Dominion Energy Utah 333 South State Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84145 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 45360, Salt Lake City, UT 84145 DominionEnergy.com



June 30, 2021 Docket No. 19-057-T04

Utah Public Service Commission Heber M. Wells Building P. O. Box 45585 Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0585

#### Dear Commissioners:

Pursuant to the Order Approving Settlement Stipulation issued on July 30, 2019 in Docket No. 19-057-T04 (Order), Questar Gas Company dba Dominion Energy Utah (DEU or Company) respectfully submits This GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> Annual Report for the year ending December 31, 2020.

The Settlement Stipulation in Docket No. 19-057-T04 provides that the Company will:

"...report annually to the Commission about the GreenTherm program. The Company's annual report to the Commission will contain details about the number of participating customers, the amount of RNG purchased, the number of RNG blocks sold, the total customer contributions, and program expenses. The Company will also provide GreenTherm program participants a link to the Company's annual report to the Commission."

In 2020, the GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> program completed its first full program year. The voluntarily Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) program provides Utah customers the opportunity to participate and contribute to the development of renewable natural gas. The 2020 Annual GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> – Summary Report provides program details on 1) Program participation and expenditures, 2) RNG block sold and amount purchased, and 3) Account balance reconciliation.

In addition, the Annual Report contains an update on a renewable natural gas verification standard, results of the Company's annual internal audit, and program marketing materials.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Orton

Michael A. Orton Manager, Energy Efficiency

cc: Division of Public Utilities
Office of Consumer Services
Utah Association of Energy Users



# 2020 Annual GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> Program - Summary Report

On July 30, 2019, the Utah Public Service Commission approved Dominion Energy Utah's GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> program (Order Approving Settlement Stipulation, July 30, 2019, Docket No. 19-057-T04). In 2020, the GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> program began offering Utah customers the ability to purchase Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) green attributes from the production of RNG. In this first year, Total Block Sales were higher than forecasted, at nearly 75% above projected levels. This resulted in RNG production support of over 5,200 decatherms, as represented in the Program Sales Summary.

Program Sales Summary			
	2020	2021	2022
Total Block Sales	10,518	0	0
Total Program Collections	\$52,589	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Year End Customer Counts	1,165	0	0
Total Decatherms Supported	5,259	0	0

Program Expense Summary			
	2020	2021	2022
Total Program Expenses	\$25,203	\$0.00	\$0.00
2020 Program Administration	\$4,710	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Program Exp. / Administration Ratio	19%	0%	0%

Renewable Natural Gas Green Attribute Balance				
	2020	2021	2022	
Total 2020 Blocks Sold	10,518	0	0	
Total 2020 Blocks Purchased	6,000	0	0	
Ending 2020 Block Balance	(4,518)*	0	0	

<sup>\*</sup>A negative block balance represents overcollection. The Company purchased 12,000 Dth equivalent green attributes or 24,000 blocks in January 2021.

Account Balance Reconciliation (191.4 Account)				
		2020	2021	2022
January 2020 Beginning Balance		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 2020 Program Collections	+	\$52,589	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 2020 Program Expenditures	-	\$25,203	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Interest Income (Expense)	-	\$64	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending 2020 Account Balance		\$27,322	\$0.00	\$0.00

## Renewable Natural Gas Verification Standard

During 2020, Dominion Energy monitored the development of a national renewable natural gas (RNG) verification standard. The Company connected with vendors, other utilities, and other organizations to understand the progress in this development and adoption of a national RNG verification standard. As of the end of 2020, no verification standard has been fully developed. However, the Company is monitoring the efforts of the Center for Resource Solutions (CRS) as it works to develop of a verification standard. CRS is well positioned to create the verification standard as it previously developed the Green-e program, which is widely used as the standard for the Renewable Energy Credits in the electric industry.

