two problems with the Beta coefficients that Witness Hevert  
576 uses. First, Witness Hevert's presentation fails to openly discuss differences in  
577 measures of Beta he employs. Second, the Beta coefficients used in his CAPM  
578 and ECAPM analyses only adjusted are not designed to reflect the risk and  
579 return requirements of a gas distribution utility. Rather, they are only intended to  
580 adjust Witness Hevert's estimate of a market risk premium to reflect the risk  
581 associated with the holding company entities for which stock price information  
582 can be observed. Nothing in either the CAPM and ECAPM models or the Beta  
583 coefficients used accounts for differences in risk and return requirements  
584 between utility holding companies and their gas distribution utility subsidiaries.  
585 Although, as discussed previously herein, there is substantial evidence of  
586 differences between distribution utility risk and the risk of their holding company  
587 parents, those differences are ignored.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

588           Furthermore, the Commission should recognize that Beta have been  
589 developed as measures of the volatility of a company's stock price relative to the  
590 volatility of the broader market. However, that focus on relative stock price  
591 volatility only addresses one element of a company's risk. Other forms of  
592 financial risk, operating risk, and market risk that a company may face in the  
593 production and marketing of its products and services are not addressed. This is  
594 important since regulated distribution utilities often are provided mechanisms  
595 (e.g., revenue and/or cost adjustment mechanisms) to insulate them from various  
596 forms of risk for which competitive have no protection.

597           The Commission is also asked to appreciate that Beta coefficients are key  
598 inputs to CAPM and ECAPM analyses. Yet, there are numerous alternative  
599 methods for computing Beta coefficients, and some of those alternatives can  
600 noticeably alter the ROE estimates that are derived from CAPM and ECAPM  
601 models. It is, therefore, imperative to understand differences in: (1) Beta compu-  
602 tation methods; (2) the time periods over which different measures are com-  
603 puted.

604

605 **Q.   WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF WITNESS HEVERT'S BOND YIELD PLUS**  
606 **RISK PREMIUM ANALYSIS?**

607 **A.**   Witness Hevert's Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium analysis engenders a number of  
608 concerns from both conceptual and practical perspectives. His efforts to  
609 estimate a regression relationship are based on data for rate case ROE  
610 determinations and measures of 30-year Treasury yields from January 1980

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

611 through May 2019 (i.e. roughly a 40-year period). Over that period there have  
612 been substantial, and in some respects dramatic, changes in the utility industry,  
613 regulatory policies, financial market conditions, and the ownership of distribution  
614 utilities. Natural gas has been fully deregulated at the wellhead, gas transpor-  
615 tation markets have been opened to competition, gas service offerings are  
616 increasingly unbundled, and the availability of natural gas production in the U.S.  
617 is achieving new all-time record levels. There has also been a dramatic consol-  
618 idation of utility ownership through numerous mergers and acquisitions that has  
619 resulted in gas distribution utilities becoming subsidiaries of larger, and generally  
620 more diversified, holding company parents. Regulatory practices have also  
621 changed to allow increased numbers of rate adjustment mechanism and cost  
622 deferrals. Also, in many jurisdictions, utility revenues have been either fully or  
623 partially decoupled in a manner that provides increased assurance of revenue  
624 recovery. In addition, the Federal Reserve has become more active as a  
625 manager of the economy through its monetary policies. As a result of such  
626 changes the risks faced by gas distribution utilities today differ substantially from  
627 those faced by companies providing the same utility services in prior decades.  
628 Yet, Witness Hevert offers no assessment of the impacts of those changes on his  
629 analysis and the proper interpretation and application of the results of his  
630 analysis.

631 The Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium methodology employed by Witness  
632 Hevert is premised on the notion that changes in utility equity return requirements  
633 over time are related to changes in the costs of risk-free investments. However,



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

634 nowhere in that model is there an ability to account for changes in risk profiles of  
635 the utilities for which ROE determinations are rendered. Instead, users of the  
636 Bond Yield method must implicitly assume that either: (1) there have been no  
637 changes in utility risk profiles over time; or (2) the risks faced by all utilities have  
638 generally affected all utilities in a uniform manner over time. Based on my years  
639 of experience, neither of those assumptions is reasonable. Again, it is inappro-  
640 priate for Witness Hevert to assert that he has considered the comparable risk  
641 standards of the *Hope* and *Bluefield* decisions when he does not account for  
642 changes in risk profiles of companies within the industry over time.

643 In terms of more practical considerations, Witness Hevert provides no  
644 indication of how the measure of the risk-free rate (i.e., the 30-year U.S. Treasury  
645 Bond Yield), that he associates with individual rate case decisions, were  
646 determined. U.S. Treasury Bond yields measured as of the date of issuance of  
647 orders would not be a measure of yields that regulators could have considered in  
648 reaching their ROE determinations. If the measures of bond yields for individual  
649 rate case ROE determinations that Witness Hevert uses in his regression  
650 equation were not actually considered by regulators when making their ROE  
651 determinations, then the relationship estimated by Witness Hevert may represent  
652 little more than coincidence (e.g., a correlation between stock market perform-  
653 ance and the length of hemlines on women's dresses). The identification of a  
654 statistical correlation does not necessarily imply a causal relationship, nor does it  
655 necessarily imply that the identified relationship will continue to hold as we move

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

656 forward in time. In other words, correlations developed from past relationships  
657 may not be reliable predictors of future outcomes.

658 For these reasons, regression-based Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium  
659 analyses must be well understood before reliance is placed on such models.

660

661 **3. Expected Earnings Analysis**

662

663 **Q. WHAT WEIGHT SHOULD THE COMMISSION GIVE TO WITNESS HEVERT'S**  
664 **EXPECTED EARNINGS ANALYSIS?**

665 A. None. The Expected Earnings Analysis that Witness Hevert includes in his ROE  
666 testimony does not depict the earnings required of DEU's gas distribution utility  
667 operations. As shown in DEU Exhibit 2.07, his Expected Earnings Analysis only  
668 examines earnings expectations for utility holding companies. Moreover, the  
669 Value Line estimates for Expected Earnings and Shares Outstanding that  
670 Witness Hevert uses in his Expected Earnings Analysis only provide average  
671 earnings expectations for those holding companies for the 2022-2024 period.

672

673 **Q. DOES WITNESS HEVERT'S "EXPECTED EARNINGS ANALYSIS" OFFER A**  
674 **REASONABLE AND UNBIASED BASIS FOR EVALUATING THE ROE**  
675 **ESTIMATES HE HAS PRODUCED?**

676 A. No. Witness Hevert indicates that he has used an Expected Earnings Analysis to  
677 assess the reasonableness of the results of his DCF, CAPM, and Bond Yield  
678 Plus Risk Premium analyses. However, an examination of DEU Exhibit 2.07

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

679 finds that his Expected Earnings Analysis is also developed from Value Line  
680 earnings estimates. Accepting *arguendo*, the structure of Witness Hevert's  
681 Expected Earnings Analysis, comparable results computed using the generally  
682 lower earnings growth rate estimates that Witness Hevert derives from Zacks or  
683 First Call would yield noticeably lower Expected Earnings ROE results.  
684 Moreover, the Commission must recognize that the Adjusted ROEs Witness  
685 Hevert computes in DEU Exhibit 2.07 are for holding companies, not distribution  
686 utilities, and Witness Hevert makes no adjustment for differences in risk between  
687 holding companies and their distribution utility subsidiaries.

688 In Witness Hevert's discussion of his Expected Earnings Analysis, he  
689 states, "*By taking historical returns on book equity and comparing those to*  
690 *authorized ROEs, investors are able to directly compare returns from invest-*  
691 *ments of similar risk.*" Yet, Witness Hevert provides no demonstration that the  
692 risks faced by his proxy group companies are comparable to those faced by  
693 Dominion Energy, Inc. or DEU. Witness Hevert also fails to demonstrate that the  
694 risks faced by DEU's distribution utility operations in Utah are comparable to  
695 those for the more diversified holdings of Dominion Energy, Inc., a significant  
696 portion of which are not subject to price regulation.

697

698 **4. Other Business Risk Considerations**

699

700 **Q. IS DEU'S RISK PROFILE IMPACTED BY THE EFFORTS OF STATES AND**  
701 **LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES TO ACHIEVE "DEEP DECARBONIZATION"?**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

702 A. In some areas of the U.S., the effects of “deep de-carbonization” on gas  
703 distribution utilities is beginning to emerge as a significant consideration. For  
704 example, in the District of Columbia (a jurisdiction in which I have testified  
705 extensively) regulators are just beginning to grapple with issues associated with  
706 de-carbonization. It is a particularly acute issue in that jurisdiction as the gas  
707 utility that serves the District of Columbia operates extensive amounts of very old  
708 distribution system and has comparatively high, and rapidly growing, numbers of  
709 natural gas leaks.<sup>21</sup> It is also a city that has set a goal of becoming carbon free  
710 by the year 2030. By contrast, DEU operates a comparatively young system with  
711 a much lower loss rate,<sup>22</sup> and it operates in a state that has no legislative  
712 mandate for dramatic reduction of its carbon footprint. Thus, the risk of incurring  
713 stranded costs is not uniform across gas utilities. I would also suggest that utility  
714 regulators in the U.S. have generally acted to protect investors from losses due  
715 to the stranded costs. Recent adoptions of revenue decoupling mechanisms  
716 represent an example of such efforts.

717 I do not preclude the possibility that deep de-carbonization efforts will  
718 impact DEU’s operations in the future. But as of this juncture, the risk that DEU

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<sup>21</sup> Out of roughly 1200 miles of mains on the Washington Gas Light Company gas distribution system in the District of Columbia the Company’s 2018 annual report to PHMSA (i.e., the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration) indicates over one third were cast iron mains. Moreover, those cast iron mains have an average age of roughly 100 years. In addition, the same PHMSA report shows a lost and unaccounted for gas rate for the year ending June 30, 2018 of 4.16%. Further, the number of Grade 1 hazardous leaks on the Washington Gas Light Company gas distribution system in the District of Columbia has nearly tripled in the last five years, despite the Company’s pursuit of an accelerated pipe replacement program. The annual number of Grade 1 leaks in the District of Columbia rose from 565 in 2013 to 1,641 in 2018.

<sup>22</sup> Comparable PHMSA data for DEU indicates that DEU operates a system that includes more than 18,000 miles of distribution of which only about 66 miles (i.e. less than 0.3%) were installed prior to 1940. Furthermore, there are no cast iron mains on DEU’s distribution system in Utah, and DEU reported only 0.7% unaccounted for gas for the year ended June 30, 2018.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

719 will incur stranded costs is much smaller than it is for utilities that operate older  
720 gas distribution systems with higher leak rates in eastern states. Moreover, the  
721 likelihood that investors in DEU will ultimately be required to absorb stranded  
722 costs associated with electrification and/or deep de-carbonization appears even  
723 more remote.

