In the Matter Of:

In Re: DEU - Application to Change Depreciation Rates

HEARING, DOCKET NO. 19-057-03

August 14, 2019

Job Number: 528360

1 BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH 2 In the Matter of the Docket No. 19-057-03 3) Application of Dominion) 4 Energy Utah for Authority) HEARING to Change Its Depreciation) 5 Rates) 6 7 8 August 14, 2019 10:00 a.m. 9 10 Location: Public Service Commission 11 160 East 300 South, 4th Floor Salt Lake City, UT 84111 (801) 530-6769 12 13 14 Reporter: Teri Hansen Cronenwett 15 Certified Realtime Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 Job No. 528360 25

Page 2 1 A P P E A R A N C E S 2 Presiding Officer: Jordan White 3 For Dominion Energy 4 Jenniffer Nelson Clark Utah: Dominion Energy Utah 5 333 South State Street P.O. Box 45433 Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0433 6 (801) 324-5392 7 (801) 324-5935 (fax) Jenniffer.clark@dominionenergy. 8 com 9 Justin Jetter For the Division of 10 Public Utilities: Assistant Attorney General 160 E. 300 South, 5th Floor 11 P.O. Box 140857 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-0857 12 (801) 366-0335 jjetter@agutah.gov 13 For the Office of 14 Robert Moore Consumer Services: Assistant Attorney General 15 160 East 300 South, 5th Floor P.O. Box 140857 16 Salt Lake City, UT 84114-0857 (801) 366-0353 17 rmoore@aqutah.gov 18 19 INDEX 20 Witness Page 21 JORDAN K. STEPHENSON 22 Direct Examination by Ms. Clark 5 23 JEFFREY S. EINFELDT 8 24 Direct Examination by Mr. Jetter 25

Page 3 August 14, 2019 10:00 a.m. 1 2 PROCEEDINGS 3 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Good morning, all. 4 This is the time and place noticed for a hearing in the application of Dominion Energy Utah for authority to 5 change depreciation rates in Docket No. 19-057-03. I am 6 7 Commissioner Jordan White, and I'll be acting as presiding officer for this hearing. 8 9 Why don't we go ahead and start by taking 10 appearances. Miss Clark. 11 MS. CLARK: Thank you. My name is Jenniffer 12 Nelson Clark. I am here as counsel for Dominion Energy 13 Utah, and I have with me Jordan Stephenson, who is the 14 company's witness. 15 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you. 16 Mr. Jetter. 17 MR. JETTER: And good morning. I am Justin Jetter with the Utah Attorney General's Office, and I am 18 here this morning representing the Utah Division of 19 20 Public Utilities. With me this morning is division witness Jeff Einfeldt. 21 2.2 MR. MOORE: Robert Moore of the AG's office 23 representing the Office of Consumer Services. The 24 office won't be offering a witness at this hearing. 25 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you. I assume

Page 4 there is no objection, then, just to allowing the 1 2 witnesses to stay seated since we have a stipulation. 3 Is that fine with folks? 4 MR. JETTER: Yeah. 5 MS. CLARK: Yeah. 6 MR. JETTER: That's great for us. 7 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you. I forget 8 to ask, do we have anyone on the phone today for this 9 hearing? THE CLERK: 10 No. 11 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Okay. Great. All 12 right. With that, unless there's any other matters of 13 housekeeping, why don't we go ahead and proceed. Since it was Dominion's application, Ms. Clark, why don't you 14 go ahead and start things off. 15 16 MS. CLARK: Thank you. The company calls Jordan Stephenson. 17 18 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Do you want to go 19 ahead and raise your right hand? Do you swear to tell 20 the truth? 21 THE WITNESS: Yes. 2.2 JORDAN K. STEPHENSON, 23 was called as a witness, and having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, testified as follows: 24 25

1	Page 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
2	BY MS. CLARK:
3	Q. Mr. Stephenson, please state your name and
4	business address for the record.
5	A. Jordan K. Stephenson, and my business address
6	is 333 South State, Salt Lake City.
7	Q. What position do you hold with the company?
8	A. I am a manager of regulation.
9	Q. Mr. Stephenson, was the application and your
10	direct testimony and the exhibits to your direct
11	testimony labeled DEU Exhibits 1.1 through 1.4, were all
12	of those documents prepared by you or under your
13	direction?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. And do you adopt the contents of your
16	testimony as your testimony today?
17	A. Yes.
18	MS. CLARK: The company moves for the
19	admission of the application, Mr. Stephenson's prefiled
20	direct testimony, and the accompanying exhibits.
21	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Any objection?
22	MR. JETTER: No objection.
23	MR. MOORE: No objection.
24	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: They are admitted.
25	Q. (By Ms. Clark) And Mr. Stephenson, are you

Page 6 familiar with the stipulation that has been filed in 1 2 this matter? 3 Α. Yes. 4 ο. Would you please summarize for the commission the relief the company sought and also the settlement 5 stipulation that has been filed? 6 Yes, I will. In this docket the company seeks 7 Α. an order approving new depreciation rates based on a 8 9 depreciation study using year-end 2017 plant balances. The depreciation rates currently in effect are based on 10 11 a study using 2012 plant balances. 12 On February 4th, 2019, the company filed its 13 application and completed depreciation study, which would have resulted in a 9 million dollar increase in 14 15 total annual depreciation expense. This increase was primarily caused by the total 2012 reserve variance 16 17 balance of 86 and a half million shrinking by more than 90 percent to 7.4 million in 2017. 18 On June 26th, 2019, the parties filed a 19 20 settlement stipulation that included four adjustments to 21 the original depreciation study application. The 22 main -- the 376 main's account was updated to use a 23 depreciable life of 70 years and a net salvage percentage of 39 percent. 24 25 The 380 services account was updated to use a

