



BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

October 27, 2020



ADVANCED REPORTING SOLUTIONS

801-746-5080 | office@advancedrep.com | advancedrep.com

SALT LAKE | 159 West Broadway, Broadway Lofts, Suite 100 | Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

PROVO | 3507 North University Avenue, Suite 350-D | Provo, Utah 84604

ST. GEORGE | 20 North Main Street, Suite 301 | St. George, Utah 84770



Virtual Public Hearing
October 27, 2020

1 BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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4 Pass-Through Application of) Public Hearing Docket Nos.
5 Dominion Energy Utah for an) 20-057-14, 20-057-15,
6 Adjustment) 20-057-16, 20-057-17
7) 20-057-18, 20-057-19

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9 VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

10 TAKEN THROUGH ADVANCED REPORTING SOLUTIONS

11 Taken on October 27, 2020

12 9:00 a.m. to 10:18 a.m.

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21 Reported by: Michelle Mallonee, RPR, CCR

1 APPEARANCES

2
3 FOR DOMINION ENERGY UTAH:

4 JENNIFFER R. NELSON-CLARK, ESQ.
5 DOMINION ENERGY
6 333 South State Street
7 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
8 (801) 324-5392
9 jennifer.clark@dominionenergy.com

10 FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:

11 JUSTIN C. JETTER, ESQ.
12 UTAH ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
13 160 East 300 South, 5th Floor
14 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
15 (801) 366-0260
16 jjetter@agutah.gov

17 ALSO PRESENT:

18 Austin Summers

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

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3 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Good morning, everybody.
4 This is the time and place noticed for a hearing in six
5 different dockets, Public Service Commission Dockets
6 20-057-14 through 20-057-20 -- excuse me, 19.

7 My name is Yvonne Hogle, and I am the
8 Commission's designated presiding officer for this
9 hearing. Let's take appearances for the record, please,
10 starting with the applicant.

11 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you. My name is
12 Jennifer Nelson-Clark. I am counsel for Dominion Energy
13 Utah.

14 I have three witnesses with me today. Jessica
15 Ipson will speak to the pass-through docket, that is the
16 14 docket. Jessie Jackson will speak to three dockets,
17 the Conservation Enabling Tariff docket, the energy
18 assistance docket, and the energy efficiency docket. And
19 finally, Jordan Stephenson, who will be the Company's
20 witness in the transportation imbalance charge docket and
21 also the docket related to step funding.

22 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you. Let's
23 go to the Division, please.

24 MR. JETTER: Good morning. This is Justin
25 Jetter with the Utah Attorney General's office. And I'm

1 participating in this hearing representing the Utah
2 Division of Public Utilities.

3 The Division intends to call three witnesses at
4 this hearing. And if it's okay with the Hearing Officer,
5 we'd like to actually call our witnesses in reverse
6 numerical order of the docket numbers simply because the
7 way that our witnesses have provided our comments, I
8 think we'll be a little bit more efficient that way when
9 we present our witnesses.

10 The three witnesses the Division would like to
11 call are Bob Davis, Eric Orton, and JJ Alder.

12 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you. I
13 think that's okay with me, unless somebody else has a
14 reason why that would not be okay.

15 MS. NELSON-CLARK: No.

16 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Do we have
17 anybody from the Office? I didn't see anything that they
18 filed, but just wanted to make sure.

19 Do we have any other parties on the line that
20 are not represented by the attorneys who just introduced
21 themselves? Okay.

22 Ms. Clark, you can call your first witness,
23 please.

24 MS. NELSON-CLARK: So for clarity, are we taking
25 the dockets in reverse order, or would you like to hear

1 from all the Company's witnesses in sequence?

2 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: I think I would like to
3 do that. I would like to have DEU present its witnesses,
4 all of its witnesses. And then I would give the
5 opportunity to the Division to present its witnesses in
6 reverse order if it wants. I don't mind -- I don't care
7 about that.

8 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Okay. Thank you.

9 MR. JETTER: Oh, thank you. Just for clarity, I
10 was assuming that we would present them all at one time
11 for our group of witnesses; otherwise, we can go in
12 whatever order. But given presenting them all, that was
13 my assumption, that we would do that.

14 MS. NELSON-CLARK: That works perfectly. Thank
15 you.

16 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Okay, Ms. Clark.
17 Go ahead.

18 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thanks. The Company will
19 first call Jessica Ipson for Docket No. 20-057-14, the
20 pass-through docket.

21 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Ms. Ipson, do you swear
22 to tell the truth?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay.

25 Go ahead.

1 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you.

2 JESSICA IPSON,
3 was called as a witness, and having been first duly
4 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
5 but the truth, testified as follows:

6

7 DIRECT EXAMINATION

8 BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:

9 Q. Ms. Ipson, please state your full name and
10 business address for the record, please.

11 A. My name is Jessica Ipson, and the business
12 address is 333 South State Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

13 Q. And what position do you hold with the company?

14 A. I'm a Regulatory Analyst III.

15 Q. In this docket, Ms. Ipson, the Company filed an
16 application with accompanying Exhibits 1.1 through 1.8.

17 Were those all prepared by you or under your
18 direction?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And do you adopt the contents of those documents
21 as your testimony today?

22 A. Yes.

23 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company moves for the
24 admission of the application in this docket in Docket
25 No. 20-057-14 and the accompanying Exhibits DEU 1.1

1 through DEU 1.8.

2 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: I'm assuming Mr. Jetter
3 doesn't have an objection?

4 MR. JETTER: I have no objection. Thank you.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. They're admitted.
6 Thank you.

7 Please proceed.

8 Q. (BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:) Ms. Ipson, have you
9 prepared a summary of the relief the Company has
10 requested in this docket?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Please proceed.

13 A. In pass-through Docket No. 20-057-14, Dominion
14 Energy respectfully asks the Public Service Commission
15 for approval of \$496,641,349 in Utah gas cost coverage.
16 This represents an overall increase of \$39,557,000.

17 The components of the increase are, first, an
18 increase of \$41,465,000 in commodity costs and, second, a
19 decrease of \$1,909,000 in supplier non-gas costs. This
20 request includes an amortization of the commodity portion
21 of the actual August 2020 undercollected 191 balance of
22 \$24,862,215 by a 22.099-cent per dekatherm debit
23 surcharge.

24 In addition, RIN proceeds of \$29,428 were
25 generated through the Company's CNG station, decreasing

1 the NGV class commodity by a credit surcharge of 9.963
2 cents per dekatherm.

3 The Company is also requesting to continue
4 amortizing the undercollected SNG costs of \$962,115,
5 which leads to the debit amortization charges shown in
6 DEU Exhibit 1.5, page 6.

7 In addition, the Company is also requesting to
8 continue amortizing the unprotected EDT on the purchased
9 gas agreement totaling \$1,083,300, which is established
10 as Tax Reform Surcredit 4, with a credit amortization of
11 .972 cents per dekatherm over the period of a year,
12 ending May 31st, 2021.

13 The cost of purchased gas was developed using
14 forecasted gas prices from both PIRA Energy Group and
15 Cambridge Energy Research Associates. If this
16 application is approved, a typical GS Utah customer using
17 80 dekatherms per year would see an increase of \$29.40,
18 or a total annual increase of 4.44 percent. These rates
19 are just, reasonable, and in the public interest.