724

725 **Q. WITNESS HEVERT SUBMITS THAT THE COMPANY'S USE OF A**  
726 **FORECASTED TEST YEAR DOES NOT REDUCE THE COMPANY'S RISK**  
727 **RELATIVE TO THE PROXY GROUP.<sup>23</sup> DO YOU AGREE?**

728 A. No. The problem in Witness Hevert's assessment of this issue is that he  
729 implicitly assumes that the proxy group companies comprise only the utility  
730 subsidiaries listed in DEU Exhibit 2.08. In fact, most, if not all, of the holding  
731 companies included in his proxy group have significant business activities that do  
732 not enjoy the benefit of the type of rate adjustment clauses and regulatory  
733 policies addressed in that exhibit. I would accept that, in general, the adjustment  
734 clauses and regulatory policies that have been applied to DEU by this Commis-  
735 sion do not appear to create significant differences in risk between DEU and  
736 most of the other gas utilities referenced in DEU Exhibit 2.08. But that is the  
737 wrong comparison. When ROE estimates are developed based on a proxy  
738 group that comprises numerous holding companies, any of the listed policies or  
739 mechanisms that are applied to DEU but not available to elements of a holding  
740 company's non-utility operations can create a difference in the risk profile of DEU

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<sup>23</sup> The Direct Testimony of DEU Witness Hevert, page 28 of 65, lines 494-495.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

741 and the overall risk profiles of the business venture in which Witness Hevert's  
742 proxy group companies engage.

743

744 **5. Flotation Costs**

745

746 **Q. SHOULD THE COMMISSION ACCEPT WITNESS HEVERT'S ARGUMENT**  
747 **THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO INCLUDE AN EQUITY FLOTATION COST**  
748 **ALLOWANCE IN DEU'S AUTHORIZED ROE?**

749 **A.** No. The Commission should find that Witness Hevert's arguments in support of  
750 a flotation cost adjustment to the Company's authorized ROE is inappropriate for  
751 at least three reasons.

752 First, the flotation cost adjustment that Witness Hevert proposes (i.e., 5  
753 basis points) is small in comparison to Witness Hevert's recommended range of  
754 reasonableness for DEU's ROE. In that context, the Commission can reasonably  
755 conclude that his proposed flotation cost adjustment is well within the error of his  
756 ROE estimates. Essentially, the comparatively small flotation cost adjustment  
757 Witness Hevert advocates is not warranted by the level of imprecision associated  
758 with his ROE recommendation.

759 Second, Witness Hevert incorrectly asserts that flotation costs incurred by  
760 DEU remain as part of the Company's cost structure in the test year and beyond.  
761 In fact, former Questar shareholders were compensated for their entire equity  
762 holdings, including associated flotation costs when Dominion's acquisition of  
763 Questar closed. Further, since the closing of that merger transaction, DEU no

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

764 longer issues common equity and records no equity flotation costs on its books.  
765 Additionally, it is at best difficult to ascertain the extent to which equity infusions  
766 received by DEU from its parent company are actually the result of its parent  
767 company's issuance of additional common equity. Thus, the relationship, if any,  
768 between the incurrence of flotation costs by Dominion Energy, Inc. and DEU's  
769 cost of equity is not readily discernible. Moreover, it is possible that funds  
770 provided to DEU as equity infusions could be financed through an issuance of  
771 debt or the parent company's sale of assets, and neither of those sources would  
772 require the incurrence of equity flotation costs.

773 Third, Witness Hevert's flotation cost analysis in DEU Exhibit 2.09  
774 indicates that the flotation cost percentages for recent equity issuances by  
775 Dominion Energy, Inc. are significantly below those for all of the other companies  
776 examined. Where Dominion Energy, Inc. has flotation cost percentages of  
777 0.801% and 0.589%, most of the other issuances shown have flotation cost  
778 percentages between 3.4% and 4.8%. Yet, Witness Hevert fails to explain why  
779 the higher flotation cost estimate that results from his consideration of proxy  
780 group companies is appropriate when DEU's parent company has issued equity  
781 at noticeably lower costs. Finally, I note that Witness Hevert's use of DCF  
782 analyses to assess the impact of flotation costs is distorted by the same Value  
783 Line earnings growth estimates that I have previously discussed herein.

784

785 **Q. IS WITNESS HEVERT CORRECT WHEN HE ASSERTS THAT EQUITY**  
786 **FLOTATION COSTS REMAIN ON THE UTILITY'S BOOKS OVER TIME?**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

787 A. No. Through mergers and acquisitions cost of equity issued directly by a utility is  
788 replaced with equity from the parent company (i.e., Dominion Energy, Inc. or  
789 “DEI”), and the utility’s prior equity investors are fully compensated for all costs  
790 associated with the equity they held prior to the transaction. Since that merger  
791 transaction, DEU is not in a position to issue common equity and thus has  
792 incurred no new equity issuance costs.

793

794 **B. ANGC Cost of Equity Analyses for DEU**

795

796 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE COST OF EQUITY ANALYSES THAT YOU HAVE**  
797 **DEVELOPED FOR THIS PROCEEDING?**

798 A. In addition to my review of Witness Hevert’s cost of equity presentation, my  
799 efforts to estimate an ROE for DEU in this proceeding include the computation of  
800 DCF, CAPM, ECAPM, and Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium analyses. Those  
801 analyses are presented in the pages of ANGC Exhibit 1.04. For my DCF, CAPM  
802 and ECAPM analyses I have used the same proxy group chosen by Witness  
803 Hevert, noting the inherent upward bias in ROE estimates that a proxy group  
804 dominated by utility holding companies can be expected to yield for a gas  
805 distribution utility such as DEU.<sup>24</sup>

806

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<sup>24</sup> As a result of recent mergers and acquisitions, few alternatives remain for the construction of gas utility proxy groups. One variant of Witness Hevert’s proxy group which involved the addition of NiSource (i.e., a company that Witness Hevert has used as part of his proxy group in prior gas distribution utility proceedings in other jurisdictions) was tested. NiSource is also a utility holding company that gas distribution utility subsidiaries operating in multiple eastern states. However, the inclusion of NiSource was found to have only had minor impact on computed ROE estimates for the proxy group.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

807 **Q. HOW ARE YOUR DCF ANALYSES PRESENTED?**

808 A. The detail of my DCF analysis is presented on page 2 of ANGC Exhibit 1.04.  
809 That analysis employs annual high and low stock price data and earnings growth  
810 projections from Zacks, CNN, and Yahoo in a traditional Constant Growth DCF  
811 model.<sup>25</sup> Overall proxy group DCF results are summarized for each source of  
812 earnings growth estimates on page 1, lines 1-4, of ANGC Exhibit 1.04. After  
813 computing an overall average DCF result, I apply a conservative 20-basis point  
814 reduction in an effort to reflect the difference between the risk of DEU's  
815 distribution utility operations and the risks embodied by the overall business  
816 activities of the proxy group companies. As previously noted, that risk differential  
817 is not easily quantified. However, I believe the application of a 20-basis point risk  
818 differential is conservative.

819

820 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR RISK PREMIUM ANALYSES.**

821 A. My CAPM and ECAPM analyses are presented in ANGC Exhibit 1.04, page 1,  
822 lines 6-13. My Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium analysis is detailed in ANGC  
823 Exhibit 1.04, page 3. It is also summarized on page 1 of ANGC Exhibit 1.04,  
824 lines 14-15.

825 All of these Risk Premium analyses have been developed to estimate  
826 required ROEs for DEU using measures of both current and near-term projected  
827 30-Year U.S. Treasury Bond yields. The current 30-Year U.S. Treasury Bond  
828 yield is based on the average daily yield for the month of September 2019, the

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<sup>25</sup> Low, Mean, and High ROE estimates are only shown only for comparison to Witness Hevert's results.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

829 calculation of that average daily yield is shown in Exhibit ANGC 1.01. The near-  
830 term projected 30-Year U.S. Treasury Bond yield is based on an average of  
831 projections for six calendar quarters ending December 31, 2020 with a 25-basis  
832 point downward adjustment to reflect the 25-basis point interest rate  
833 implemented by the Federal Reserve in September 2019.

834 The CAPM and ECAPM analyses utilize the same Bloomberg-derived  
835 market risk premium estimates and Bloomberg Beta Coefficients that are used by  
836 Witness Hevert in DEU Exhibit 2.05. After computing an average CAPM and  
837 ECAPM result, I have once again applied a 20-basis point downward adjustment  
838 in an effort to account for risk differences between the proxy group companies  
839 and DEU. I do not apply that adjustment to the Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium  
840 results, since that methodology relies directly on utility (i.e., rate case decisions)  
841 and is not premised on a proxy group that includes holding companies with non-  
842 distribution utility investments.

843 Finally, the Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium analysis that I present is  
844 premised on a regression that only uses rate case decisions within the last ten  
845 years. By shortening the period examined, the influences of significant changes  
846 in the industry, in financial markets, and in regulatory policies over the period  
847 examined is reduced.

848

849 **Q. HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED A RANGE OF REASONABLENESS FOR THE**  
850 **COMMISSION'S ROE DETERMINATIONS IN THIS PROCEEDING?**



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

851 A. Yes, I have. That range represents plus or minus 50-basis points from the  
852 average of my DCF results, my CAPM and ECPM results, and my Bond Yield  
853 Plus Risk Premium estimates. That average (rounded to the nearest tenth of a  
854 percent) is 9.00%. Thus, the suggested range of reasonableness is 8.50% to  
855 9.50%. However, while the mid-point of my recommended ROE is justifiable as  
856 an authorized ROE for DEU, I believe that the Commission should exercise  
857 gradualism in its determination of an authorized ROE for DEU. In that context, I  
858 recommend that the Commission set DEU's authorized ROE at the upper end of  
859 my identified range of reasonableness (i.e., at 9.50%).

860

861 **C. DEU Capital Structure**

862

863 **Q. WHAT IS THE CAPITAL STRUCTURE THAT DEU PROPOSES IN THIS**  
864 **PROCEEDING?**

865 A. The Company proposes a capital structure for ratemaking purposes that  
866 comprises 55% Common Equity and 45% Long-Term Debt.<sup>26</sup>

867

868 **Q. DOES DEU'S PROPOSED CAPITAL STRUCTURE REFLECT ITS**  
869 **PROJECTED ACTUAL CAPITAL STRUCTURE FOR 2020?**

870 A. No. The Company represents that its projected capital structure for 2020  
871 comprises 60% Common Equity, and by implication, 40% Long-Term Debt.<sup>27</sup>

872 Moreover, there is no guarantee that DEU's projected capital structure will be

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<sup>26</sup> The Direct Testimony of DEU Witness Hevert, page 43, lines 791-793.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

873 achieved during the period in which rates approved in this proceeding are in  
874 effect. Thus, the Commission should be cautious with respect to the Company's  
875 use of the phrase "***actual*** projected 2020 capital structure," as there is no  
876 assurance that the DEU's projections will be achieved or maintained during 2020.  
877 More appropriately, the word "**actual**" should be stricken, and the Commission  
878 should simply refer to the Company's "*projected 2020 capital structure.*"

879

880 **Q. DOES WITNESS HEVERT'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE ANALYSIS IN EXHIBIT**  
881 **DEU 2.10 PROVIDE INSIGHT REGARDING THE APPROPRIATE CAPITAL**  
882 **STRUCTURE FOR DEU'S GAS DISTRIBUTION UTILITY OPERATIONS IN**  
883 **UTAH?**

884 **A.** No, it does not. The data Witness Hevert presents in DEU Exhibit 2.10 are for  
885 the utility holding companies that comprise his proxy group. Nothing in that  
886 exhibit addresses an appropriate capital structure for Dominion Energy Utah's  
887 regulated distribution utility operations. The investment portfolio of a utility  
888 holding company can have very different capital structure requirements than a  
889 distribution utility subsidiary. Thus, Witness Hevert's comparison of the capital  
890 structures of utility holding companies offers no insight regarding the appropriate  
891 capital structure for a regulated distribution utility.