In 2020, CRS requested input from its contributing members to develop a working paper for a RNG standard. The stated goal of the standard for a renewable natural gas Green-e Program is to "accelerate the adoption of biomethane, while ensuring that the gas is from sustainable renewable resources, meets the highest environmental standards, and that customers are protected in their purchase and ability to make verifiable usage claims." <sup>1</sup>

The first comment period for this standard began in the first quarter of 2020. On its web site, Green-e noted that it plans to implement this RNG standard in the Summer of 2021. The Company will continue to monitor this development. The Company will adopt a standard that is recognized as the national RNG standard or the standard that is adopted by the majority of utilities offering a voluntary RNG program. The Company will provide an update in its 2021 annual report to the Utah Public Service Commission.

2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.green-e.org/renewable-fuels

## GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> Annual Audit Summary Results

In May 2021, Dominion Energy's Internal Audit Services completed its audit of the Dominion Energy Utah GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> Program for the period January 2020 thru December 2020. Pursuant to the Order Approving Settlement Stipulation issued on July 30, 2019 in Docket No. 19-057-T04, the Company conducted the annual audit of the purchase, production, and retirement of renewable natural gas green attributes. The audit found that the Utah GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> Program was compliant with applicable regulatory requirements.

## GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> Marketing

Prior to launching the GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> program, the Company meet with the Division of Public Utilities and the Office of Consumer Services to develop the GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> marketing materials. The Company appreciates the efforts of the Division and Office to help create marketing materials that are concise and explain how the GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> program operates. In 2020, the Company introduced the GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> program to customers via the Dominionenergy.com website, email campaign, and other online sources. In addition, the Company distributed to GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> customers their Annual Participation Report. The report identifies RNG decatherms supported, pounds of emissions prevented, and the total GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> program contributions, blocks sold, and marketing expense. The Annual Participation Report also includes a link to this report at <a href="DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm">DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm</a>, which will be posted on the Company's website upon filing with the Commission.

The GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> joint collaboration marketing materials and a redacted customer annual participation report are included as DEU Exhibits A and B respectively.



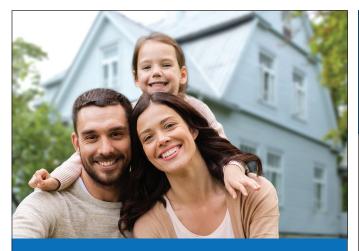
## program materials

January 2020

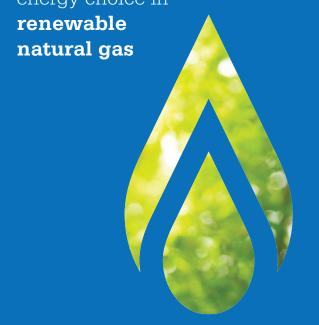
Table of contents GreenTherm | 2

stomer bill insert/handout
arketing email to customers
ebpage: DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm ...........................!
ıstomer portal sign-up page (requires login)
rollment form
Velcome" letter
lections & answers

**FRONT BACK** 



Introducing an even greener energy choice in





GreenTherm<sup>™</sup> gives customers like you an opportunity to use renewable natural gas (RNG) as natural gas consumers. It's a green choice!

#### What is RNG?

RNG can be used as fuel and is derived from organic matter such as agricultural waste, landfills, waste water and food waste. Methane gas produced from organic matter is gathered, processed to remove impurities, and delivered to homes and businesses.



### What makes RNG a "green" choice?

The organic matter used to produce RNG is readily available and naturally replenished. Plus, the production process captures methane, a greenhouse gas that would otherwise be emitted into the atmosphere, resulting in an overall reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

## How does the program work?

Customers elect to have a number of blocks, at \$5 each, added as a surcharge to a monthly gas bill. Dominion Energy then uses these funds to purchase "green attributes" associated with the production of renewable natural gas.

### How do I enroll?

Log in to your account on DominionEnergy.com or call 877-250-0037.

For more information, please visit

DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm

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01/20



This email is exclusively intended for <Customer Name> Account Number: XXXXX\*\*\*

Dear < Customer Name>,

We'd like to introduce GreenTherm<sup>sM</sup>—a voluntary program that provides Dominion Energy's Utah and Idaho customers an easy and convenient way to support the development of renewable energy.

#### What is renewable natural gas?

Renewable natural gas is pipeline-quality gas produced from existing waste streams and a variety of renewable and sustainable biomass sources. Sources may include waste water, landfills, agricultural waste or food waste.