20 Therefore, we request the rates proposed in
21 commodity and SNG be allowed to go into effect on
22 November 1, 2020.

23 That concludes my summary.

24 MS. NELSON-CLARK: And Ms. Ipson is now
25 available for cross-examination and Commission questions.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you.

2 Mr. Jetter, do you have any questions?

3 MR. JETTER: I do not have any questions. Thank
4 you.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay.

6

7 CROSS-EXAMINATION

8 BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:

9 Q. Ms. Ipson, I just have a few questions,
10 actually. You mentioned it in your application and again
11 here today, and those are the RIN proceeds. I suppose
12 I'd like a little bit of education. I don't know about
13 RIN proceeds and where those came from, et cetera.

14 So if you can provide me with a little bit of
15 information about that, that would be good so we can have
16 a good record, supplement of the record.

17 A. Okay. So they're -- I guess the RIN proceeds
18 come from -- we've gained some renewable proceeds. So,
19 to be able to get the credit, we have to have the proceed
20 run through the CNG station.

21 Q. Okay. And are those as a result of the Fleet
22 Saver contract?

23 A. Oh, yes. Yes.

24 Q. Yes. Okay. And tell me how Dominion decided to
25 include the RIN proceeds in the 191 account.

1 A. Okay. So the credit was booked to the 191
2 account for the -- a little over 28- -- 9 thousand
3 dollars. So since those proceeds are -- deal with the
4 CNG station, they have to be used by vehicles that use
5 CNG.

6 So what we did was we created a credit for that
7 \$29,000 to only go towards the NGV class. So you'll see
8 a credit listed on the NGV class for those RIN credits.

9 **Q. Okay. And what account did DEU use to book the**
10 **revenues in the 191 account?**

11 A. That's something -- I don't know the exact
12 account. That's something we could get back. I would
13 have to do a little bit more research to figure out what,
14 actually, revenue account it was. But I know it was
15 booked to the 191 account.

16 **Q. Right. I'm just curious about the accounting**
17 **treatment and whether it's a new account for the 191. My**
18 **understanding is that we had never had RIN proceeds**
19 **before, so I'm curious about where in the 191 account**
20 **they're accounted for, under what FERC account number.**

21 **Is there anybody else that can answer that**
22 **question right now?**

23 THE WITNESS: Jordan, would you know where they
24 would have booked that?

25 MR. STEPHENSON: I'm just checking now on the

1 August financial statements, and I don't know the exact
2 account code they put it under. I think it is an "other
3 revenue" account, and I'll see if I can find it here.

4 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: And by "other revenue"
5 account, you're talking about the accounts that are
6 described in your tariff; is that correct?

7 MR. STEPHENSON: I'll have to check into that.
8 I'm not certain how it reconciles back accounting-wise.

9 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. I see
10 Mr. Summers. I have some acquaintance with Mr. Summers,
11 as he has been before us, since I started, anyway.

12 So Mr. Summers, if you have anything to add to
13 what has been represented and testified here today, I
14 would be grateful for a little bit more explanation on
15 the RIN proceeds. And then I have a little bit more of a
16 specific question on the actual amounts.

17 So based on what I've heard, Mr. Summers, from
18 two DEU witnesses, the RIN proceeds came from the Fleet
19 Saver contract, which was approved by the Commission. I
20 did do that research. I went back and looked at that.

21 So, do you confirm what has been stated and
22 testified to here today on where exactly accounting-wise
23 those revenues were included in the 191 account? And do
24 you have any more information other than what has been
25 testified?

1 MR. SUMMERS: Yeah. I believe that the -- so
2 everything that Ms. Ipson has said is right, that the
3 revenues that came in from these Fleet Saver contracts,
4 they did get posted right to -- well, they did offset
5 everything that's in the 191 account.

6 And when we look at everything that -- at the
7 total that's in the 191 account, we carve that specific
8 revenue out specifically for the NGV class. And it looks
9 like as everybody's doing their research -- and Jessica
10 and Jordan, looks like maybe you can confirm this -- but
11 it's going into account 495008, which is a miscellaneous
12 revenue.

13 And then those revenues what then is booked into
14 the 191 account as an offset to -- just specifically for
15 the NGV users.

16 MR. STEPHENSON: And I apologize to jump back in
17 and confuse things if they're not already confused
18 enough. But I actually was involved in obtaining these
19 RIN credits, so I can speak to a little more about how
20 they're generated in a little more context.

21 So we do have the Fleet Saver agreement.
22 There's some confusion around how the Fleet Saver
23 agreement works, and I just want to clarify that the
24 Fleet Saver agreement does transport renewable natural
25 gas through our stations, and it does generate RIN

1 credits; however, the Company actually doesn't keep any
2 RIN credits related to Fleet Saver.

3 We do have a separate source of renewable
4 natural gas attributes that have been assigned to our own
5 sales customer volumes. So it's a little different
6 because Fleet Saver is transporting gas through our
7 stations to their own customers.

8 Our regular NGV station customers that use our
9 stations, we are obtaining green attributes to assign to
10 that gas. So it's more like sales gas that we're
11 assigning green attributes to. And that triggers a
12 qualification for RIN credits to the producer of the
13 renewable natural gas.

14 And so because we have opened that supply chain
15 to them to be able to generate RIN credits, they have
16 agreed to share with us a portion of their RIN credits,
17 which we are then passing through to the NGV customers
18 who made that possible. So that's how that works.

19 And the provider who does all this for us is
20 called "Blue Source," and they are a compliance group
21 that works with renewable natural gas and have agreed to
22 broker that exchange for us.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: And so let me just make
24 sure that I'm clear about what you just said.

25 These proceeds are not related to the Fleet

1 Saver contract, but they are related to the agreement
2 that you just testified to that Blue Source is managing
3 for you; is that correct?

4 MR. STEPHENSON: That's exactly right.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. So that's a good
6 clarification.

7 Q. (BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:) Let me, then, just
8 take it back to Ms. Ipson, if you are the one who is
9 testifying about the numbers, Ms. Ipson. I am looking
10 at DEU Exhibit 1.5. So I'll let you go back to that.

11 A. Okay. I'm there.

12 Q. Okay. And so in Column -- Row F at the top, it
13 says -- "Commodity portion of test-year gas cost," and it
14 says "412,068,880." Are you with me?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. So tell me how that number was derived?
17 I see 412,048,452.

18 Are the RIN proceeds what makes the difference
19 between those two numbers?

20 A. Yes. So that "Commodity portion of the
21 test-year gas costs," so the total actually comes from
22 that Exhibit 1.1, page 1, Line 9. And then since the RIN
23 credit is only specific to the NGV class, we needed to
24 add the credit to the commodity portion. So we added in
25 the credit from the RIN to then calculate what the

1 commodity costs would be for all the sales classes. And
2 then specifically for the NGV class, we took that
3 \$20,000, and we then assigned that credit to the NGV
4 class specifically.

5 **Q. Okay. And so are the RIN proceeds presented**
6 **anywhere in the 191 account model other than on this DEU**
7 **Exhibit 1.5 Footnote 4?**

8 A. So they're just in that footnote.

9 And then if you go to 1.5, page 6, it has a
10 listing of all the rates. And then it's on Line 8 and
11 then Column B.

12 **Q. Okay. So, here's my question. What -- I think**
13 **my understanding of what I'm reading here is that you're**
14 **talking about forecast costs. And to that, you're adding**
15 **actual revenues; is that correct?**

16 A. Yes. That's a credit. So it's -- I guess to
17 some -- oh, go ahead.

18 **Q. So, I guess my question is: Is that typically**
19 **how it's done for accounting purposes? I mean, why**
20 **wouldn't it be forecast plus forecast? It seems that if**
21 **you're looking at forecast costs, I don't understand why**
22 **you're using actual revenues, and especially adding those**
23 **to the costs that will be paid by everybody else.**

24 **Is that appropriate?**

25 A. So, yes. We wanted to recognize the actual

1 credit of the RIN credits. So this is something that we
2 would have to -- it would run for a year so we could
3 return that money to that NGV class. So that's something
4 that will have to be tracked.