892

893 **Q. DOES WITNESS HEVERT'S DISCUSSION OF DEU'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE**  
894 **ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF ALTERNATIVE CAPITAL STRUCTURES ON**  
895 **THE COMPANY'S COSTS OF PROVIDING SERVICE?**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

896 A. No, it does not. His only contributions are: (1) a generalized discussion of  
897 financial risk and the Company's ability to raise capital; and (2) a comparison of  
898 DEU's proposed capital structure with those of the holding companies that  
899 comprise his proxy group. Nowhere in his presentation does Witness Hevert  
900 address the costs to ratepayers of maintaining different levels of Common Equity  
901 within its capital structure.

902

903 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A CAPITAL STRUCTURE FOR**  
904 **A UTILITY AS PART OF THE RATEMAKING PROCESS?**

905 A. The role of regulators in the establishment of capital structures for rate regulated  
906 utilities is to ensure that the costs of capital included in utility rates are optimized  
907 to ensure the financial viability of the utility while protecting ratepayers from  
908 unnecessary capital cost burdens. Equity capital is generally more costly to  
909 utility ratepayers than debt capital.<sup>28</sup> With the need to recognize income taxes  
910 that must be paid on utility equity returns, the relative cost of equity rises further  
911 above utility costs for long-term debt.<sup>29</sup> For this reason, a utility capital structure  
912 that comprises a high percentage of equity capital will tend to impose substantial  
913 unnecessary capital cost burdens on ratepayers. However, as the percentage of  
914 debt in a utility capital structure increases, the utility's costs of borrowing funds

---

<sup>28</sup> Over the last five years, costs of long-term debt for utilities have generally ranged from about 3.0% to 5.0%, while costs of equity for gas utilities have been set in the range of 9.0% to 10.0%. In other words, utility costs of equity, before consideration of income taxes, are roughly twice as expensive as long-term debt.

<sup>29</sup> To provide equity investors a 10% return, the pre-tax cost of equity must be adjusted for state and federal income taxes. Considering just federal income taxes at the current corporate rate of 21%, the effective pre-tax cost of equity is nearly 12.7%.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

915 through debt instruments can also be expected to increase. A capital structure  
916 should seek to minimize the overall costs of capital borne by ratepayers while  
917 ensuring the utility's financial health and ability to obtain additional financing  
918 when required.

919

920 **Q. ARE THERE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN DEU'S COSTS OF EQUITY**  
921 **AND LONG-TERM DEBT?**

922 A. Yes, there are. DEU proposes a cost of equity or ROE of 10.5%. However, the  
923 Company must pay income taxes on funds used to provide equity returns. When  
924 grossed-up for income taxes the effective pre-tax cost of Common Equity the  
925 DEU ratepayers must bear would be 13.95%.<sup>30</sup> DEU's weighted average cost of  
926 Long-Term Debt is 4.37%.<sup>31</sup> In other words, at DEU's requested ROE the  
927 Company's effective cost of Common Equity is more than three times its  
928 weighted average cost of Long-Term Debt. Thus, considerable opportunity  
929 exists for the Commission to lower ratepayer costs by increasing the percentage  
930 of Long-Term Debt included in DEU's Capital Structure.

931

932 **Q. WOULD LOWERING THE EQUITY PERCENTAGE IN DEU'S PROPOSED**  
933 **CAPITAL STRUCTURE ERODE THE COMPANY'S CREDIT RATING AND**  
934 **CAUSE ITS WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF DEBT TO INCREASE?**

935 A. Variations in DEU's capital structure may have some impact on DEU's  
936 incremental costs of financing. However, within a range of roughly +/- 5% around

---

<sup>30</sup> The Company's effective cost of equity equals its approved ROE grossed-up for income taxes.

<sup>31</sup> DEU Exhibit 3.31.



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

937 a capital structure that is 50% Common Equity and 50% Long-Term Debt, those  
938 impacts, if any, would be small relative to the substantial premium that must be  
939 paid for equity capital. Furthermore, an increase in debt financing costs would  
940 only impact the costs of incremental debt issuances. Thus, the impacts of any  
941 increases in debt financing costs are substantially diluted. In addition, given  
942 current financial market conditions, it is possible that incremental issuances of  
943 long-term debt could be made at effective rates below the Company's current  
944 weighted average cost of debt.

945

946 **Q. HOW DOES THE CAPITAL STRUCTURE THAT DEU PROPOSES FOR**  
947 **RATEMAKING PURPOSES IN THIS PROCEEDING COMPARE WITH THE**  
948 **CAPITAL STRUCTURE OF ITS PARENT, DOMINION ENERGY, INC.?**

949 A. Information reported in Dominion Energy's most recent SEC Form 10-Q filing  
950 indicates that at the end of the second quarter of 2019, Dominion Energy, Inc.  
951 had a capital structure that included approximately 44% Common Equity and  
952 56% Long-Term Debt (i.e., DEU's parent had substantially less common equity  
953 and noticeably more Long-Term Debt).

954 Utility holding companies often seek higher equity ratios in the capital  
955 structures of their regulated utilities to enable the holding company to finance  
956 non-utility activities at lower costs. When engaged in competitive businesses,  
957 minimizing overall capital costs is important to the achievement of marketable  
958 products and services. While a strategy that leverages utility capital structures  
959 may serve to improve the holding company's overall returns, it raises costs to



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

960 utility ratepayers without providing incremental benefits. For this reason, the  
961 Commission must act to ensure that the costs of capital borne by ratepayers are  
962 not unnecessarily increased to provide a holding company greater leverage in its  
963 financing of non-utility operations.<sup>32</sup>

964

965 **Q. SHOULD DEU'S ACTUAL CAPITAL STRUCTURE HAVE A BEARING ON**  
966 **THE CAPITAL STRUCTURE THE COMMISSION APPROVES FOR**  
967 **RATEMAKING PURPOSES IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

968 A. No, due to a variety of considerations (including "lumpiness" of new debt and  
969 equity issuances, variations in the timing and costs of plant additions, and  
970 fluctuations in the timing of actual revenue collections).<sup>33</sup> As a result, fluctuations  
971 in reported utility debt and equity ratios are virtually unavoidable, and it must be  
972 expected that the Company's actual capital structure will necessarily vary over  
973 the course of a year. However, through sound business and financial manage-  
974 ment practices, any negative impacts of such capital structure fluctuations on  
975 earnings can generally be minimized.<sup>34</sup>

976

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<sup>32</sup> Allowing holding companies to inappropriately leverage the equity in their utility operations not only harms utility ratepayers, it provides an anti-competitive advantage to the holding company's non-regulated business activities by enabling such non-regulated activities to finance their activities at lower costs than other entities in the same markets.

<sup>33</sup> Other factors that may cause changes in a utility's capital structure can include: seasonal fluctuations in revenues and earnings; equity added through dividend re-investment programs; stock distributions to executives or other employees as part of compensation plans.

<sup>34</sup> Not all impacts of capital structure fluctuations are negative. For example, in the current market it is conceivable that new debt financings can be marketed at effective rates below the Company's current average weighted average cost of debt. Such financings would provide the Company opportunities to supplement its earnings, by reducing its weighted average cost of long-term debt below the levels assumed in the development of the Company's revenue requirement.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

977 **Q. DOES THE COMMISSION'S APPROVAL OF A CAPITAL STRUCTURE FOR**  
978 **RATEMAKING PURPOSES MANDATE THAT THE COMPANY MAINTAIN A**  
979 **FIXED CAPITAL STRUCTURE AT ALL TIMES?**

980 A. No. It simply serves as an input for the establishment of a target level of capital  
981 costs. The utility remains free to manage its finances and operating expenditures  
982 within the Company's approved overall revenue requirement. In DEU Exhibit  
983 2.11 it can be seen that each of the Company's issuances of Long-Term Debt  
984 over the last three years have effective rates (yields) that are below the  
985 Company's weighted average long-term debt costs. When the Company can  
986 refinance maturing debt issuances at lower costs between rate cases, the  
987 Company retains the benefit of any savings achieved until the next rate case.  
988 Similarly, the Company may at times substitute lower cost short-term debt for  
989 long-term debt and effectively increase the Company's achieved return on equity  
990 for its shareholder, Dominion Energy, Inc.

991

992 **Q. WHAT PERCENTAGES OF DEBT AND EQUITY SHOULD THE COMMISSION**  
993 **AUTHORIZE FOR DEU'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

994 A. In Docket No. 13-057-05, this Commission accepted a stipulation among the  
995 parties that provided for a capital structure that included 52.07% common equity  
996 and 47.93% long-term debt.

997

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

998            **D. Overall Cost of Capital and Revenue Requirements**

999

1000    **Q.    WHAT IS THE OVERALL COST OF CAPITAL THAT RESULTS FROM YOUR**  
1001            **ROE AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE RECOMMENDATIONS?**

1002    A.    The combined impact of the ROE and capital structure recommendations that I  
1003            present would lower DEU's overall rate of return ("ROR") to 6.94%. That result is  
1004            shown in **Scenario 5** on page 4 of ANGC Exhibit 1.05. With the Company's  
1005            ROR lowered to 6.94% its projected revenue deficiency is fully erased before  
1006            consideration of any other ratemaking adjustments and a small (i.e., \$1.52  
1007            million) revenue reduction would be justified.

1008

1009    **Q.    WOULD YOU PLEASE FURTHER EXPLAIN THE OTHER SCENARIOS**  
1010            **PRESENTED IN ANGC EXHIBIT 1.05.**

1011    A.    ANGC Exhibit 1.05 sets forth overall rate of return and revenue requirement  
1012            impacts for six scenarios in which the Company's requested ROE, its proposed  
1013            capital structure, or both are adjusted. Although I recommend movement to a  
1014            balanced capital structure with 50% common equity and 50% long-term debt, I  
1015            also provide scenarios in which the capital structure used approximates the  
1016            capital structure accepted by the Commission and the parties in Docket No. 13-  
1017            057-05 to depict an intermediate capital structure alternative. I also include, for  
1018            comparative purposes, a scenario (i.e., Scenario 6 on page 4 of ANGC Exhibit  
1019            1.05) that presents the results of a continuation of the ROE and capital structure



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

1020 for DEU at the levels set forth in the Commission's February 24, 2014 Report and  
1021 Order in Docket No. 13-057-05.

1022 ANG C Exhibit 1.05, page 1 of 3, Scenario 1, computes the impact of the  
1023 9.50% ROE recommended herein on DEU's overall cost of capital and revenue  
1024 requirement assuming the Capital Structure proposed by DEU in this proceeding  
1025 is not altered. Under that scenario, the overall rate of return for DEU would fall  
1026 from 7.74% to **7.19%**, and the Company's requested revenue increase would be  
1027 lowered by \$13.3 million (i.e., from \$19.25 million annually to \$5.97 million  
1028 annually).

1029 ANG C Exhibit ANG C Exhibit 1.05, Scenario 2, illustrates the impact of  
1030 replacing the Company's proposed capital structure with the capital structure to  
1031 which the parties stipulated in Docket No. 13-057-05<sup>35</sup> while maintaining the  
1032 Company's proposed ROE. In this scenario, DEU's overall cost of capital  
1033 declines from 7.74% to 7.56%, and DEU's requested revenue increase is  
1034 reduced by \$5.2 million.

1035 ANG C Exhibit 1.05, Scenario 3, depicts the combined effects of the 9.50%  
1036 ROE recommended herein and the use of a Capital Structure with 52% Common  
1037 Equity and 48% Long-Term Debt. That combination of ROE and capital structure  
1038 produces an overall ROR for DEU of 7.04% and lowers the Company's  
1039 computed revenue deficiency to \$1.477 million.