#### How does the program work?

Customers can elect to have a number of blocks, at \$5 each, added as a surcharge to their monthly gas bill. Dominion Energy then uses these funds to purchase "green attributes" associated with the production of renewable natural gas.

To learn more, please visit DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm.

To enroll, click below to select a number of blocks—no login required.

## **Enroll Now**

You can also enroll by logging in to your account on DominionEnergy.com or calling 877-250-0037.

Learn how **GreenTherm**<sup>SM</sup> provides a greener energy choice



Dominion Energy PO Box 27031 Richmond, VA 23261-7031

Tel: 800-323-5517

Website: www.dominionenergy.com

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Ways to Save

Gas Rates and Tarriffs

GreenTherm

## GreenTherm





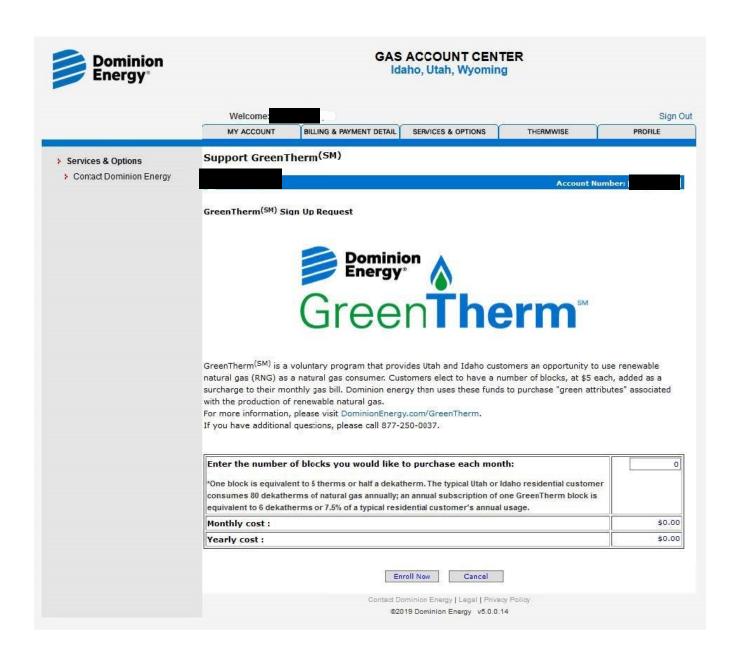
GreenTherm is a voluntary program that provides Utah and Idaho customers an opportunity to use renewable natural gas (RNG) as a natural gas consumer. Customers can elect to have a number of blocks, at \$5 each, added as a surcharge to their monthly gas bill. Dominion Energy then uses these funds to purchase "green attributes" associated with the production of renewable natural gas.

• Questions & Answers

To enroll in GreenTherm, log in to your customer account or call 877-250-0037.

### Your participation supports:

- · development of renewable energy
- reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- potential to improve air quality (depending on the source of RNG)
- improved waste management



Enrollment form GreenTherm | 7



## **Enrollment Form**

GreenTherm is a voluntary program that provides Utah customers an opportunity to use renewable natural gas (RNG) as natural gas consumers. Customers can elect to have a number of blocks, at \$5 each, added as a surcharge to their monthly gas bill. Dominion Energy then uses these funds to purchase "green attributes" associated with the production of renewable natural gas.

CUSTOMER NAME					
ADDRESS		STATE	ZIP		
PHONE	EMAIL				
DOMINION ENERGY ACCOUNT NUMBER					
DOMINION ENERGY SERVICE AGREEMENT NUMBER					
BLOCKS* (One block = \$5)					
number of blocks x \$5 per block = monthly surcharge					
SIGNATURE					

The Dominion Energy GreenTherm Program is an approved program by the Utah Public Service Commission. Please note that by signing this form you agree to let Dominion Energy include at least \$5 per block/month surcharge on your bill depending on the number of blocks selected. Signing this form does not constitute a long-term contract associated with your participation. Please note that customers may apply for or leave this program at any time throughout the year. Changes to a customer's bill will take effect 30 days after election and will appear on the next bill thereafter. Customers who have, in the most recent twelve-month period (a) received a shut-off notice, (b) entered into a payment agreement with the Company for a delinquent bill, or (c) have had service terminated are not eligible to participate in this program. The GreenTherm offering (price per block, and RNG equivalent per block) may be changed at any time contingent upon approval from the Utah Public Service Commission. Please note that this surcharge is completely optional and that you may opt out of it at any time by contacting us at 800-323-5517 or logging in to your account on DominionEnergy.com. For additional program details visit DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm.