5 So I guess it's similar to the tax reform
6 surcredits, how we know the actual amount that needs to
7 be returned to customers. So it's an actual amount.

8 And then the -- you're right, the pass-through
9 is all forecast. But then -- so it's kind of like a mix.
10 So that is something that we do have to track to make
11 sure that we give back the appropriate actual revenues.

12 We could go through, I guess, and estimate
13 what -- more RIN credits. But I don't think that would
14 be appropriate just because what if the forecast is -- I
15 think -- I guess for the RIN credits, I think it should
16 be actual given back to the customers, and then we kind
17 of do a true-up after the time period's ending.

18 MR. SUMMERS: Can I just --

19 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Yes, I would like to ask
20 Mr. Summers to confirm -- yes.

21 MR. SUMMERS: Just to add to it. I think that
22 the pass-through really is a combination of actual
23 accounting data and forecast prices. So what we'll do is
24 if you're -- when you're going through the pass-through,
25 the actual piece that we're dealing with is everything

1 that's actually happened in the 191 account. And we know
2 what's there, and we know if that account is
3 overcollected or undercollected. And so we'll kind of
4 set an amortization. And that's that -- yeah, the
5 amortization piece that's on the tariff.

6 We also will look at everything, and we'll say,
7 Okay, now what are gas prices going to be for the rest of
8 the winter? And that's the forecast piece. And so
9 that's going to affect the future over- or
10 undercollection of the account. So we kind of -- there
11 is a component of actual information, and then there's a
12 component of forecast information in each pass-through.

13 And so with these RIN credits, that was one of
14 the actual pieces, that we know how much money has come
15 in, and that is how much we're giving back to the NGV
16 class over the next year.

17 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Do you think it's
18 appropriate, though, to add the 20,428 to the 412,048,452
19 forecast cost?

20 I guess what you're telling me is you do think
21 it's appropriate, that the actual -- the actual revenues
22 should be added as costs to your forecast gas cost for
23 your test year; is that what you're telling me, that
24 that's right, you should add those to the forecast cost?
25 You think that's appropriate?

1 MR. SUMMERS: I do think that's appropriate. I
2 think what you're doing is you're reducing the gas cost
3 for the NGV class for the next year or so while those
4 credits are returned to the customers. So I do think
5 that's appropriate.

6 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. All right. Well,
7 okay. So going back to that page, DEU Exhibit 1.5,
8 Footnote 1, it says, "DEU Exhibit 1.1, page 2, Line 9,
9 Column E less RIN Proceed from CNG 4." The RIN proceeds
10 in Footnote 4 are expressed as a negative number. That's
11 what the parenthesis say.

12 Shouldn't the RIN proceeds -- and guess I keep
13 going back to Mr. Summers and my previous question.
14 Shouldn't the RIN proceeds actually be presented as a
15 positive number for this application? In other words,
16 not added to costs, but shouldn't they be reduced --
17 shouldn't the total forecast costs be reduced by that
18 amount not added to as costs? If it's revenues coming
19 in, why isn't the total amount reduced? In other
20 words -- I mean, I think I'm clear on my question.

21 Can you explain it? I'm having a difficult time
22 sort of reconciling that if there are revenues coming in,
23 typically that means a reduction in total costs. But
24 here, you're not only forecasting your typical costs, but
25 you're adding to it rather than reducing from the costs.

1 MR. SUMMERS: I see what you're saying. So when
2 you're subtracting the negative, it's adding revenue to
3 that Line 1.

4 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Right. And I'm just
5 wondering if that number shouldn't be reduced by 20,428.
6 Isn't that how it works typically?

7 THE WITNESS: So since the RIN credit is only
8 for the NGV class. We have to first calculate what the
9 commodity costs would be for all classes. So we actually
10 don't want to give the credit to all classes, we only
11 want to give the credit to the NGV class. So we have to,
12 like, subtract out the credit, so that's why it's being
13 added into the total commodity costs to come up with an
14 amount of commodity. And then we calculate what that
15 credit amount is specifically for the NGV class.

16 Q. (BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:) Okay. So what
17 you're doing is you're -- you can't -- in other words, by
18 what you're saying, you can't just not include the 20,428
19 into the overall costs and just give that -- or allocate
20 the 20,000 just to the NGV class. You can't do it that
21 way is that what you're saying? You have to -- right.
22 Can you explain that for me?

23 A. Yeah. Because otherwise, you would be, like,
24 duplicating the credit. So then the credit wouldn't be
25 specifically for the NGV class, it would be if we had it

1 in the total number, then there would be a 20-some
2 thousand dollar credit going to all classes, and then
3 another one going to the NGV class. So that's why you
4 have to add in that credit to the total and then have the
5 credit going specifically to the NGV class.

6 **Q. Okay. But, to me, it seems like your -- I mean,**
7 **is it not possible to just take that credit and just look**
8 **at your NGV class and allocate it just to the NGV class?**
9 **In other words, the other customers wouldn't be getting a**
10 **credit at all. They wouldn't even see it. It would just**
11 **be credited to the NGV class without being included in**
12 **the test-year gas costs for next year for everybody.**

13 **Is that too simplistic?**

14 **A. So the only thing, the 191 account is just kind**
15 **of like all lumped together, all costs together. So we**
16 **have to break these out. I guess it does make it a**
17 **little bit more complicated where you have to -- when you**
18 **have the costs that are specific for that certain class,**
19 **we have to kind of do this manual process because the 191**
20 **is really for everyone -- or all the sales classes.**

21 **Q. Right. Okay.**

22 **Mr. Summers --**

23 **Go ahead. I didn't mean to cut you off.**

24 **A. Oh. I was just going to say I don't know if we**
25 **can think of all -- we'll try and think of a better way**

1 to make it clearer on our exhibits.

2 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Mr. Summers?

3 MR. SUMMERS: Yeah, I don't know that I have
4 anything to add. I think what Ms. Ipson is saying is
5 right. I was going to try and -- and I don't know if my
6 Excel skills are what they used to be -- but I was going
7 to see what the effect would be of taking that \$20,000
8 out of the revenue, if we took that revenue out of the
9 412 million. I don't know if it would make even a dent
10 in the overall rates that we're asking to collect.

11 So I -- that's something that we could
12 definitely do if you wanted to see the effect of taking
13 that \$20,000 off of that 412 million that's on Line 1, we
14 could definitely do that.

15 I don't -- I do think that what Ms. Ipson is
16 saying is the correct treatment of the calculation. Just
17 to try and -- maybe I'll try and say it a different way
18 is --

19 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay.

20 MR. SUMMERS: -- you've got the total balance
21 that's in -- your total forecast that's in the -- you've
22 got your total forecast, and that's based on everything
23 that was in the 191 account. So we've got to make sure
24 that we're adding that revenue back before we calculate
25 rates for all of the other customers, for the GS, MFS,

1 and IS customers, before the -- so we've got to add that
2 \$20,000 back in.