---

<sup>35</sup> As set forth in the Commission's February 21, 2014 Report and Order in Docket No. 13-057-05, the parties stipulated to a capital structure that included 52.07% common equity and 47.93% long-term debt. For the purposes of the analyses presented in ANG C Exhibit 1.05, I have taken the liberty of rounding those percentages to 52.0% common equity and 48.0% long-term debt.

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

1040                   Scenario 4 presents the impact of adopting a balanced 50/50 equity/debt  
1041 capital structure while leaving DEU's requested ROE unchanged at 10.50%.  
1042 Although I do not encourage the Commission to authorize a 10.50% ROE for the  
1043 Company, this scenario illustrates the value to ratepayers of adopting a balanced  
1044 capital structure. As shown in this scenario, just the movement to a capital  
1045 structure with 50% debt and 50% common equity would eliminate nearly half of  
1046 DEU's claimed revenue deficiency.

1047

1048

**IV. CONCLUSION**

1049

1050 **Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS REGARDING THE**  
1051 **COMPANY'S REQUESTED ROE IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

1052 A. Since Witness Hevert filed his Direct Testimony in this proceeding the Federal  
1053 Reserve has lowered interest rates **twice** (i.e., each time by 25 basis points) and  
1054 yields on 30-year U.S. Treasury Bonds have fallen sharply. Those changes  
1055 provide further evidence that the current and projected 30-year bond yields on  
1056 which Witness Hevert has relied are not reflective of current market conditions  
1057 and expectations. These downward movements in both Federal Reserve interest  
1058 rates and 30-year U.S. Treasury Bond yields over the last several months further  
1059 exacerbate the substantial upward bias in Witness Hevert's ROE recommend-  
1060 ation. As shown herein, lowering the approved ROE for DEU to a level that is  
1061 more reflective of current financial market conditions has a significant impact on



**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE R. OLIVER**  
*UPSC Docket No. 19-057-02*

1062           the overall magnitude of the Company's requested revenue increase in this  
1063           proceeding.

1064

1065   **Q.    DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?**

1066   **A.    Yes. It does.**

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the Direct Testimony of Bruce R. Oliver for ANGC in Phase 1 of Docket 19-057-02 was served by email October 16, 2019 on the following:

### QUESTAR GAS COMPANY

Jennifer Nelson Clark      jennifer.clark@questar.com  
Cameron Sabin              cameron.sabin@stoel.com

### DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Chris Parker                chrisparker@utah.gov  
William Powell              wpowell@utah.gov  
Patricia Schmid              pschmid@agutah.gov  
Justin Jetter                 jjetter@agutah.gov

### OFFICE OF CONSUMER SERVICES

Michele Beck                mbeck@utah.gov  
Steven Snarr                 stevensnarr@agutah.gov  
Robert Moore                rmoore@agutah.gov

### NUCOR STEEL-UTAH

Damon E. Xenopoulos      dex@smxblaw.com  
Jeremy R. Cook              jcook@cohnekinghorn.com

### UAE

Gary A. Dodge                gdodge@hjdllaw.com  
Phillip J. Russell              prussell@hjdllaw.com

### US MAGNESIUM

Gary A. Dodge                gdodge@hjdllaw.com  
Phillip J. Russell              prussell@hjdllaw.com  
Roger Swenson                Roger.Swenson@prodigy.net

/s/Stephen F. Mecham

## **BRUCE R. OLIVER**

Revalo Hill Associates, Inc.  
7103 Laketree Drive  
Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039  
(703) 569-6480

### **EXPERIENCE**

Over 40 years of experience specializing in the areas of utility rates, energy, and regulatory policy. Offers unusual depth and breadth in his understanding of energy and utility industries which leads to creative and effective resolution of rate issues. Has presented expert testimony in regulatory proceedings in more than 300 proceedings before regulatory commissions in 24 jurisdictions, and has served a diverse group of clients on issues encompassing a wide range of energy and utility-related activities. Assists clients in the assessment of competitive energy markets for retail services and in the negotiation of contracts for the purchase of such services. Clients have included commercial and industrial energy users, hospitals and universities, state regulatory commissions, utilities, consumer advocates, municipal governments, federal agencies, and suppliers of equipment and services to utility markets.

1985-            Revalo Hill Associates, Inc.  
Present        President and CEO

Directs the firm's consulting practice, with specialization in the areas of industrial economics, energy, utilities and regulatory policy. Provides expert testimony in regulatory proceedings. Assists individual commercial and institutional customers in the competitive procurement of energy services and resolution of utility service and billing issues. Regulatory work includes participation in electric, gas, water and sewer utility rate and policy matters, with particular specialization in the areas of utility costs of service, rate structure, rate of return, utility planning, and forecasting. Examples of recent projects include:

- Development and presentation of positions regarding the merits of various forms of alternative ratemaking including, but not limited to: multi-year rate plans; performance-based ratemaking concepts; and the merits of proposals for Performance Incentive Mechanisms.
- Assessment of a gas distribution utility's plans for accelerated replacement of aging and leak prone distribution mains by an LDC, as well as the impacts of rising leak rates the utility's gas system safety and rates distribution services.

- Negotiation of settlements to reflect the impacts of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017 in rates for certain electric and gas distribution utilities.
- Investigation of utility merger issues including ring-fencing, costs to achieve, estimated merger benefits, and allocation of merger benefits among customers for electric and gas utility mergers.
- Investigation of gas distribution utility system expansion proposals, tariff changes, and proposed ratemaking treatment of costs for gas expansion activities.
- Examination of utility proposals undergrounding overhead electric distribution facilities and the recovery of costs for undergrounding activities.
- Evaluation of utility proposals for the deployment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and the development of dynamic pricing rates to be implemented using AMI equipment.
- Detailed evaluation of a gas distribution utility's long-range gas supply planning, its evaluation of gas supply alternatives, and the prudence of gas its procurement decisions.
- Investigation of cost of service, rate design, tariff, forecasting and planning issues for island utilities in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam.
- Analysis of utility revenue decoupling proposals including assessment of the cost of service and rate impacts of such proposals and the development of appropriate tariff language for such proposals.
- Investigation of matters relating to a utility's outsourcing of significant components of its Administrative and General and Customer Service activities, including the merits of the proposed outsourcing arrangements and appropriate rate treatment of costs incurred to: select providers of outsourced services; negotiate contracts; and achieve the implementation of outsourcing arrangements.
- Strategic analysis and policy guidance for a major commercial consumer group in the development and presentation of positions before legislative and regulatory bodies regarding electric and gas regulatory issues.



- Development of Asset Management incentive programs for natural gas distribution utilities.
- Investigation and preparation of a report on the causes of large heating oil price increases for the Attorney General of a New England state.
- Participation as a member of a three-person panel hearing a gas marketer complaint of anti-competitive behavior by a local gas distribution utility in its provision of unbundled gas transportation services.
- Preparation of cost allocation studies and rate structure proposals for electric, gas, water and wastewater utility regulatory proceedings;
- Analysis of proposals for restructuring and the unbundling of rates for local gas distribution companies, and negotiated terms, conditions, and pricing for restructured utility services.

2000-  
Present

AOBA Alliance, Inc.  
Director and Chief Economist

Key technical advisor to one of the nation's largest and most successful customer-based energy aggregation programs. Assists non-residential customers in the Washington, D.C. area in the procurement of competitive retail energy services, including the evaluation and negotiation of contract terms for competitive electricity, natural gas, energy information services. Monitors energy markets and keeps participants informed regarding energy market developments and pricing trends. Focused primarily on the commercial building industry, the AOBA Alliance, Inc. serves more than 9,000 electric and natural gas accounts in twelve states and the District of Columbia. Those participants use over 3.0 billion kWh per year and over 660 MW of electrical peak load.

1981-85

Resource Dynamics Corporation  
Principal and Vice President

Responsible for the firm's activities in the areas of energy pricing, utility rates and regulatory policy. Provided expert testimony before utility regulatory commissions on issues relating to costs of service, rate design, load management, load research, fuel price forecasting, utility costing analyses, and cost allocation methods. Evaluated utility fuel procurement practices, fuel price forecasts, and price forecasting methodologies. Contributed to modeling efforts relating to the estimation of national and regional electric utility load curves and coal market prices. Participated in the development handbooks for cogeneration feasibility assessment.



1980-81 Potomac Electric Power Company  
Manager of Rate Research Department

Directed the development of all rate related programs. Supervised the costing, design and analysis of traditional and innovative rates (including time-of-use, load management and cogeneration tariffs). Also was responsible for corporate revenue forecasting activities, as well as the development of marginal and avoided cost studies.

1979-80 Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Rate Experimentation Supervisor

Responsible for design, implementation and analysis of innovative rate programs for both gas and electric service. Developed programs for curtailable service; cogeneration; conservation; residential load cycling; and commercial, industrial, and agricultural time-of-use rates. Directed analyses of time-of-use and lifeline price elasticities and development of marginal and avoided costing methods.

1973-79 ICF Incorporated  
Project Manager

Specialized in energy policy and utility regulatory analyses. Performed detailed analysis of U.S. petroleum, natural gas, coal and electric utility industries. Provided expert testimony on utility rate issues. Designed experimental rates for federally funded time-of-use rate and load management programs in North Carolina. Provided technical support to the DOE Regulatory Intervention Program. Contributed to the design and development of the National Coal Model, and prepared forecasts of low sulfur fuel availability for utility markets.

1972-73 U.S. Cost-of-Living Council - Pay Board  
Labor Economist

Served in the Office of the Chief Economist. Responsible for macroeconomic analyses of Board decisions, and for the development data systems to support assessments of the impacts of Board decisions and the reporting of aggregate statistics on wage increases granted by the Board.

## **EDUCATION**

1972 M.A., Economics, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

1970 B.A., Economics, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

**RATE CASE PARTICIPATION**

**Alberta, Canada**

Canadian Western Natural Gas  
NOVA Gas Transmission Ltd.  
Canadian Western Natural Gas  
Northwestern Utilities  
TransAlta Utilities Corp.  
Alberta Power Ltd.