11/19

<sup>\*</sup>One block is equal to five therms equivalent of RNG. Five therms is equal to half a standard dekatherm. The typical Utah residential customer consumes 80 dekatherms of natural gas annually; an annual subscription of one GreenTherm block is equivalent to 6 dekatherms or 7.5% of a typical residential customer's annual usage.

"Welcome" letter GreenTherm | 8



<Customer Name>
<Mailing Address>
<City, ST Zip>

#### Dear < Customer Name>.

Thank you for supporting renewable natural gas through Dominion Energy's GreenTherm<sup>sM</sup> program. You have opted to purchase **< x >** block(s) of renewable natural gas every month. One block equates to half a dekatherm of renewable natural gas green attributes. Green attributes represent the "green" or renewable energy component of natural gas that is produced from renewable resources. In essence, the green attribute certifies that renewable energy has been produced.

The typical natural gas residential customer in Utah and Idaho consumes 80 dekatherms per year. For a full year of participation, each block of renewable natural gas is equal to 6 dekatherms or 7.5% of a typical customer's annual gas consumption. [If data is available]: Based on your last 12 month's consumption of <x> dekatherms and subscribing to <x> blocks of renewable natural gas, <x>% of your consumption will be from renewable natural gas. As part of your GreenTherm participation, you will see a monthly surcharge of <x> on your natural gas bill each month or <x> per year. A line item detailing this surcharge will be included on your monthly Dominion Energy bill.

Participation in the GreenTherm program is voluntary. You may opt out of the program or change your block election at any time by logging into your account on DominionEnergy.com or calling 800-323-5517 Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thank you for your participation,

Dominion Energy Utah

Questions & answers GreenTherm | 9



#### What is renewable natural gas?

Renewable natural gas is pipeline-quality gas produced from existing waste streams and a variety of renewable and sustainable biomass sources. Sources may include waste water, landfills, agricultural waste or food waste.

#### What is GreenTherm?

GreenTherm is a voluntary program that provides Dominion Energy's Utah and Idaho customers an easy and convenient way to support the development of renewable energy by purchasing "green attributes."

#### What is a green attribute?

Renewable natural gas is made up of two components: a gas molecule and a green attribute. A green attribute is a certificate that verifies the gas was produced from a renewable source. With the GreenTherm program, Dominion Energy purchases green attributes. The renewable natural gas molecule can be sold at the same price as conventional natural gas while the green attribute has an additional value for its environmental benefits.

### How does the program enrollment process work?

Participation in the GreenTherm program is completely voluntary. Customers elect to pay a surcharge of \$5 per block per month to be more environmentally friendly and support the development and advancement of renewable natural gas.

#### Who is eligible to participate in the GreenTherm Program?

All Utah and Idaho customers connected to Dominion Energy's distribution system are eligible to participate in the GreenTherm program.

### Natural gas is already abundant. Why is Dominion Energy offering a renewable natural gas program?

Dominion Energy recognizes that customers have varying environmental and efficiency goals. Natural gas is considered the cleanest fossil fuel; still, many customers prefer their energy coming from renewable sources. Capturing methane generated from landfills, agricultural waste or food waste prevents it from being released into the atmosphere.

#### What are the benefits of signing up for GreenTherm?

In addition to helping build demand for renewable energy, you will receive an annual participation report highlighting your support and the overall effect of the program.