3 So I do think that the treatment is correct.
4 That calculation is right. But, like I say, if you
5 wanted to see what difference it would make if that
6 \$20,000 wasn't added back, then we could definitely put
7 that together.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. That would be
9 helpful as soon as possible, given the time crunch that
10 we're in.

11 MR. SUMMERS: Yeah.

12 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. If you can submit
13 those as soon as possible so our analysts can look at
14 that and make sure that they're comfortable with what you
15 have testified to about the --

16 MR. SUMMERS: We can -- I was even thinking if
17 we were to do the other dockets, we might be able to
18 even -- I don't know if it's appropriate to come back to
19 this after the other dockets and say, you know, that --
20 what effect that would have on the rates that were
21 proposed. We could probably do that model really
22 quickly.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: I think that would be
24 helpful. I think that would be in your interest to be
25 able to do that and give it a little bit more explanation

1 in addition to what you've already stated here today.

2 Let's go back to Ms. Ipson.

3 Q. (BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:) Ms. Ipson, were the
4 RIN credits booked in the account balance?

5 A. So, they were booked to the -- I got word from
6 accounting the RIN credit was transferred from the 495
7 FERC account into the 191 unrecovered purchased gas
8 account.

9 Q. Okay. From the 495 FERC account; is that
10 correct?

11 A. Yes. Yes.

12 Q. To the 191 -- what did you say, unbooked? No.

13 A. That's just the -- I guess the official FERC
14 language is the under-recovered purchased gas.

15 Q. And is there a number to that account in the
16 191?

17 A. The -- I don't know -- I don't know the exact --
18 the 191, that's -- I don't know.

19 Q. Is that the miscellaneous sub-account that I
20 heard somebody testify to, Mr. --

21 A. So it's the 191000.

22 Q. Right. And I knew that.

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. It's just several sub-accounts, right, that are
25 within the 191 account that I remember in your tariff. I

1 remember somebody mentioned miscellaneous revenues or
2 something like that; is that correct?

3 A. Yes. And that -- the miscellaneous revenues is
4 the 495000.

5 Q. Okay. I see. All right. Okay. So I will --
6 we will await -- I think that's a good idea. Let's move
7 forward with the rest of the witnesses and proceed as we
8 decided in the beginning, and then maybe take a little
9 break and come back to the 191.

10 A. Okay.

11 MR. SUMMERS: Thank you.

12 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you, Ms. Ipson.

13 And thank you, Mr. Summers and Mr. Stephenson. Thank
14 you.

15 You can proceed with your next witness, thank
16 you.

17 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you. If it pleases the
18 Commission, we'll go ahead and move to the Docket
19 No. 20-057-15, the transportation imbalance charge
20 dockets.

21 And the Company would call Mr. Jordan
22 Stephenson.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Mr. Stephenson,
24 do you swear to tell the truth?

25 THE WITNESS: Yes.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you.
2 Please proceed.

3 JORDAN STEPHENSON,
4 was called as a witness, and having been first duly
5 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
6 but the truth, testified as follows:

7
8 DIRECT EXAMINATION

9 BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:

10 Q. Before we proceed with your summary,
11 Mr. Stephenson, let's do it this way. Please state your
12 full name and business address for the record, sir.

13 A. My name is Jordan Stephenson, and my business
14 address is 333 South State, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

15 Q. And what position do you hold with the Company?

16 A. I'm a regulatory affairs manager.

17 Q. Mr. Stephenson, you offered some testimony in
18 the previous docket, and I, as a formality, want to be
19 sure that you would adopt that same testimony now that
20 you've been sworn.

21 Do you now adopt that sworn testimony?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Thank you.

24 Mr. Stephenson, was the application in Docket
25 No. 20-057-15 and accompanying Exhibits 1.1 through 1.3,

1 were those all prepared by you or under your direction?

2 A. Yes.

3 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company would move for
4 the admission of the application in Docket No. 20-057-15
5 with the accompanying Exhibits DEU 1.1 through 1.3.

6 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay.

7 Any objection?

8 MR. JETTER: No objection. Thank you.

9 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. They're admitted.

10 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you.

11 Q. (BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:) Mr. Stephenson, have
12 you prepared a summary of the relief the Company is
13 requesting in this docket?

14 A. I have.

15 Q. Please proceed.

16 A. Thank you. In this docket, the Company requests
17 an adjustment to the transportation imbalance charge to
18 appropriately collect costs associated with managing
19 imbalanced dekatherms transported on the Company's
20 distribution system.

21 The proposed imbalance charge reflects costs
22 borne by the Company to manage net imbalanced dekatherms
23 of transportation service customers divided by the
24 imbalanced dekatherms over the 5 percent tolerance
25 threshold.

1 The resulting imbalance rate 7.69 cents is
2 1.8 percent lower than the previous transportation
3 imbalance charge. This charge will only be applied to
4 transportation service volumes that differ from
5 nomination volumes by more than 5 percent.

6 The transportation imbalance charge continues to
7 serve its intended purpose and is just, reasonable, and
8 in the public interest.

9 And the Company requests approval effective
10 November 1st, 2020.

11 **Q. Thank you, Mr. Stephenson.**

12 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company's witness is now
13 available for cross-examination and Commission questions.

14 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you.

15 Mr. Jetter?

16 MR. JETTER: I have no questions. Thank you.

17 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: And I have no questions.
18 Thank you, Mr. Stephenson.

19 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

20 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Please call your
21 next witness.

22 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you. The Company will
23 move to the Docket No. 20-057-16, the Conservation
24 Enabling Tariff docket. And the Company calls Mr. Jesse
25 Jackson.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Good morning.

2 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

3 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Do you swear to tell the
4 truth?

5 THE WITNESS: I do.

6 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Please proceed.

7 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you.

8 JESSE JACKSON,
9 was called as a witness, and having been first duly
10 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
11 but the truth, testified as follows:

12

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:

15 **Q. Mr. Jackson, can you please state your full name**
16 **and business address for the record.**

17 A. My name is Jesse Jackson. My business address
18 is 333 South State Street in Salt Lake City, Utah.

19 **Q. Mr. Jackson, what position do you hold with the**
20 **Company?**

21 A. I am a Regulatory Analyst III.

22 **Q. And Mr. Jackson, in this docket, the Company has**
23 **submitted an application along with Exhibits 1.1 through**
24 **1.5.**

25 **Were those documents prepared by you or under**

1 **your direction?**

2 A. Yes, they were.

3 **Q. Do you adopt them as your testimony today?**

4 A. I do.

5 **Q. The Company moves for the admission of the**
6 **application in Docket 20-057-16, along with accompanying**
7 **Exhibits DEU 1.1 through DEU 1.5.**

8 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Any objection?

9 MR. JETTER: No objections.

10 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. They're admitted.
11 Thank you.

12 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you.

13 **Q. (BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:) Mr. Jackson, can you**
14 **please summarize the relief the Company is requesting in**
15 **this docket?**

16 A. I can. In this docket, the Company is
17 requesting to amortize the conservation enabling tariff
18 balancing account. Section 2.8 of the Company's tariff
19 requires the Company to file a CET amortization
20 application at least annually with the Commission, and
21 this filing meets that requirement.