1998 General Rate Application  
1995 GRA, Phase II  
Core Market Direct Purchase  
Core Market Direct Purchase  
Load Retention Rate Offering  
1993 General Rate Application

**Arizona**

Southwest Gas Corporation  
Sun City Water Company  
Havasu Water Company  
Arizona Water Company

Docket No. U-1551-93-272  
Docket No. U-1656-91-134  
Docket No. U-2013-91-133  
Docket No. U-1445-91-227

**California**

Pacific Gas & Electric Company

Application No. 58089

**Connecticut**

Southern Connecticut Gas Company  
Connecticut Light & Power Company

Docket No. 89-09-06  
Docket No. 87-07-01

**Delaware**

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delaware Electric Cooperative  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delaware Electric Cooperative  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Chesapeake Utilities Corporation  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delaware Electric Cooperative  
Delaware Electric Cooperative  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company

Docket No. 95 - 73  
Docket No. 94 - 141  
Docket No. 94 - 129  
Docket No. 94 - 100  
Docket No. 92 - 85  
Docket No. 92 - 71F  
Docket No. 91 - 37  
Docket No. 91 - 24  
Docket No. 91 - 20  
Docket No. 90 - 31  
Docket No. 90 - 21  
Docket No. 89 - 26  
Docket No. 88 - 39F  
Docket No. 88 - 34  
Docket No. 88 - 32, Phase 2  
Docket No. 88 - 32  
Docket No. 87 - 34, Phase 2  
Docket No. 87 - 34  
Docket No. 87 - 9, Phase 5  
Docket No. 87 - 9, Phase 4

**RESUME OF  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company  
Delmarva Power & Light Company

Docket No. 87 - 9, Phase 3  
Docket No. 87 - 9, Phase 2  
Docket No. 87 - 9  
Docket No. 86 - 43  
Docket No. 86 - 24

**District of Columbia**

Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
WGL – AltaGas Merger  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Exelon – Pepco Merger  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power/Conectiv Merger  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company/Baltimore  
Gas & Electric Company Merger  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
District of Columbia Natural Gas  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
District of Columbia Natural Gas  
District of Columbia Natural Gas  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company

Formal Case No. 1151  
Formal Case No. 1150  
Formal Case No. 1145  
Formal Case No. 1142  
Formal Case No. 1139  
Formal Case No. 1137  
Formal Case No. 1133  
Formal Case No. 1130  
Formal Case No. 1121  
Formal Case No. 1119  
Formal Case No. 1116  
Formal Case No. 1115  
Formal Case No. 1103  
Formal Case No. 1093  
Formal Case No. 1087  
Formal Case No. 1079  
Formal Case No. 1076  
Formal Case No. 1056  
Formal Case No. 1054  
Formal Case No. 1053, Phase II  
Formal Case No. 1053  
Formal Case No. 1016  
Formal Case No. 1002  
Formal Case No. 989  
  
Formal Case No. 951  
Formal Case No. 945  
Formal Case No. 939  
Formal Case No. 934  
Formal Case No. 922  
Formal Case No. 890  
Formal Case No. 889  
Formal Case No. 869  
Formal Case No. 845  
Formal Case No. 840  
Formal Case No. 834  
Formal Case No. 813, Phase II  
Formal Case No. 813  
Formal Case No. 787



**RESUME OF  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

**Attachment A  
Page 7 of 17**

Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company

Formal Case No. 785  
Formal Case No. 759, Phases III  
Formal Case No. 759, Phases II  
Formal Case No. 759, Phases I  
Formal Case No. 758

**Guam**

Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority  
Guam Power Authority

Docket No. 11-090, Phase II  
Docket No. 11-090  
Docket No. 07-010  
Docket No. 98-002  
Docket No. 96-004  
Docket No. 95-001  
Docket No. 94-001  
Docket No. 92-002  
Docket No. 89-002 A,B,C

**Illinois**

Commonwealth Edison Company

Docket No. 86-0128

**Maryland**

Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
WGL – AltaGas Merger  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Exelon – Pepco Merger  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Washington Gas Light Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Potomac Electric Power Company  
Standard Offer Service Docket  
Standard Offer Service Docket  
Standard Offer Service Docket

Case No. 9605  
Case No. 9602  
Case No. 9481  
Case No. 9449  
Case No. 9443  
Case No. 9433  
Case No. 9418  
Case No. 9361  
Case No. 9336  
Case No. 9335  
Case No. 9322  
Case No. 9311  
Case No. 9286  
Case No. 9267  
Case No. 9217  
Case No. 9207  
Case No. 9158  
Case No. 9104, Phase II  
Case No. 9104  
Case No. 9092, Phase II  
Case No. 9092  
Case No. 9063  
Case No. 9056  
Case No. 9037

**RESUME OF  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8895
Washington Gas Light Company	Case No. 8991
Washington Gas Light Company	Case No. 8959
Washington Gas Light Company	Case No. 8920, Phase II
Washington Gas Light Company	Case No. 8920
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8895
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8890
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8791
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8773
Generic Electric Industry Restructuring	Case No. 8738
Potomac Electric Power Company/Baltimore Gas & Electric Company Merger	Case No. 8725
Washington Gas Light Company	Case No. 8545
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8315
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8251
Maryland Natural Gas	Case No. 8191
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8162
Maryland Natural Gas	Case No. 8119
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 8079
Baltimore Gas & Electric Company	Case No. 8070
Maryland Natural Gas	Case No. 8060
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 7972
Potomac Electric Power Company	Case No. 7874
Washington Gas Light Company	Case No. 7649
<b>Massachusetts</b>	
Investigation of Rate Structures to Promote Efficient Deployment of Demand Management	Docket No. 07-50
<b>North Carolina</b>	
Generic Electric Load Management	Docket No. M100, Sub 78
<b>New Jersey</b>	
Public Service Electric and Gas	Docket No. GT93060242
Public Service Electric and Gas	Docket No. ER91111698J
Elizabethtown Gas Company	Docket No. 8812-1231
Elizabethtown Gas Company	Docket No. 8612-1374
Public Service Electric and Gas	Docket No. 8512-1163
Jersey Central Power & Light	Docket No. 8511-1116
New Jersey Natural Gas Company	Docket No. 8510-974
South Jersey Gas Company	Docket No. 850-8858
Public Service Electric and Gas	Docket No. 850-2231
New Jersey Natural Gas Company	Docket No. 850-7732
South Jersey Gas Company	Docket No. 843-184, Phase II
Atlantic Electric Company	Docket No. 8310-883, Phase II
New Jersey Natural Gas Company	Docket No. 831-46



**RESUME OF  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

**Attachment A  
Page 9 of 17**

Public Service Electric and Gas  
Public Service Electric and Gas

Docket No. 837-620  
Docket No. 8210-869

**New Mexico**

Gas Company of New Mexico  
Gas Company of New Mexico  
Gas Company of New Mexico  
Gas Company of New Mexico  
Gas Company of New Mexico  
Gas Company of New Mexico  
Gas Company of New Mexico

Case No. 2353  
Case No. 2340  
Case No. 2307  
Case No. 2183  
Case No. 2147 (Remand)  
Case No. 2147  
Case No. 2093

**New York**

Consolidated Edison Company  
Consolidated Edison Company  
Brooklyn Union Gas Company

Docket No. 94-E-0334  
Docket No. 91-E-0462  
Docket No. 90-G-0981

**Ohio**

Toledo Edison Company

Case No. 78-628-EL-FAC

**Pennsylvania**

PECO Energy Company  
PG Energy, Inc.  
Philadelphia Electric Company  
Mechanicsburg Water Company  
West Penn Power Company  
Pennsylvania Electric Company  
North Penn Gas Company  
Metropolitan Edison Company  
York Water Company  
Dauphin Consolidated Water Company  
Pennsylvania Electric Company  
Duquesne Light Company  
Pennsylvania American Water Company  
West Penn Power Company  
Pennsylvania Gas & Water Co. Water Div.  
Pennsylvania Power Company  
Duquesne Light Company  
Pennsylvania Electric Company  
Metropolitan Edison Company  
Western Pennsylvania Water Company  
Duquesne Light Company  
Philadelphia Electric Company  
Pennsylvania Power Company  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company  
Philadelphia Electric Company

Docket No. R-20028394  
Docket No. R-00061365  
Docket No. R-00970258  
Docket No. R-00922502  
Docket No. R-00922378  
Docket No. M-920312  
Docket No. R-922276  
Docket No. R-922314  
Docket No. R-922168  
Docket No. R-921000  
Docket No. M-920312  
Docket No. C-913424  
Docket No. R-911909  
Docket No. R-901609  
Docket No. R-891209  
Docket No. R-881112  
Docket No. R-870651  
Docket No. R-870172  
Docket No. R-870171  
Docket No. R-860397  
Docket No. R-860378  
Docket No. R-850290  
Docket No. R-850267  
Docket No. R-850251  
Docket No. R-850152

**RESUME OF  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

**Attachment A  
Page 10 of 17**

Western Pennsylvania Water Company  
Pennsylvania Power Company  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company  
Pennsylvania Electric Company  
Metropolitan Edison Company  
Duquesne Light Company  
UGI Corporation-Gas Utility Division  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company  
Pennsylvania Electric Company  
Metropolitan Edison Company  
Pennsylvania Power & Light Company  
Pennsylvania Gas & Water Co. - Water Div.  
Columbia Gas Co. of Pennsylvania  
Pennsylvania Gas & Water Co. - Gas Div.  
Philadelphia Electric Company

Docket No. R-850096  
Docket No. R-842740  
Docket No. R-842651  
Docket No. R-832550  
Docket No. R-832549  
Docket No. R-842383  
Docket No. R-832331  
Docket No. I-830374  
Docket No. R-822250  
Docket No. R-822249  
Docket No. R-822169  
Docket No. R-822102  
Docket No. R-822042  
Docket No. R-821961  
Docket No. R-811626

**Philadelphia, City of**

Philadelphia Gas Works  
Philadelphia Water Department  
Philadelphia Gas Works  
Philadelphia Water Department  
Philadelphia Gas Works  
Philadelphia Gas Works  
Philadelphia Gas Works  
Philadelphia Gas Works  
Philadelphia Water Department

1992 Rate Design Proceeding  
1992 Rate Increase Request  
1990 Rate Increase Request  
1990 Rate Increase Request  
1989 Proceeding  
1988 Rate Increase Request  
1987-88 Operating Budget  
1986 Rate Increase Request  
1985 Rate Increase Request

**Rhode Island – Public Utilities Commission**

National Grid – Gas Long-Range Plan  
National Grid – Gas GCR  
National Grid – Gas DAC  
National Grid – Gas Annual ISR Filing  
National Grid – Gas Base Rates  
National Grid – Gas GCR  
National Grid – Gas DAC  
National Grid – Gas GCR  
National Grid – Gas DAC  
National Grid – Gas Long-Range Plan  
National Grid – Gas GCR  
National Grid – Gas DAC  
National Grid – Gas Customer Choice  
National Grid – Gas GCR  
National Grid – Gas DAC  
National Grid – Gas GCR

Docket No. 4872  
Docket No. 4846  
Docket No. 4816  
Docket No. 4781  
Docket No. 4770  
Docket No. 4719  
Docket No. 4708  
Docket No. 4647  
Docket No. 4634  
Docket No. 4608  
Docket No. 4576  
Docket No. 4573  
Docket No. 4523  
Docket No. 4520  
Docket No. 4514  
Docket No. 4436

**RESUME OF  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

**Attachment A  
Page 11 of 17**

National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 4431
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 4346
National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 4339
National Grid – Gas On-System Margins	Docket No. 4333
National Grid – Gas Base Rates	Docket No. 4323
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 4283
National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 4269
National Grid – Electric Backup Service	Docket No. 4232
National Grid – Elec & Gas Revenue Decoupling	Docket No. 4206
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 4199
National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 4196
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 4097
National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 4077
National Grid – Electric	Docket No. 4065
National Grid – Gas Portfolio Management	Docket No. 4038
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 3982
National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 3977
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 3961
National Grid – Gas Base Rates	Docket No. 3943
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 3868
National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 3859
National Grid – Gas Long-Range Plan	Docket No. 3789
National Grid – Gas GCR	Docket No. 3766
National Grid – Gas DAC	Docket No. 3760
New England Gas Company	Docket No. 3696
New England Gas Company	Docket No. 3690
Block Island Power Company	Docket No. 3655
New England Gas Company	Docket No. 3548
New England Gas Company	Docket No. 3459
New England Gas Company	Docket No. 3436
New England Gas Company	Docket No. 3401
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 3295
Narragansett Electric Company	Docket No. 2930
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2902
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2581
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2552
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2374
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2286
Valley Gas Company	Docket No. 2276
Valley Gas Company	Docket No. 2138, Phase II
Valley Gas Company	Docket No. 2138, Phase I
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2082
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2076
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2001, Phase II
Valley Gas Company	Docket No. 2038
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 2001