1	Page 7 salvage percentage of 85 percent. The 381.21 meters
2	transponders account was updated to use a depreciable
3	life of 15 years. And the 383 house regulators account
4	was updated to use a net salvage percentage of 1
5	percent.
6	Collectively, these adjustments reduced the
7	company's originally proposed depreciation expense by
8	7.6 million. The parties agree that if approved, these
9	rates should be incorporated in the test period
10	calculation used in the company's general rate case,
11	Docket No. 19-057-02.
12	On July 1st the company filed its test period
13	revenue requirement using the rates agreed to in this
14	settlement stipulation. The company believes that the
15	proposed depreciation rates, including the adjustments
16	agreed to in the settlement stipulation, are just,
17	reasonable and in the public interest. And this
18	concludes my summary.
19	MS. CLARK: Mr. Stephenson is available for
20	cross-examination and commission questions.
21	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you.
22	Mr. Jetter?
23	MR. JETTER: I have no questions, thank you.
24	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Mr. Moore?
25	MR. MOORE: No questions, thank you.

Page 8 1 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you, and I 2 have no questions. 3 MS. CLARK: The company has nothing further. 4 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you. Mr. Jetter? 5 MR. JETTER: Thank you. The division would 6 like to call and have sworn in Jeff Einfeldt. 7 8 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Raise your right 9 hand. Do you swear to tell the truth? 10 THE WITNESS: Yes. 11 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you. 12 JEFFREY S. EINFELDT, 13 was called as a witness, and having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, testified as follows: 14 15 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. JETTER: 16 17 Mr. Einfeldt, would you please state your name 0. 18 and occupation for the record. My name is Jeffrey S. Einfeldt. I am a 19 Α. utility analyst at the Division of Public Utilities at 20 21 130 East 300 South, Salt Lake City. 22 ο. Thank you. And in the course of your 23 employment with the division, did you create and cause to have filed with the commission prefiled direct 24 testimony on May 22nd, 2019? 25

Page 9 1 Α. Yes. 2 Q. And are you familiar with DPU witness Roxie McCullar's direct testimony and the exhibits? 3 4 Α. Yes, I am. You would adopt her testimony and exhibits 5 0. 6 today as your own? 7 Α. Yes. MR. JETTER: With that, I'd like to move to 8 9 enter into the record the direct testimony of Jeff Einfeldt and the prefiled direct testimony of Roxie 10 11 McCullar. 12 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Any objections? 13 MS. CLARK: No. 14 MR. MOORE: No objections. 15 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: They are admitted. 16 MR. JETTER: Thank you. 17 (By Mr. Jetter) Have you had an opportunity to Q. review the settlement stipulation filed in this docket? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 And are you familiar with the terms that are ο. 21 included therein? 2.2 Α. Yes, I am. 23 0. Do you believe that approval of that settlement stipulation by the commission would be just, 24 reasonable and in the public interest? 25

Page 10 Yes, I do. 1 Α. 2 Q. And have you prepared a brief statement 3 summarizing the division's position? 4 Α. Yes, just a brief statement. The division wishes to thank the company for its efforts in 5 accommodating the division and its experts and other 6 7 interested parties as the division worked to fulfill its responsibilities in this matter. I assisted in the 8 9 analysis of the most recent depreciation study filed by 10 Dominion Energy Utah in this docket, Docket No. 11 19-057-03. 12 After analysis of the assumptions and the proposed changes, the division participated in 13 negotiations with the company that resulted in a 14 15 reduction of approximately 7.5 million in the annual 16 depreciation expense sought. This represents an 17 increase of just over \$700,000 from current annual 18 depreciation charges. The division believes this settlement is just 19 20 and reasonable in result and in the public interest. 21 And this concludes my comments. 2.2 MR. JETTER: Thank you. I have no further 23 questions for Mr. Einfeldt, and he is available for 24 cross or questions from the commission. 25 PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you.

1	Page 11 MS. CLARK: The company has no questions.
2	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Mr. Moore?
3	MR. MOORE: No questions, thank you.
4	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Thank you. And I
5	have no questions either. And you did you have any
6	other statements? I know you don't have a witness
7	but
8	MR. MOORE: We just wanted to make the
9	statement that the office has signed and supports the
10	stipulation and believes that it's just and reasonable
11	in result and in the public interest.
12	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Okay, perfect.
13	Thank you. Are there any other matters to be addressed
14	before the commission today?
15	MS. CLARK: No.
16	PRESIDING OFFICER WHITE: Okay. With that,
17	the commission will take this matter in advisement and
18	we're adjourned. Have a great morning. Thank you.
19	(The hearing concluded at 10:07 a.m.)
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21	
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25	

1	Page 12 CERTIFICATE					
2	STATE OF UTAH)					
3	COUNTY OF SALT LAKE)					
4	THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing proceedings					
5	were taken before me, Teri Hansen Cronenwett, Certified					
6	Realtime Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter and Notary					
7	Public in and for the State of Utah.					
8	That the proceedings were reported by me in					
9	Stenotype, and thereafter transcribed by computer under					
10	my supervision, and that a full, true, and correct					
11	transcription is set forth in the foregoing pages,					
12	numbered 3 through 12 inclusive.					
13	I further certify that I am not of kin or otherwise					
14	associated with any of the parties to said cause of					
15	action, and that I am not interested in the event					
16	thereof.					
17	WITNESS MY HAND and official seal at Salt Lake					
18	City, Utah, this 26th day of August, 2019.					
19	Teir Hansen cronenwalt					
20	Teri Hansen Cronenwett, CRR, RMR					
21	License No. 91-109812-7801					
22	My commission expires: January 19, 2023					
23	Uanuary 19, 2025					
24						
25						

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