22 In order to do this, the Company is requesting
23 an increase to annual revenue of \$4.1 million. If
24 approved, this would result in an increase of \$3.24 or
25 .51 percent paid by a typical customer using 80

1 dekatherms per year. The proposed rates are just,
2 reasonable, and in the public interest. And therefore,
3 the Company requests that the rates be approved with
4 rates going into effect on November 1st, 2020.

5 And this concludes my summary.

6 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Mr. Jackson is available for
7 cross-examination and Commission questions.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Mr. Jetter?

9 MR. JETTER: I have no questions, thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: And I have no questions.

11 Thank you, Mr. Jackson.

12 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Ms. Nelson -- Ms. Clark,
14 excuse me.

15 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Sure. The Company would like
16 Mr. Jackson to remain on the stand for the next docket,
17 that is Docket No. 20-057-17, the energy assistance rate
18 docket.

19 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay.

20 **Q. (BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:) And Mr. Jackson, you**
21 **remain under oath. And I would ask if you are familiar**
22 **with or did you prepare or supervise the preparation of**
23 **the application in this docket along with the**
24 **accompanying Exhibits 1.1 through 1.5?**

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And do you adopt them as your testimony today?

2 A. Yes, I do.

3 Q. Mr. Jackson, would you please summarize the
4 relief the Company is requesting in Docket No. 20-057-17.

5 A. Yes. In this docket, the Company is requesting
6 adjustment to the low-income assistance energy assistance
7 rate. These changes will result in an annual increase of
8 3 cents for a typical customer. The Company is also
9 proposing to increase the annual energy assistant credit
10 from \$77 to \$79 per qualifying customer per year.

11 It is anticipated that there will be about
12 \$1.7 million available to help qualifying customers pay
13 their gas bills during the winter heating season. And it
14 is anticipated that about 20,000 customers will
15 participate in this program during the 2020-2021 test
16 period.

17 The proposed rates are just, reasonable, and in
18 the public interest. Therefore, the Company requests
19 that the rates be approved, with rates going into effect
20 November 1st, 2020.

21 And this concludes my summary.

22 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Mr. Jackson is available for
23 Commission questions and cross-examination.

24 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Mr. Jetter?

25 MR. JETTER: I have no questions, thank you.

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CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:

Q. Mr. Jackson, I just have one question, really, and it's about COVID and whether that was at all discussed among the Division, the Office, and AARP and maybe needing a little bit more assistance related to that and whether the Company took that into consideration at all?

A. Yeah, that was discussed.

Q. Okay.

A. And definitely, we are aware of that.

And what we discussed and concluded was that there is more demand for the credit. What the Company has the ability to do is if we pay out more this year than next year, we can just adjust what we are -- what we can pay out next year.

Q. Okay. That's good.

A. I hope that makes sense.

Q. Yes, it does make sense. Thank you for that. Okay I don't have any additional questions. Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: You can call your next witness.

MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you. The Company will remain with Mr. Jackson. And we will speak to, now,

1 Mr. Jackson, Docket 20-057-18, the energy efficiency
2 deferred account balance.

3 You're familiar with this docket as well?

4 A. Yes.

5 **Q. And was the application and accompanying**
6 **Exhibits DEU 1.1 through 1.6, were these prepared by you**
7 **or under your direction?**

8 A. Yes.

9 **Q. And do you adopt the contents of those documents**
10 **as your testimony today?**

11 A. I do.

12 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company moves for the
13 admission of the application in Docket No. 20-057-18,
14 along with accompanying Exhibits 1.1 through 1.6.

15 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Any objections,
16 Mr. Jetter?

17 MR. JETTER: No objections. Thank you.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: They're admitted. Thank
19 you.

20 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you.

21 **Q. (BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:) Mr. Jackson, will you**
22 **please summarize the relief the Company requested in this**
23 **docket.**

24 A. Yes. In this docket, the Company seeks for
25 approval to continue the current amortization of the

1 energy efficiency deferred account balance. In order to
2 do this, the Company is requesting a decrease to annual
3 revenue of \$5.9 million.

4 With the adjustment to the rate and based on
5 forecasted 2021 budgeted expenditures and projected
6 volumes for the 2020-2021 test period, the Company will
7 be able to collect the necessary revenue while at the
8 same time minimizing interest expense for both customers
9 and the Company. If approved, this would result in a
10 decrease of \$4.38 per year, or .68 percent paid by a
11 typical customer using 80 dekatherms per year.

12 The proposed rates are just, reasonable, and in
13 the public interest. Therefore, the Company requests
14 that the rates be approved on an internal basis with
15 rates going into effect on November 1, 2020.

16 And this concludes my summary.

17 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Mr. Jackson is available for
18 cross-examination and Commission questions.

19 MR. JETTER: No questions.

20 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: I don't, either.

21 Thank you, Mr. Jackson.

22 THE WITNESS: You're welcome.

23 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Jackson. I
24 think we will relieve you of your testifying obligation
25 now.

1 With the Commission's permission, we'll move on
2 to the final docket.

3 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you.

4 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Docket 20-057-19, the
5 sustainable transportation and energy plan surcharge.
6 And the Company would call Mr. Jordan Stephenson.

7 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Good morning again,
8 Mr. Stephenson. You're under oath still.

9 THE WITNESS: Great.

10
11 JORDAN STEPHENSON,
12 was called as a witness, and having previously been
13 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
14 but the truth, testified as follows:

15
16 DIRECT EXAMINATION

17 BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:

18 **Q. Mr. Stephenson, have you reviewed the**
19 **application and accompanying Exhibits 1.1 through 1.3 in**
20 **this docket? Have you reviewed those, and are you**
21 **familiar with them?**

22 A. Yes.

23 **Q. And do you adopt the contents of those documents**
24 **as your testimony today?**

25 A. I do.

1 **Q. Do you have any corrections to make to those**
2 **documents?**

3 A. I do have two corrections, starting with
4 Exhibit 1.1. There was a mislabel at the top of the
5 exhibit. The docket number listed was 19-057-28, and
6 that should be 20-057-19. And then we have the same
7 there on Exhibit 1.3. That should also refer to Docket
8 20-057-19.

9 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company would move for
10 the admission of the application in Docket 20-057-19 with
11 accompanying Exhibits DEU 1.1 through 1.3, with the
12 corrections identified by Mr. Stephenson.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Mr. Jetter, any
14 objections?

15 MR. JETTER: I have no objections.

16 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you.

17 MR. JETTER: They're admitted.

18 **Q. (BY MS. NELSON-CLARK:) Mr. Stephenson, can you**
19 **please summarize the relief the Company is requesting in**
20 **this docket.**

21 A. Yes. In this docket, the Company seeks to
22 implement the sustainable transportation energy plan
23 surcharge in order to effect cost recovery for the
24 program approved by the Utah Public Service Commission in
25 its order approving the settlement stipulation dated

1 August 31st, 2020, in Docket No. 19-057-33. In that
2 docket, the Commission approved funding the Intermountain
3 Industrial Assessment Center \$500,000 per year for a
4 period of two years.

5 The cost for the -- excuse me. The cost for
6 this funding will be collected from all customer classes
7 based on the cost of service allocations approved in the
8 Company's most recent general rate case. The surcharge
9 would result in an increase of 33 cents per year, or
10 .05 percent for a typical residential customer using 80
11 dekatherms annually.