**RESUME OF  
BRUCE R. OLIVER**

**Attachment A  
Page 12 of 17**

Block Island Power Company	Docket No. 1998
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 1971
Generic Gas Transportation	Docket No. 1951
Valley Gas Company	Docket No. 1736
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 1723
Providence Gas Company	Docket No. 1673

**Rhode Island – Division of Public Utilities**

National Grid Acquisition of New England Gas Company's Rhode Island Assets	Docket No. D-06-13
Merger of Southern Union, Valley Gas Company And Bristol & Warren Gas Company	Docket No. D-00-02

**South Dakota**

Northern States Power Company	Docket No. F-3188
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**Vermont**

Department of Public Service	Docket No. 5378
Department of Public Service	Docket No. 5307

**Virginia**

Washington Gas Light Company	Docket No. PUR 2018-00080
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2018-00042
AltaGas – WGL Merger	Docket No. PUR 2017-00049
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2016-00021
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2016-00001
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2015-00027
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2011-00027
Washington Gas Light Company	Docket No. PUE 2010-00139
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2009-00019
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2009-00018
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2009-00017
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2009-00016
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 2009-00011
Washington Gas Light Company	Docket No. PUE 2006-00059
Washington Gas Light Company	Docket No. PUE 2005-00010
Washington Gas Light Company	Docket No. PUE 2003-00603
Washington Gas Light Company	Docket No. PUE 2002-00364
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 000584
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 980213
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 980212
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 960296
Washington Gas Light Company	Docket No. PUE 940031
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 920041
Virginia Electric Power Company	Docket No. PUE 910047
Northern Virginia Natural Gas	Docket No. PUE 900016

Northern Virginia Natural Gas  
Virginia Electric Power Company  
Washington Gas Light Company

Docket No. PUE 880024  
Docket No. PUE 830029  
Docket No. PUE 830008

**Virgin Islands**

Water and Power Authority – Water Rates  
Water and Power Authority – Electric Rates  
Water and Power Authority – Water Rates  
Water and Power Authority – Electric Rates  
Water and Power Authority – Electric Rates

Docket No. 613  
Docket No. 612  
Docket No. 576  
Docket No. 575  
Docket No. 533

**Wisconsin**

Gas Transportation - Generic

Docket No. 05-GI-102

**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

Weaver's Cove Energy, LLC.  
Mill River Pipeline, LLC.  
Columbia Gulf Transmission Co.  
Columbia Gas Transmission Corp.  
Columbia Gulf Transmission Co.

Docket No. CP04-36-000  
Docket No. CP04-41-000  
Docket No. RP86-167-000  
Docket No. RP86-168-000  
Docket No. TC86-021-000

**SELECTED REPORTS, PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

"Will Energy Market Developments Drive Government Policy or Will Government Policy Drive Energy Markets," Presentation to AOBA Utility Committee, June 27, 2013.

"Ratemaking for Recovery of Pipeline Safety Investments," Presentation to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, February 6, 2013.

"In Comparatively Stable Energy Markets, Legislative and Regulatory Decisions Make Budgeting for Energy Services A Real Challenge," Presentation to AOBA Utility Committee, October 19, 2011.

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## Dominion Energy Utah

Docket No. 19-057-02

### Current 30-Year U.S. Treasury Yields - September 2019

<u>Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Yield</u>
Sep	1 Sunday	
Sep	2 Monday	
Sep	3 Tuesday	1.95%
Sep	4 Wednesday	1.97%
Sep	5 Thursday	2.06%
Sep	6 Friday	2.02%
Sep	7 Saturday	
Sep	8 Sunday	
Sep	9 Monday	2.11%
Sep	10 Tuesday	2.19%
Sep	11 Wednesday	2.22%
Sep	12 Thursday	2.22%
Sep	13 Friday	2.37%
Sep	14 Saturday	
Sep	15 Sunday	
Sep	16 Monday	2.31%
Sep	17 Tuesday	2.27%
Sep	18 Wednesday	2.25%
Sep	19 Thursday	2.22%
Sep	20 Friday	2.17%
Sep	21 Saturday	
Sep	22 Sunday	
Sep	23 Monday	2.16%
Sep	24 Tuesday	2.09%
Sep	25 Wednesday	2.18%
Sep	26 Thursday	2.15%
Sep	27 Friday	2.13%
Sep	28 Saturday	
Sep	29 Sunday	
Sep	30 Monday	2.12%
<b>Average</b>		<b>2.16%</b>

**Source:**

<https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/data-chart-center/interest-rates/pages/TextView.aspx?data=yieldYear&year=2019>



**Dominion Energy Utah**

Utah PSC Docket No. 19-057-02

**Development of Regulators' Adjustment Factor - Gas Utility Rate Cases**

Ln	Jurisdiction	Utility	Gas/Electric	Docket No.	Date	Proposed ROE	Approved ROE	Difference
1	Arizona	Southwest Gas Corp	Gas	G-01551A-16-0107	May-16	10.25%	9.40%	0.85%
2	Arkansas	Oklahoma Gas & Electric Co	Gas & Electric	16-052-U	Sep-16	10.25%	9.50%	0.75%
3	Colorado	Atmos Energy Corp	Gas	17AL-0429G	Jun-17	10.50%	9.45%	1.05%
4	Delaware	Delmarva	Gas	17-0978	Aug-17	10.10%	9.70%	0.40%
5	Delaware	Delmarva	Gas	16-650	May-16	10.60%	9.70%	0.90%
6	Dist of Columbia	Washington Gas Light Company	Gas	FC 1137	Feb-16	10.25%	9.25%	1.00%
7	Illinois	Ameren Illinois Co.	Gas	18-0463	Jan-18	10.30%	9.87%	0.43%
8	Kansas	Kansas City Power & Light	Gas & Electric	15-KCPE-116-RTS	Jan-15	10.30%	9.30%	1.00%
9	Maine	Northern Utilities	Gas	2017-00065	May-17	10.30%	9.50%	0.80%
10	Maryland	Washington Gas Light Company	Gas	Case No. 9605	Apr-19	10.40%	9.70%	0.70%
11	Maryland	Washington Gas Light Company	Gas	Case No. 9481	May-18	10.30%	9.70%	0.60%
12	Massachusetts	Boston Gas, Colonial Gas	Gas	DPU 17-170	Nov-17	10.50%	9.50%	1.00%
13	Nevada	Southwestern Gas Corp	Gas	18-05031	May-18	10.30%	9.25%	1.05%
14	New Hampshire	Northern Utilities	Gas	DG 17-070	Jun-17	10.30%	9.50%	0.80%
15	New Hampshire	Energy/North Natural Gas	Gas	DG 17-048	Apr-17	10.30%	9.30%	1.00%
16	New Jersey	Elizabethtown Gas	Gas	GR16090826	Aug-16	10.25%	9.60%	0.65%
17	North Carolina	Piedmont Natural Gas Co, Inc.	Gas	G-9, Sub 743	Apr-19	10.60%	9.70%	0.90%
18	North Carolina	Public Service Company of NC	Gas1/	G-5, Sub 565	Mar-16	10.60%	9.70%	0.90%
19	Oklahoma	CenterPoint Energy - Oklahoma Gas	Gas	PUD201600094	Mar-16	10.30%	10.00%	0.30%
20	Rhode Island	National Grid	Gas2/	4770	Nov-17	10.10%	9.25%	0.85%
21	Texas	CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas	Gas	GUD 10669	Nov-17	10.30%	9.80%	0.50%
22	Texas	CenterPoint Energy Texas Gas	Gas	GUD 10567	Dec-16	10.25%	9.60%	0.65%
23	Virginia	Virginia Natural Gas, Inc.	Gas	PUЕ-2016-00143	Mar-17	10.25%	9.50%	0.75%
24	Virginia	Washington Gas Light Company	Gas	PUЕ-2016-00001	Jun-16 Settled	- ROE Not Specified		
25	<b>Average</b>					<b>10.33%</b>	<b>9.52%</b>	<b>0.78%</b>

1/ **ROE determined through pending settlement.**

2/ Case involved both gas and electric service, however a separate ROE was established by settlement for National Grid's gas service.

**Dominion Energy Utah**  
Utah PSC Docket No. 19-057-02

**Correction of Hevert DCF Analysis (Excludes Value Line Estimates)**

Constant Growth Discounted Cash Flow Model  
30 Day Average Stock Price

Company	Ticker	[1] Annualized Dividend	[2] Average Stock Price	[3] Dividend Yield	[4] Expected Dividend Yield	[5] Zacks Earnings Growth	[6] First Call Earnings Growth	[9] Average Earnings Growth	[10] Low ROE	[11] Mean ROE	[12] High ROE
Atmos Energy Corporation	ATO	\$2.10	\$101.11	2.08%	2.14%	6.50%	6.45%	6.48%	8.59%	8.62%	8.64%
Chesapeake Utilities Corporation	CPK	\$1.62	\$92.44	1.75%	1.81%	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%	7.81%	7.81%	7.81%
New Jersey Resources Corporation	NJR	\$1.17	\$49.40	2.37%	2.45%	7.00%	6.00%	6.50%	8.44%	8.95%	9.45%
Northwest Natural Holding Company	NWN	\$1.90	\$66.82	2.84%	2.90%	4.50%	4.00%	4.25%	6.90%	7.15%	7.41%
ONE Gas, Inc.	OGS	\$2.00	\$87.48	2.29%	2.35%	5.90%	5.00%	5.45%	7.34%	7.80%	8.25%
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	SJI	\$1.15	\$31.97	3.60%	3.72%	7.20%	5.90%	6.55%	9.60%	10.27%	10.93%
Spire Inc.	SR	\$2.37	\$83.36	2.84%	2.89%	3.80%	2.82%	3.31%	5.70%	6.20%	6.70%
Southwest Gas Corporation	SWX	\$2.18	\$82.86	2.63%	2.71%	6.20%	6.30%	6.25%	8.91%	8.96%	9.01%
Proxy Group Mean				2.55%	2.62%	5.89%	5.31%	5.60%	7.91%	8.22%	8.52%
Proxy Group Median				2.50%	2.58%	6.10%	5.95%	6.13%	8.12%	8.21%	8.45%

Notes:

- [1] Source: Bloomberg Professional
- [2] Source: Bloomberg Professional, equals indicated number of trading day average as of May 17, 2019
- [3] Equals [1] / [2]
- [4] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x [9])
- [5] Source: Zacks
- [6] Source: Yahoo! Finance
- [7] Source: Value Line
- [8] Source: Schedule RBH-2, Value Line
- [9] Equals Average([5], [6], [7], [8])
- [10] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x Minimum([5], [6], [7], [8])) + Minimum([5], [6], [7], [8])
- [11] Equals [4] + [9]
- [12] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x Maximum([5], [6], [7], [8])) + Maximum([5], [6], [7], [8])