#### By supporting GreenTherm, am I making a difference?

Yes. By capturing methane released from organic waste such as wastewater, food waste and animal waste and repurposing it as renewable natural gas, the GreenTherm

program can help reduce the effects of climate change and may improve air quality. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the climate change impact of methane is 25 times greater than carbon dioxide. Also, depending on the source of renewable natural gas, air quality may be improved by eliminating the need of certain organic waste facilities to inefficiently burn raw methane, thus reducing NOx and other air quality particulate emissions.

## Do the renewable natural gas attributes in this program come from local sources?

The GreenTherm program seeks to purchase renewable natural gas attributes from local sources in Utah or Idaho. However, if Dominion Energy is unable to find renewable natural gas attributes in these states, they will be purchased where available.

#### What is included in the \$5 per block cost?

The \$5 per block cost includes the purchase of a half dekatherm of renewable natural gas green attributes as well as program-related marketing and administration costs.

#### What is a dekatherm?

A dekatherm is a standard unit of measuring energy used primarily to measure natural gas. One dekatherm is equivalent to 10 therms or 1,000,000 British thermal units. A typical residential customer consumes 80 dekatherms annually.

# Why is renewable natural gas more expensive than conventional natural gas?

Renewable natural gas is currently more expensive to produce than conventional natural gas. While both conventional natural gas and renewable natural gas must be processed to satisfy pipeline safety and quality standards, the processing differs and costs more for renewable natural gas.

### Will the price of renewable natural gas decrease?

Renewable natural gas is a promising alternative energy source, like solar and wind power, that can help satisfy a growing demand for renewable energy sources and lower greenhouse gas emissions. This demand could encourage improved technologies and lower prices over time.

# If I don't want to participate, will the GreenTherm program increase my bill?

No. Customers who do not participate will not pay more for natural gas.

# Does Dominion Energy profit from my GreenTherm participation?

No. Dominion Energy does not profit from the GreenTherm program.



This email is exclusively intended for:

Account Number:

Dear

We are pleased to provide you with your GreenTherm<sup>SM</sup> annual participation report containing a summary of your total contributions. This report also includes total GreenTherm program costs and the collective impact of Dominion Energy's participating customers.

Your participation in the GreenTherm program is making a difference! Renewable natural gas, or RNG, is produced by capturing methane from existing waste streams and a variety of renewable and sustainable organic sources such as waste water, landfills, agricultural waste or food waste. Repurposing this naturally occurring methane for conventional uses like home heating is significantly more beneficial for our environment. Why? Because this raw methane would otherwise be released into the atmosphere where it acts as a powerful greenhouse gas.

The GreenTherm program is one of only a handful of its kind in the country and recognizes an increased demand for renewable energy sources. We hope you take pride in this opportunity, as we do, to support renewable energy and a more sustainable energy future.

For more information and to view Dominion Energy's annual program report to the Utah Public Service Commission, please visit <a href="DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm">DominionEnergy.com/GreenTherm</a>. This report is scheduled to be published in June 2021.

To change your level of support, please log in to your customer account or call 877-250-0037.

Your Annual Report:



## Thank you for supporting renewable natural gas!

IN 2020, YOU SUPPORTED



WHICH **PREVENTED** 

WHICH IS EQUALTO EMISSIONS AVOIDED FROM









DEKATHERMS

POUNDS

of renewable natural gas (RNG) production through GreenTherm

of emissions from going into the atmosphere (carbon dioxide equivalent)

of trash being recycled instead of being landfilled

2020 Program Results:

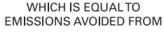
## 1,269 GreenTherm participants made a difference

TOGETHER, WE SUPPORTED



WHICH **PREVENTED** 











5,259 DEKATHERMS

**METRIC TONS** 

of renewable natural gas (RNG) production through GreenTherm

of emissions from going into the atmosphere (carbon dioxide equivalent)

of waste being recycled instead of being landfilled

Carbon dioxide equivalents are calculated using the Environmental Protection Agency's Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator

Total Number of Blocks Sold: 10,518 RNG Attributes Purchased:

**Total Program Contributions:** Marketing and Administration Costs: \$4,774

**Dominion Energy** PO Box 27031 Richmond, VA 23261-7031

Tel: 800-323-5517

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