12 In addition to the proposed surcharge, the
13 Company also proposes modifying the Company's tariff to
14 incorporate new language in Section 2.18 related to the
15 STEP program, and to add the STEP balancing account to
16 Section 8.07 in order to apply a carrying charge to any
17 STEP program balance. This will result in a two-way
18 carrying charge to the STEP program in a similar manner
19 to the Company -- in a similar manner or the same manner
20 the Company applies the carrying charge to other
21 balancing accounts listed in Section 8.07 of the tariff.

22 These changes are just, reasonable, and in the
23 public interest. And the Company requests Commission
24 approval with an effective date of November 1st, 2020.

25 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Mr. Stephenson is now

1 available for cross-examination and Commission questions.

2 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Any objections or any
3 cross, Mr. Jetter?

4 MR. JETTER: I have no questions. Thank you.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. And I have no
6 questions. Thank you, Mr. Stephenson.

7 Okay. And so, Mr. Summers, I noticed that you
8 are back. And I think you're going to be happy with what
9 I'm about to tell you, maybe, unless you did a lot of
10 work in between, and I apologize if you did. But it
11 appears that we have sufficient information with regard
12 to the RIN proceeds. And so we will not need you to
13 submit any additional information related to the RIN
14 proceeds at this time. So thank you, though, for your
15 willingness to supplement the record.

16 MR. SUMMERS: Yeah, absolutely. And I think
17 we've come up with something that the rates would be the
18 same with what we've -- with what we've calculated, maybe
19 a little bit of a difference in where costs go, but
20 everything comes out the same in the time rate.

21 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Oh, well, that's great.
22 Okay. That's good.

23 MR. SUMMERS: Thank you for the chance to look
24 at that.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you.

1 Anything else from anybody before we adjourn?

2 No.

3 MR. JETTER: I think the --

4 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Oh, I apologize. The
5 Division. Of course. Please accept my apologies. I
6 kind of got off track there with the whole RIN proceeds
7 issue.

8 But Mr. Jetter, please call your witnesses, your
9 first witness.

10 MR. JETTER: Thank you. Given that it's
11 uncontested, we probably could submit on the record. But
12 we will call them briefly.

13 The Division would like to first call -- and
14 because our summary witness did the first four in
15 numerical order, that's why we were planning to go in
16 reverse order. And so we'll start with Docket 20-057-19
17 and call Robert A. Davis.

18 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Good morning, Mr. Davis.

19 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

20 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: You were almost excused
21 from the entire thing, but then Mr. Jetter, thankfully
22 interjected and avoided a big faux pas on my part. So
23 hello again.

24 And do you swear to tell the truth?

25 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Thank you.
2 Mr. Jetter.

3
4 ROBERT A. DAVIS,
5 was called as a witness, and having been first duly
6 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
7 but the truth, testified as follows:

8
9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. JETTER:

11 Q. Mr. Davis, would you please state your name and
12 occupation for the record this morning.

13 A. Yes. My name is Robert A. Davis. I'm a utility
14 technical consultant for the Division of Public
15 Utilities.

16 Q. Thank you. And with respect to Docket
17 No. 20-057-19, have you had an opportunity to review the
18 application and the exhibits filed by the utility in this
19 docket?

20 A. Yes, I have.

21 Q. And did you create and cause to be filed with
22 the Commission in this docket comments from the Division
23 of Public Utilities dated October 19, 2020?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Do you have any corrections or changes you would

1 like to make to those?

2 A. I do not.

3 Q. Would you adopt those as part of your testimony
4 today?

5 A. Yes.

6 MR. JETTER: I'd like to move to introduce into
7 the record the comments of the Division as identified by
8 Mr. Davis.

9 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Any objection?

10 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company has no objection.

11 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. They're admitted.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. JETTER: Thank you.

14 Q. (BY MR. JETTER:) Mr. Davis, do you have a brief
15 summary of your testimony?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. Please go ahead.

18 A. Good morning. On August 31st, 2020, the
19 Commission issued its report and order for Docket
20 No. 19-057-33, approving the settlement stipulation
21 between Dominion Energy Utah and other parties. The
22 Commission determined that in light of the signatories'
23 agreement at hearing that the Sustainable Transportation
24 Energy Plan, or STEP, balancing account, carrying charge,
25 and associated tariff changes should be resolved in a

1 future proceeding.

2 Dominion filed a STEP surcharge application
3 under Docket No. 20-057-19 on September 30 of 2020. The
4 Division reviewed Dominion's application and attached
5 Tariff Changes 1.4 and 1.5, DEU Exhibits 1.1 through 1.3,
6 and Utah Total Bill Change Calc - Fall 2020.

7 The Division concludes Dominion's filing
8 complies with the Commission's order to establish the
9 STEP surcharge with the associated balancing account,
10 carrying charge, and associated tariff changes.

11 The Division's review of Dominion's filing
12 concludes that its proposed tariff sheets are in
13 compliance with the Commission's August 31, 2020 order,
14 and the proposed rates are just, reasonable, and in the
15 public interest.

16 Based on its review, the Division recommends the
17 Commission approve Dominion's surcharge and tariff
18 sheets.

19 The Commission's order in Docket No. 19-057-33
20 requires Dominion to report the progress of the STEP
21 program to the parties quarterly.

22 That concludes my summary. Thank you.

23 **Q. Thank you.**

24 MR. JETTER: And I have no more questions of
25 Mr. Davis. He's available for cross-examination or

1 questions from the Commission.

2 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Ms. Clark?

3 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company has no questions.

4

5 CROSS-EXAMINATION

6 BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:

7 Q. Okay. Mr. Davis, just one quick question. I
8 didn't see a write-up or any mention of the DPU's
9 position on the carrying charge.

10 I'm assuming the DPU accepts the carrying charge
11 related to the STEP rate account; is that correct?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. Okay. Thank you.

14 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Ms. Clark, you
15 can call your next witness. Thank you, Mr. Davis.

16 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

17 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Oh, excuse me, not
18 Ms. Clark. I don't know. I apologize. I don't know
19 what is wrong with me this morning.

20 But, Mr. Jetter, your next witness.

21 MR. JETTER: Thank you. The Division would like
22 to next call Eric Orton and have him sworn in.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Good morning, Mr. Orton.

24 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Do you swear to tell the

1 truth?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

3 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Proceed.

4

5 ERIC ORTON,

6 was called as a witness, and having been first duly
7 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
8 but the truth, testified as follows:

9

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. JETTER:

12 Q. Mr. Orton, would you please state your name and
13 occupation for the record this morning.

14 A. My name is Eric Orton. I'm a utility technical
15 consultant for the Division of Public Utilities.

16 Q. Thank you. And with respect to Docket
17 No. 20-057-18, have you reviewed the filing and
18 application materials that were attached to the filing by
19 the utility in this docket?

20 A. Yes, I did.

21 Q. And after reviewing those, did you create and
22 cause to be filed with the Commission comments from the
23 Division in that docket dated October 19th, 2020?

24 A. Yes, I did.

25 Q. Do you have any corrections or changes you'd

1 **like to make to those comments?**

2 A. No, I believe they're accurate.

3 **Q. And would you adopt those comments as part of**
4 **your testimony today?**

5 A. I would.

6 **Q. Thank you.**

7 MR. JETTER: I'd like to move at this time to
8 entering into the record the comment from the Division of
9 Public Utilities as identified by Mr. Orton.

10 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. No objection,
11 Ms. Clark?