## Dominion Energy Utah

Utah PSC Docket No. 19-057-02

### Correction of Hevert DCF Analysis (Excludes Value Line Estimates)

Company	Ticker	Constant Growth Discounted Cash Flow Model 90 Day Average Stock Price									Low ROE	Mean ROE	High ROE
		[1] Annualized Dividend	[2] Average Stock Price	[3] Dividend Yield	[4] Expected Dividend Yield	[5] Zacks Earnings Growth	[6] First Call Earnings Growth	[9] Average Earnings Growth					
Atmos Energy Corporation	ATO	\$2.10	\$99.20	2.12%	2.19%	6.50%	6.45%	6.48%	8.64%	8.66%	8.69%		
Chesapeake Utilities Corporation	CPK	\$1.62	\$90.61	1.79%	1.84%	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%	7.84%	7.84%	7.84%		
New Jersey Resources Corporation	NJR	\$1.17	\$48.43	2.42%	2.49%	7.00%	6.00%	6.50%	8.49%	8.99%	9.50%		
Northwest Natural Holding Company	NWNN	\$1.90	\$64.40	2.95%	3.01%	4.50%	4.00%	4.25%	7.01%	7.26%	7.52%		
ONE Gas, Inc.	OGS	\$2.00	\$85.70	2.33%	2.40%	5.90%	5.00%	5.45%	7.39%	7.85%	8.30%		
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	SJI	\$1.15	\$31.06	3.70%	3.82%	7.20%	5.90%	6.55%	9.71%	10.37%	11.04%		
Spire Inc.	SR	\$2.37	\$80.20	2.96%	3.00%	3.80%	2.82%	3.31%	5.82%	6.31%	6.81%		
Southwest Gas Corporation	SWX	\$2.18	\$81.30	2.68%	2.77%	6.20%	6.30%	6.25%	8.96%	9.02%	9.07%		
Proxy Group Mean				2.62%	2.69%	5.89%	5.31%	5.60%	7.98%	8.29%	8.60%		
Proxy Group Median				2.55%	2.63%	6.10%	5.95%	6.13%	8.17%	8.25%	8.49%		

Notes:

- [1] Source: Bloomberg Professional  
 [2] Source: Bloomberg Professional, equals indicated number of trading day average as of May 17, 2019  
 [3] Equals [1] / [2]  
 [4] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x [9])  
 [5] Source: Zacks  
 [6] Source: Yahoo! Finance  
 [7] Source: Value Line  
 [8] Source: Schedule RBH-2, Value Line  
 [9] Equals Average([5], [6], [7], [8])  
 [10] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x Minimum([5], [6], [7], [8])) + Minimum([5], [6], [7], [8])  
 [11] Equals [4] + [9]  
 [12] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x Maximum([5], [6], [7], [8])) + Maximum([5], [6], [7], [8])



**Dominion Energy Utah**  
Utah PSC Docket No. 19-057-02

**Correction of Hevert DCF Analysis (Excludes Value Line Estimates)**

Company	Ticker	Constant Growth Discounted Cash Flow Model									
		180 Day Average Stock Price									
		[1] Annualized Dividend	[2] Average Stock Price	[3] Dividend Yield	[4] Expected Dividend Yield	[5] Zacks Earnings Growth	[6] First Call Earnings Growth	[9] Average Earnings Growth	[10] Low ROE	[11] Mean ROE	[12] High ROE
Atmos Energy Corporation	ATO	\$2.10	\$97.00	2.16%	2.23%	6.50%	6.45%	6.48%	8.68%	8.71%	8.74%
Chesapeake Utilities Corporation	CPK	\$1.62	\$87.42	1.85%	1.91%	6.00%	6.00%	6.00%	7.91%	7.91%	7.91%
New Jersey Resources Corporation	NJR	\$1.17	\$47.63	2.46%	2.54%	7.00%	6.00%	6.50%	8.53%	9.04%	9.54%
Northwest Natural Gas Company	NWN	\$1.90	\$65.43	2.90%	2.97%	4.50%	4.00%	4.25%	6.96%	7.22%	7.47%
ONE Gas, Inc.	OGS	\$2.00	\$83.74	2.39%	2.45%	5.90%	5.00%	5.45%	7.45%	7.90%	8.36%
South Jersey Industries, Inc.	SJI	\$1.15	\$31.60	3.64%	3.76%	7.20%	5.90%	6.55%	9.65%	10.31%	10.97%
Spire Inc.	SR	\$2.37	\$77.74	3.05%	3.10%	3.80%	2.82%	3.31%	5.91%	6.41%	6.91%
Southwest Gas Corporation	SWX	\$2.18	\$80.58	2.71%	2.79%	6.20%	6.30%	6.25%	8.99%	9.04%	9.09%
Proxy Group Mean				2.65%	2.72%	5.89%	5.31%	5.60%	8.01%	8.32%	8.62%
Proxy Group Median				2.58%	2.66%	6.10%	5.95%	6.13%	8.22%	8.31%	8.55%

Notes:

- [1] Source: Bloomberg Professional
- [2] Source: Bloomberg Professional, equals indicated number of trading day average as of May 17, 2019
- [3] Equals [1] / [2]
- [4] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x [9])
- [5] Source: Zacks
- [6] Source: Yahoo! Finance
- [7] Source: Value Line
- [8] Source: Schedule RBH-2, Value Line
- [9] Equals Average([5], [6], [7], [8])
- [10] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x Minimum([5], [6], [7], [8])) + Minimum([5], [6], [7], [8])
- [11] Equals [4] + [9]
- [12] Equals [3] x (1 + 0.5 x Maximum([5], [6], [7], [8])) + Maximum([5], [6], [7], [8])



**Dominion Energy Utah**

Case No. 19-057-02

**ANGC Cost of Equity - Proxy Group Analyses**

<b>DCF Analysis</b>						
Ln No	Source of Earnings Growth Estimates	Average Dividend Yield	Dividend Growth Component	Adjusted Dividend Yield	Earnings Growth Rate	Indicated Rate of Return
1	Zacks	2.63%	0.16%	2.79%	6.02%	8.81%
2	CNN	2.63%	0.15%	2.78%	5.81%	8.59%
3	Yahoo	2.63%	0.14%	2.77%	5.23%	7.99%
4	Average of DCF Result					8.46%
5	Average Proxy Group DCF Result Adjusted to Reflect Distribution Utility Risk (i.e., Avg less 20 basis points)					8.26%

<b>CAPM and ECAPM Analysis</b>				
		30-Year US Treasury Bond Yields (Risk Free Rate Assumptions)		
		Current	Near-Term	Average
6	Assumed Risk Free Rate	2.16% <sup>1/</sup>	2.45% <sup>2/</sup>	
7	Bloomberg DCF Derived Ex-Ante Market Risk Premium	11.26%	11.26%	
8	Bloomberg Proxy Group Average Beta Coefficient	0.573	0.573	
10	CAPM Results	8.61%	8.90%	8.76%
11	ECAPM Results	9.81%	9.86%	9.84%
12	Average of CAPM and ECAPM Results			9.30%
13	Average of CAPM and ECAPM Results Adj to Dist Utility Risk			9.10%

<b>Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium Analysis</b>				
		Risk-Free Rate	10-Yr Est Risk Premium	Required ROE
14	Current US Treasury Bond Yield	2.16%	7.49%	9.65%
15	Near-Term Projected US Treasury Bond Yield	2.45%	7.45%	9.90%

16	Average Unadjusted Results (Avg lines 4, 12, and 15)			9.18%
17	Average Adjusted Results (Avg lines 5, 13, and 15)	<sup>3/</sup>		9.00%

**Estimated ROE Range of Reasonableness**

18	High	9.50%
19	Low	8.50%
20	Mid-Point	9.00%

1/ Based on daily average yield for the month of September 2019 as reported on [Treasury Bonds.gov](http://TreasuryBonds.gov).

2/ Reflects the July 1, 2019 Blue Chip Near-Term Financial Forecast - Average (Q3:2019 through Q4:2020) adjusted to reflect Federal Reserve September 2019 25 basis point interest rate cut.

3/ Rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent.

**Dominion Energy Utah**

Case No. 19-057-02

**Dividend Yields, Earnings Growth, and Indicated ROE for Proxy Group Companies**

Ln	Company	Ticker	Market Price Per Share <sup>1</sup>			Indicated Dividend Per Share <sup>1</sup>	Dividend Yield	Projected 5-Year Earnings Growth			Dividend Growth Component	Adjusted Dividend Yield	Average Earnings Growth Rate	Indicated Rate of Return	Low Mean High		
			High	Low	Average			Zacks <sup>2</sup>	CNN <sup>3</sup>	Yahoo <sup>4</sup>					Low	Mean	High
1	Atmos Energy Corp.	ATO	\$ 111.58	\$ 87.88	\$ 99.73	\$ 2.10	2.11%	6.67%	6.50%	6.50%	0.14%	2.24%	6.56%	8.80%	8.74%	8.80%	8.92%
2	Chesapeake Utilities Corp	CPK	\$ 96.27	\$ 77.20	\$ 86.74	\$ 1.62	1.87%	7.00%	7.50%	6.00%	0.13%	2.00%	6.83%	8.83%	7.98%	8.83%	9.51%
3	New Jersey Resources Corf	NJR	\$ 51.83	\$ 43.51	\$ 47.67	\$ 1.17	2.45%	7.00%	6.00%	6.00%	0.16%	2.61%	6.33%	8.94%	8.50%	8.94%	9.63%
4	Northwest Natural Gas Co.	NWN	\$ 73.50	\$ 57.20	\$ 65.35	\$ 1.90	2.91%	4.50%	4.00%	4.00%	0.12%	3.03%	4.17%	7.20%	7.02%	7.20%	7.54%
5	ONE Gas, Inc.	OGS	\$ 93.04	\$ 75.51	\$ 84.28	\$ 2.00	2.37%	5.85%	5.50%	5.00%	0.13%	2.50%	5.45%	7.95%	7.49%	7.95%	8.36%
6	South Jersey Industries, Inc.	SJI	\$ 36.72	\$ 26.06	\$ 31.39	\$ 1.15	3.66%	6.57%	6.57%	5.50%	0.23%	3.89%	6.21%	10.10%	9.37%	10.10%	10.47%
7	Southwest Gas Corp.	SWX	\$ 92.01	\$ 72.68	\$ 82.35	\$ 2.18	2.65%	6.17%	6.00%	6.10%	0.16%	2.81%	6.09%	8.90%	8.81%	8.90%	8.98%
8	Spire Inc.	SR	\$ 87.13	\$ 70.53	\$ 78.83	\$ 2.37	3.01%	4.41%	4.40%	2.71%	0.12%	3.12%	3.84%	6.96%	5.80%	6.96%	7.55%
9	NISource	NI	\$ 30.34	\$ 24.19	\$ 27.27	\$ 0.80	2.93%	5.39%	5.57%	4.66%	0.15%	3.09%	5.21%	8.28%	7.73%	8.29%	8.67%
10	<b>Proxy Group - Mean</b>		<b>\$ 80.26</b>	<b>\$ 63.82</b>	<b>\$ 72.04</b>	<b>\$ 1.81</b>	<b>2.63%</b>	<b>6.02%</b>	<b>5.81%</b>	<b>5.23%</b>	<b>0.15%</b>	<b>2.78%</b>	<b>5.69%</b>	<b>8.46%</b>	<b>7.98%</b>	<b>8.46%</b>	<b>8.87%</b>
11	<b>Proxy Group + NISource - Mean</b>		<b>\$ 74.71</b>	<b>\$ 59.42</b>	<b>\$ 67.07</b>	<b>\$ 1.70</b>	<b>2.73%</b>	<b>5.95%</b>	<b>5.78%</b>	<b>5.16%</b>	<b>0.15%</b>	<b>2.89%</b>	<b>5.63%</b>	<b>8.44%</b>	<b>7.85%</b>	<b>8.44%</b>	<b>8.84%</b>
12	<b>Proxy Group - Median</b>		<b>\$ 89.57</b>	<b>\$ 71.61</b>	<b>\$ 80.59</b>	<b>\$ 1.95</b>	<b>2.55%</b>	<b>6.37%</b>	<b>6.00%</b>	<b>5.75%</b>	<b>0.16%</b>	<b>2.71%</b>	<b>6.15%</b>	<b>8.81%</b>	<b>8.29%</b>	<b>8.81%</b>	<b>8.95%</b>
13	<b>Proxy Group + NISource - Median</b>		<b>\$ 87.13</b>	<b>\$ 70.53</b>	<b>\$ 78.83</b>	<b>\$ 1.90</b>	<b>2.65%</b>	<b>6.17%</b>	<b>6.00%</b>	<b>5.50%</b>	<b>0.16%</b>	<b>2.81%</b>	<b>6.09%</b>	<b>8.80%</b>	<b>7.98%</b>	<b>8.80%</b>	<b>8.92%</b>