12 MS. NELSON-CLARK: No, no objection.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. They're admitted.

14 MR. JETTER: Thank you.

15 **Q. (BY MR. JETTER:) And Mr. Orton, do you have a**
16 **brief summary of the Division's analysis and**
17 **recommendation in this docket?**

18 A. I do.

19 **Q. Please go ahead.**

20 A. Thank you. On September 30th, 2020, Dominion
21 filed its application seeking Commission approval to
22 amortize the energy efficiency deferred account balance
23 and have the new rates effective November 1st, 2020. The
24 current financial position of the energy efficiency
25 program shows a negative balance of \$424,451, resulting

1 from an overcollection from rate payers.

2 One objective of this exercise is to calculate a
3 new rate, which will collect a sufficient amount to cover
4 the expenses but minimize the amount of interest
5 collected from customers or paid by the Company. The
6 account balance is intended to fluctuate above and below
7 zero dollars during the year with an intended net
8 interest expense that is close to zero.

9 Based on the projected balances, the new
10 proposed rate will help meet this goal. If there are no
11 changes to the current rate, the Company would
12 significantly overcollect. The proposed energy
13 efficiency amortization rate is a decrease from the
14 current rate of \$0.2612 to \$0.20678 per dekatherm, or a
15 reduction of \$0.05441 per dekatherm.

16 The proposed decrease would collect the proper
17 amount for the next 12 months and minimize interest
18 expenses.

19 If the Commission approves this application,
20 typical residential customers using 80 dekatherms a year
21 will see a decrease in their annual bill of \$4.36, or
22 0.68 percent, independent of any other decrease or
23 increase.

24 The Division supports Dominion's request to
25 amortize the energy efficiency deferred account balance

1 and recommends the Commission approve the application on
2 an interim basis until the Division completes a more
3 thorough review, commonly called an "audit."

4 The proposed rates are in the public interests
5 and represent just and reasonable rates for Utah
6 customers. The Division reviewed the tariff sheets
7 provided and recommends Commission approve the
8 application as presented.

9 The Division will continue to monitor the
10 overall program and individual measures to ensure that
11 the public interest continues to be served. Thank you.

12 **Q. Thank you, Mr. Orton.**

13 MR. JETTER: I have no further questions.
14 Mr. Orton is available for cross-examination and
15 Commission questions.

16 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you.

17 Any questions?

18 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company has no questions.
19 Thanks.

20 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: And I have no questions.
21 Thank you, Mr. Orton.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay.

24 MR. JETTER: Thank you. The Division would like
25 to next call JJ Alder.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Good morning, Mr. Alder.

2 THE WITNESS: Good morning.

3 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Do you swear to tell the
4 truth?

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Please proceed.

7

8 JJ ALDER,

9 was called as a witness, and having been first duly
10 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing
11 but the truth, testified as follows:

12

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. JETTER:

15 Q. Mr. Alder, would you please state your name and
16 occupation for the record.

17 A. Yes. My name is JJ Alder, and I am a utility
18 analyst.

19 Q. Thank you. And to clarify, you are a utility
20 analyst for the Division, Utah Division of Public
21 Utilities; is that correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Thank you. In the course of your employment
24 with the Division, have you had an opportunity to
25 review --

1 MR. JETTER: Excuse me, I'm silencing my phone
2 here. I'm getting a call from someone else at the
3 Division, actually. I apologize. And now it's going to
4 ring my computer also, so bear with me for just a moment.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: No problem.

6 MR. JETTER: I'm clear here. I apologize to
7 everyone for that.

8 Q. (BY MR. JETTER:) I'm going to ask you some
9 broad questions just for efficiency.

10 So with respect to Dockets No. 20-057-14, 15,
11 16, and 17, have you had the opportunity in all of those
12 dockets to review the application materials and attached
13 exhibits that were filed by Dominion Energy Utah?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And upon reviewing those, did you create and
16 cause to be filed comment from the Division of Public
17 Utilities dated October 19th, 2020, to each of those four
18 dockets?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And the comments filed in each of those four
21 dockets, they were the same comments filed in each
22 docket; is that correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. And so I'd like -- do you have any
25 corrections or changes you'd like to make to the

1 **comments?**

2 A. No.

3 **Q. Would you adopt those comments as your testimony**
4 **for each of those four dockets today?**

5 A. Yes.

6 **Q. Thank you.**

7 MR. JETTER: I'd like to move at this time to
8 enter into the record of the four dockets the comments
9 filed by Mr. Alder and the Division of Public Utilities
10 and note that it's the same document filed in each of the
11 four separate dockets.

12 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Any objections?

13 MS. NELSON-CLARK: No objection.

14 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. They're admitted.
15 Thank you.

16 **Q. (BY MR. JETTER:) And now, Mr. Alder, have you**
17 **prepared a brief summary of the Division's review and**
18 **recommendation for the each of those dockets?**

19 A. I have.

20 **Q. Please go ahead.**

21 A. Yes. Docket No. 20-057-14, known as the 191
22 pass-through application, asks for Commission approval
23 for an increase of \$41.5 million in the commodity
24 component and a decrease of \$1.9 million to the supplier
25 of the non gas component of the natural gas rates for a

1 net increase of \$39.6 million.

2 The primary reason for the requested increase is
3 due to actual gas costs, which were higher than the
4 forecasted costs used to establish rates, and the
5 subsequent undercollection of gas costs in the 191
6 account.

7 For the test year ending October 31st, 2021, it
8 is anticipated that approximately 50.4 percent of the
9 total gas requirement will be satisfied from the Wexpro
10 cost of service, gas production, and the remaining 49.6
11 percent will be purchased through existing and future
12 contracts as well as stock market purchase transactions.

13 If this docket is approved, individually, a
14 typical GS customer will see an increase in their annual
15 bill of \$28.40, or an increase of 4.44 percent.

16 The Division recommends that the proposed rate
17 be approved until full audit of the 191 account can be
18 completed.

19 The Division believes that the requested changes
20 are in the public interest and recommends that the
21 proposed rate changes be approved with an effective date
22 of November 1st, 2020.

23 That concludes my summary of the 191
24 application. Thank you.

25 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. Ms. Clark, do you

1 have any questions?

2 MS. NELSON-CLARK: I have no questions. Thanks.

3

4 CROSS-EXAMINATION

5 BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:

6 Q. I just have one, Mr. Alder.

7 A. Sure.

8 Q. Do you agree with the way that Dominion is
9 calculating the total forecast gas costs by including
10 that \$20,428 credit as part of the total forecast cost?

11 A. At this time, I do. The Division is willing to
12 work with the Company moving forward, though, should any
13 changes be deemed necessary.

14 Q. Okay. Thank you. That's all I have.

15 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Mr. Jetter, please call
16 your next -- or continue with Mr. Alder, I suppose.

17 MR. JETTER: Oh, okay. Yeah.

18 Q. (BY MR. JETTER:) Mr. Alder, with respect to
19 the 20-057-15 docket, do you have a summary of the
20 Division's recommendation for that docket?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Please go ahead.

23 A. Docket No. 20-057-15, or the transportation in
24 balance charge, was established to charge transportation
25 customers for the supplier of non gas services that are

1 being used on the Company's natural gas distribution
2 system.

3 The calculation of this rate is based on the
4 methodology approved in Docket No. 14-057-31 and is to be
5 adjusted with each pass-through filing and in the next
6 general rate case.

7 The proposed change represents a decrease from
8 7.834 cents per dekatherm to 7.69 cents per dekatherm and
9 is calculated based on the actual volumes of
10 transportation customers for the 12 months ending
11 August 31, 2020. This rate applies to customers that are
12 taking service under the transportation rate schedules,
13 and any amount collected is credited to the GS customers
14 through the 191 account.

15 This rate does not impact all transportation
16 customers in the same way and applies only if a
17 customer's nominations are outside of the fee of
18 5 percent daily tolerance limit.

19 Transportation customers can minimize and
20 possibly avoid this charge through accurate daily gas
21 nominations.

22 The Division believes that the requested changes
23 are in the public interest and recommends that the
24 proposed rate be approved with an effective date of
25 November 1st, 2020.

1 That concludes my summary. Thank you.

2 MR. JETTER: And Mr. Alder is available for
3 cross-examination and questions with respect to, I
4 believe that was the 15 docket.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Any questions,
6 Ms. Clark?

7 MS. NELSON-CLARK: No questions, thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: And I have no questions.
9 Thank you, Mr. Alder.

10 Mr. Jetter?

11 **Q. (BY MR. JETTER:) And Mr. Alder, please go ahead**
12 **with the summary of the Division's recommendation in the**
13 **16 docket, the CET.**

14 A. Sure. Docket No. 20-057-16, known as the
15 Conservation Enabling Tariff, or CET, asks for Commission
16 approval to amortize the August 2020 undercollected
17 balance of \$4.1 million. The Division has reviewed and
18 supports the application and the calculations put forth
19 by the Company.

20 If this docket were approved, individually, a
21 typical GS customer would see an increase in their annual
22 bill of \$3.24, or .51 percent. The increase in this rate
23 is due to the removal of credit amortization for the over
24 (inaudible) or overcollection in a prior period.

25 The Division recommends that the proposed rate

1 be approved with effective date November 1, 2020.

2 That concludes my summary.

3 Q. Thank you.

4 MR. JETTER: And now, Mr. Alder will be
5 available for questions and cross-examination for the 16
6 docket.

7 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Ms. Clark?

8 MS. NELSON-CLARK: No questions, thank you.

9 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you. And I don't
10 have any. Thank you.

11 Q. (BY MR. JETTER:) Mr. Alder, would you please
12 provide the Division's summary for the 20-057-17 docket.
13 And maybe I'll ask you at this time to -- when you've
14 completed that, also, if you wouldn't mind, provide the
15 summary for the combination of the six dockets and the
16 effect on rates.

17 A. Yes. Docket No. 20-057-17 is a request to
18 adjust the low-income assistance component of the DNG
19 rates and increase the annual assistance amount available
20 to qualifying customers.

21 The Division has reviewed and supports the
22 application as submitted and agrees that the annual
23 credit should be increased from \$77 to \$79 per customer.
24 If this docket is approved, individually, a typical GS
25 customer will see an increase of .03 cents -- or 3 in

1 their annual bill.

2 This program does not require an audit of the
3 individual entries, and the Division believes that the
4 requested change is in the public interest.

5 The Division recommends that the proposed rate
6 be approved with an effective date of November 1, 2020.

7 In summary, the Division supports and recommends
8 approval of the rate changes requested in all six of the
9 dockets discussed today. Approval should allow future
10 adjustments based on prudence findings and is a
11 reasonable accommodation to avoid significant negative
12 impacts that would result from sudden change to the
13 treatment of the 191 account.

14 The Conservation Enabling Tariff and the
15 low-income docket do not need an audit and can be
16 approved as final rates.

17 While each docket has been presented
18 independently, the Division has completed a summary of
19 the combined impact of all of the proposed changes. If
20 all six dockets are approved, a typical GS customer will
21 see an increase of approximately \$27.74 per year, or a
22 4.33 percent increase in the rates currently in effect.
23 Division believes the requested changes are in the public
24 interest and represent just and reasonable rates.

25 That concludes my summary. Thank you.

1 Q. Thank you, Mr. Alder.

2 MR. JETTER: The Division has no further
3 questions for Mr. Alder, and he is available for cross or
4 questions from the Commission.

5 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Ms. Clark?

6 MS. NELSON-CLARK: The Company has no questions.
7

8 CROSS-EXAMINATION

9 BY HEARING OFFICER HOGLE:

10 Q. Okay. Something you said at the end kind of
11 made me think of a question. Did I hear you right, that
12 you said the conservation tariff and the low-income rate
13 can be final; is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. I'm curious about the STEP charge. Is
16 that an interim charge, or is that a final charge?

17 A. That's a good question, and I'm not 100 percent
18 sure. I'd have to ask another Division employee who
19 actually did the STEP.

20 MR. JETTER: I think Mr. Davis is still with us,
21 and he's the Division's analyst who would have knowledge
22 of that account.

23 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Perfect.

24 Mr. Davis, is the STEP an account where interim
25 rates were contemplated, or is that a final rate?

1 MR. DAVIS: I believe in this portion of the
2 STEP program, it's a final rate for this, but DEU can
3 come back in and ask for further projects, so that rate
4 might change. So it probably would be considered more of
5 an interim rate, depending on if they come in with more
6 projects or not.

7 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay. I'd like to ask
8 Ms. Clark if that is her understanding.

9 Before you do that, am I correct that this is a
10 two-year pilot program, the STEP charge, the STEP
11 funding; is that correct?

12 MR. DAVIS: Yes.

13 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Okay.

14 Ms. Clark, do you agree with Mr. Davis?

15 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Sort of, and perhaps I can
16 offer a little clarification.

17 The Commission approved the funding amount and
18 the timing of the funding in a prior docket. And so the
19 request in this docket, the Company intends it to be a
20 request for final rates.

21 Mr. Davis is correct. There will be future
22 requests for additional funding, and some may be
23 preapproved by the Commission and would warrant final
24 rates. Some may warrant an audit. But for this docket
25 we believe that they should be final.

1 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: And actually, that was
2 what I gleaned from the information, although I don't
3 know that that was clear in your application, Ms. Clark.
4 So I just wanted to make sure that everybody was clear on
5 whether this was an interim or a final rate request. And
6 I believe that I agree that it's a final rate request.

7 I don't think I have any other questions other
8 than those. Am I forgetting anything? I don't want to
9 close the meeting without -- I don't think I am. Okay.

10 Does anybody have anything else to add before we
11 adjourn?

12 MS. NELSON-CLARK: Yeah. The only thing that
13 the Company, that we would add is that we do appreciate
14 the thorough review by the Commission and the feedback
15 we've gotten today and look forward to further improving
16 our process with that feedback. So thank you.

17 HEARING OFFICER HOGLE: Thank you. Everybody
18 stay safe. Thank you for your time. And we're
19 adjourned. Thank you.

20 (The matter concluded at 10:18 a.m.)
21
22
23
24
25

CERTIFICATE

1
2
3 State of Utah)
 ss.
4 County of Salt Lake)

5 I, Michelle Mallonee, a Registered
6 Professional Reporter in and for the State of Utah, do
hereby certify:

7 That the proceedings of said matter was
8 reported by me in stenotype and thereafter transcribed
into typewritten form;

9 That the same constitutes a true and correct
10 transcription of said proceedings so taken and
transcribed;

11 I further certify that I am not of kin or
12 otherwise associated with any of the parties of said
cause of action, and that I am not interested in the
13 event thereof.

14 WITNESS MY HAND at Salt Lake City, Utah,
this 6th day of November, 2020.

15
16 

17 _____
18 Michelle Mallonee, RPR, CCR
19 Utah CCR #267114-7801
20 Expires May 31, 2022
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