**Sources:**

- <sup>1</sup> From www.Zacks.com 9-3-19
- <sup>2</sup> From www.Zacks.com 9-3-19
- <sup>3</sup> From www.cnn.com 9-3-19
- <sup>4</sup> From www.finance.yahoo.com 9-3-19

# Dominion Energy Utah

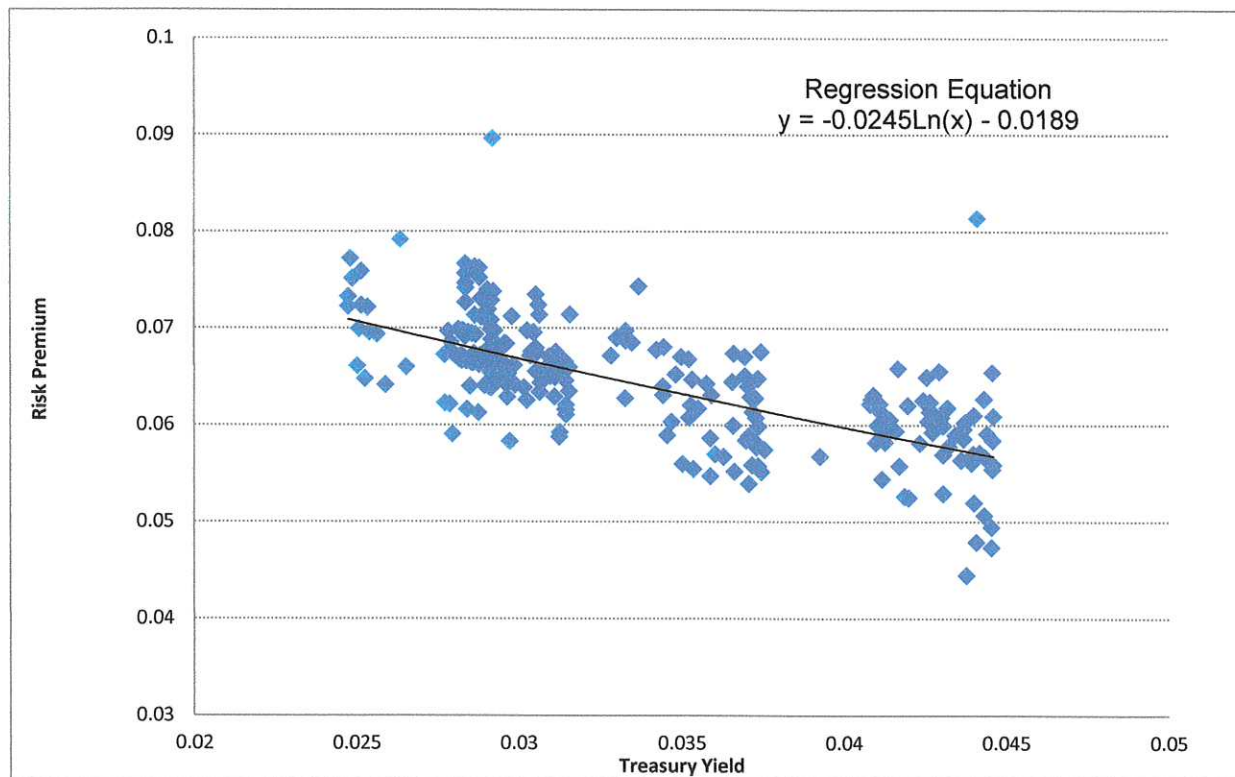
Case No. 19-057-02

## Bond Yield Plus Risk Premium Analysis

### 10-Year Risk Premium Regression

Slope	-0.024471
Intercept	-0.018907
R-Square	0.4679188

	30-Year Treasury Yield	Risk Premium	Return on Equity
Current 30-Year Treasury Bond Yield	2.16%	7.49%	9.65%
Near-Term Projected 30-Year Treasury Bond Yield	2.20%	7.45%	9.65%



**Notes:**

Current 30-Year US Treasury Yield based on average daily yield for Sep 2019. See Exhibit ANGC 1.01.

Near Term Projected 30-Year Treasury based on average yield projected in July 1, 2018 Blue Chip Financial Forecast for six forward looking quarters (i.e., Q3:2019 through Q4:2020) less an adjustment of 25 basis points for the Federal Reserve September 2019 interest rate cut.

**Dominion Energy Utah**

Docket No. 19-057-02

**Analysis of Revenue Impacts of Alternative Capital Structures and ROEs**

<b>ROE and Capital Structure as Proposed by DEU</b>					
	Cost Rate	% of Total Capital	Weighted Cost	Inc. Tax Gross-Up Factor	Pre-Tax Weighted Cost of Capital
Common Equity	10.50%	55.0%	5.78%	1.328905	7.67%
Long-Term Debt	4.37%	45.0%	1.97%	1.0000	1.97%
<b>Total</b>			<b>7.74%</b>		<b>9.64%</b>
Rate Base					\$ 1,816,213,951
Required Pre-Tax Return on Rate Base					\$ 175,099,846
DEU Requested Revenue Increase					\$ 19,249,740

*Scenario 1*

<b>ANGC Recommended ROE and DEU Capital Structure Proposal</b>					
	Cost Rate	% of Total Capital	Weighted Cost	Inc. Tax Gross-Up Factor	Pre-Tax Weighted Cost of Capital
Common Equity	9.10%	55.0%	5.01%	1.328905	6.65%
Long-Term Debt	4.37%	45.0%	1.97%	1.0000	1.97%
<b>Total</b>			<b>6.97%</b>		<b>8.62%</b>
Rate Base					\$ 1,816,213,951
Required Pre-Tax Return on Rate Base					\$ 156,515,313
Change in Required Dollars for Return					\$ (18,584,533)
DEU Requested Revenue Increase					\$ 19,249,740
Increase after ANGC Adjustment to DEU's Proposed ROE					\$ 665,206



**Dominion Energy Utah**

Docket No. 19-057-02

**Analysis of Revenue Impacts of Alternative Capital Structures and ROEs***Scenario 2*

<b>DEU Proposed ROE and ANGC Recommended Capital Structure</b>					
	<b>Cost Rate</b>	<b>% of Total Capital</b>	<b>Weighted Cost</b>	<b>Inc. Tax Gross-Up Factor</b>	<b>Pre-Tax Weighted Cost of Capital</b>
Common Equity	10.50%	52.0%	5.46%	1.32890	7.26%
Long-Term Debt	4.37%	48.0%	2.10%	1.00000	2.10%
<b>Total</b>			<b>7.56%</b>		<b>9.35%</b>
<b>Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 1,816,213,951</b>
<b>Required Pre-Tax Return on Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 169,878,139</b>
<b>Change in Required Dollars for Return</b>					<b>\$ (5,221,707)</b>
<b>DEU Requested Revenue Increase</b>					<b>\$ 19,249,740</b>
<b>Increase after Adjustment to Capital Structure</b>					<b>\$ 14,028,033</b>

*Scenario 3*

<b>ANGC Recommended ROE and Capital Structure</b>					
	<b>Cost Rate</b>	<b>% of Total Capital</b>	<b>Weighted Cost</b>	<b>Inc. Tax Gross-Up Factor</b>	<b>Pre-Tax Weighted Cost of Capital</b>
Common Equity	9.50%	52.0%	4.94%	1.32890	6.56%
Long-Term Debt	4.37%	48.0%	2.10%	1.00000	2.10%
<b>Total</b>			<b>7.04%</b>		<b>8.66%</b>
<b>Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 1,816,213,951</b>
<b>Required Pre-Tax Return on Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 157,327,545</b>
<b>Change in Required Dollars for Return</b>					<b>\$ (17,772,301)</b>
<b>DEU Requested Revenue Increase</b>					<b>\$ 19,249,740</b>
<b>Increase after Adjustments to ROE and Capital Structure</b>					<b>\$ 1,477,439</b>

**Dominion Energy Utah**

Docket No. 19-057-02

**Analysis of Revenue Impacts of Alternative Capital Structures and ROEs**

*Scenario 4*

<b>DEU Proposed ROE and 50/50 Capital Structure</b>					
	Cost Rate	% of Total Capital	Weighted Cost	Inc. Tax Gross-Up Factor	Pre-Tax Weighted Cost of Capital
Common Equity	10.50%	50.0%	5.25%	1.32890	6.98%
Long-Term Debt	4.37%	50.0%	2.19%	1.00000	2.19%
<b>Total</b>			<b>7.44%</b>		<b>9.16%</b>
<b>Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 1,816,213,951</b>
<b>Required Pre-Tax Return on Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 166,397,001</b>
<b>Change in Required Dollars for Return</b>					<b>\$ (8,702,845)</b>
<b>DEU Requested Revenue Increase</b>					<b>\$ 19,249,740</b>
<b>Increase after Adjustment to ROE and Capital Structure</b>					<b>\$ 10,546,895</b>

*Scenario 5*

<b>ANGC Recommended ROE and Capital Structure</b>					
	Cost Rate	% of Total Capital	Weighted Cost	Inc. Tax Gross-Up Factor	Pre-Tax Weighted Cost of Capital
Common Equity	9.50%	50.0%	4.75%	1.32890	6.31%
Long-Term Debt	4.37%	50.0%	2.19%	1.00000	2.19%
<b>Total</b>			<b>6.94%</b>		<b>8.50%</b>
<b>Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 1,816,213,951</b>
<b>Required Pre-Tax Return on Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 154,329,122</b>
<b>Change in Required Dollars for Return</b>					<b>\$ (20,770,724)</b>
<b>DEU Requested Revenue Increase</b>					<b>\$ 19,249,740</b>
<b>Increase after Adjustment to ROE and Capital Structure</b>					<b>\$ (1,520,984)</b>

**Dominion Energy Utah**

Docket No. 19-057-02

**Analysis of Revenue Impacts of Alternative Capital Structures and ROEs**

Scenario 6

<b>DEU ROE and Capital Structure from Docket No. 13-057-05</b>					
	<b>Cost Rate</b>	<b>% of Total Capital</b>	<b>Weighted Cost</b>	<b>Inc. Tax Gross-Up Factor</b>	<b>Pre-Tax Weighted Cost of Capital</b>
Common Equity	9.85%	52.0%	5.12%	1.32890	6.81%
Long-Term Debt	4.37%	48.0%	2.10%	1.00000	2.10%
<b>Total</b>			<b>7.22%</b>		<b>8.90%</b>
<b>Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 1,816,213,951</b>
<b>Required Pre-Tax Return on Rate Base</b>					<b>\$ 161,720,253</b>
<b>Change in Required Dollars for Return</b>					<b>\$ (13,379,593)</b>
<b>DEU Requested Revenue Increase</b>					<b>\$ 19,249,740</b>
<b>Increase after Adjustment to ROE and Capital Structure</b>					<b>\$ 5,870,147</b>